

M E E T I N G M I N U T E S
March 19, 2008

Present: Ivan Avrutsky, Tamara Bray, Marcus Dickson, Domenico Gatti, Guangzhao Mao, Tej Mattoo, Boris Mordukhovich, Bo Shen, Harley Tse (Chair), Olivia Washington, Antoinette Wozniak, Joseph Dunbar,

Absent with notice: Robert Arking, Michael Goldfield, Eileen Trzcinski, Judith Whittum-Hudson.

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm. The minutes for the meeting of February 21, 2008 were approved unanimously.
2. Undergraduate Summer Stipend Awards

Discussions centered on the logistics of conducting the application review. The Chair had received copies of the Award applications and the Academic Senate Office staff (Angie and Colleen) had sorted the 90 applications into two categories: Humanities and Social Sciences (40 applications) and Biological and Physical Sciences + Engineering (50 applications). It was decided that:

 - a) Tamara Bray would serve as Chair of the Humanities and Social Science (HSS) subcommittee and Harley Tse would serve as Chair of the Biological and Physical Sciences + Engineering (BPSE) subcommittee. Chairs of the subcommittees would coordinate the reviews of their respective groups. Members of the HSS subcommittee were: Tamara Bray (ANT, LAS), Marcus Dickson (PSY, LAS), Domenico Gatti (BMB, MED), Michael Goldfield (PS, LAS), Bo Shen (KIN, EDU), Eileen Trzcinski (SW) and Olivia Washington (FCMH, NUR). Members of the HSS subcommittee were: Ivan Avrutsky (ECE, ENGG), Joseph Dunbar (PHY, MED), Guangzhao Mao (CHE ENGG, ENGG), Tej Mattoo (PED, MED), Boris Mordukhovich (MAT, LAS), Harley Tse (IM, MED), Antoinette Wozniak (INT MED, MED), Judith Whittum-Hudson (IM, MED)
 - b) Each application would have two reviewers. The final scores would be the average of the two scores. In case of big disparities between the two scores, the Chair of the subcommittees would either reconcile the scores with the reviewers or seek a third review.
 - c) Each application would be evaluated on the basis of clarity and impact on four categories: Specific aims and Significance, Background, Description of the Project and Benefits to Student. Each category would receive a maximum of 5 points.
 - d) Each reviewer would review 12 applications. Scores should be submitted to subcommittee chairs by April 1, 2008. Final tally should be available by April 2, 2008.

Reviewers present at the meeting signed up for the applications they chose to review. The rest was distributed by subcommittee chairs.
3. WSU's national ranking in research

The Chair introduced the subject for discussion. The following is a summary of what was discussed:

 - a) Culture Change:
 - i) publicize and promote research activities - workshops and seminars provided by

- OVPR very helpful ♦ recognition of research productivity at BOG level
- ii) promote collaboration ♦ multi investigator projects ♦ NIH had moved to collaboration paradigm, we did not make adjustment as fast as we should have
- iii) increase communication ♦ especially between main campus and medical school
- iv) improve grant management ♦ culture change at SPA ♦ discussion by EPIC (an OVPR committee) very helpful
- b) Spending:
 - i) Recruit new and prominent faculty ♦ one member commented this being ideal but impractical because of high costs and willingness of prominent faculty to move to Detroit.
 - ii) Share costs of training post-doctoral students ♦ best return for the money
 - iii) Identify and support research area of high promise ♦ distribute resources to units with high return
 - iv) Return more grant money to investigator ♦ NSF grants with stated maximum had less for investigator after deduction of indirect costs.
- c) Motivation/Recognition/Incentive:
 - i) Reward faculty with high productivity, monetary and recognition ♦ Provost's salary incentive plan ♦ recognition of research productivity at BOG level
- d) Retention:
 - i) Recognize and support promising in-house faculty
 - ii) Expand junior faculty mentoring program (OVPR programs)
 - iii) Assist in grant application process by faculty ♦ e.g. grant review (OVPR programs)
- e) Infra-structure
 - i) Facilities ♦ FACS ♦ transgenic mice ♦ microarray ♦
 - ii) SPA

Discussion would continue in the next meeting. The Chair set a dead-line of May 1, 2008, to submit a final report to Policy.

4. New Business
No new business.

5. Adjournment
The Committee adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harley Tse
Chair, Research Committee

Approved at the meeting of April 16, 2008