



**Research Council Minutes  
February 25, 2010  
3:00 p.m.  
Champ Hall Conference Room**

**RESEARCH COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeff Broadbent for  
Brent Miller, Chair  
Chris Fawson  
for Doug Anderson  
Byron Burnham  
Jennifer Duncan  
for Richard Clement

Teryl Roper  
for Noelle Cockett  
Todd Crowl  
for Nat Frazer  
Bryce Fifield  
Nicholas Morrison  
for Yolanda Flores Niemann

Jagath Kaluarachchi  
for Scott Hinton  
Jim MacMahon  
Mac McKee  
Tom Higbee  
for Carol Strong

**GUESTS:**

Jeff Coleman  
Aaron Davis  
Irene Jorgensen

Anna McEntire  
Jacoba Mendelkow  
Doug Ramsey  
Claudia Radel

Teresa Seeholzer  
Lorraine Walker  
Vincent Wickwar

1. **Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2010** - Minutes approved unanimously.
2. **Welcome & Introductions** - Jeff Broadbent (Brent Miller at CRPGE mtgs in D.C.)
3. **Research Presentation by: Claudia Radel – College of Natural Resources, Environment and Society Department**  
**Title: “The migration-environment relationship in southern Mexico”**

Dr. Radel’s current research in the Southern Yucatan Peninsula spans 10 years of data collection in both surveys and household interviews. Her research focuses on improving our understanding of how livelihood strategies are changing for individuals, households, and communities in the developing world, as well as how these strategies relate to environmental changes. She also focuses on how gender ideologies both shape and become shaped by livelihood strategies, and how natural resource access, control, and decision-making are gendered. Her primary research goal is to improve the well being of individuals and families in the context of coupled human-environment systems where feminization of agriculture has resulted because of economic structural changes such as male labor out-migration and the increased participation of women in agriculture.

4. **Nonpayment of Sponsored Awards – Procedure Update** - Jeff Broadbent/Jeff Coleman

The latest draft of the procedure was reviewed and additional suggestions were relayed to improve content and verbiage specific to the International Sponsored Programs section of the procedure. Mac McKee, Jeff Broadbent and Jeff Coleman will meet in March to refine the language further. Next review will take place at Research Council on March 25.

5. **SPO Director Replacement Update** - Bryce Fifield

The first tier of interviews/open forum presentations with 4 candidates took place in January and February. The search committee, chaired by Bryce Fifield, will make recommendations to Brent Miller and Jeff Broadbent the first week of March.

6. **Intermountain Graduate Research Symposium – Aaron Davis**

Organized by the Graduate Student Senate, this symposium is held annually to showcase graduate student research being done in the Intermountain West and to give graduate students the opportunity to gain experience presenting research. This year's event will be held during Research Week 2010 on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Abstracts are due March 1, and currently 5 universities will be represented this year. Cash awards will be given for both poster and podium format and Aaron shared a handout highlighting details about the event.

7. **ARRA/USU Web Link Overview – Jacoba Mendelkow**

Handouts showing reference to USU's ARRA link, ScienceWorksForUS.org, was shared. Ref USU web link: <http://research.usu.edu/htum/arra>. Included was information about how to access and review detail about ARRA proposals and awards at USU, as well as recent ARRA news at USU.

8. **Research Matters & Research Week 2010 Update – Anna McEntire**

*Research Matters 2010* is currently at the printer and will be distributed the week of Spring Break. Colleges that arranged to pay for extra copies will receive those by the end of March. A USU web link will be provided to feature stories highlighted in *Research Matters*. This link will also include additional content not covered in the publication.

The agenda for Research Week 2010 was shared. Faculty and staff will receive an electronic copy by email in the next week. Detailed information can be viewed on the VPR web page at: <http://researchweek.usu.edu>.

9. **Wrap Up Discussion & Calendar Events** – Jeff Broadbent

- A handout was shared highlighting Undergraduate Research Information and Access Grants. An electronic copy was emailed to deans, department heads and dean's assistants on 2/25/2010. Proposals are due electronically to [joyce.kinthead@usu.edu](mailto:joyce.kinthead@usu.edu) no later than April 1, 2010.
  - February 26, 2010 – UCUR, Cedar City Utah
  - March 15-19 ----- Spring Break
  - March 25, 2010 -- Next Research Council
  - March 29 thru April 2, 2010 – Research Week

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: Teresa Seeholzer, Research Council Secretary