

OFFICE
of RESEARCH and
GRADUATE STUDIES
UtahStateUniversity
Research Council Minutes
January 26, 2012 - 3:00 p.m.
Graduate School Conference Room

RESEARCH COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark McLellan, Chair
John Allen
Cliff Skousen
for Doug Anderson
Flora Schrode
for Richard Clement

Nancy Huntly
Jim Dorward
Bryce Fifield
Jagath Kaluarachchi
for Scott Hinton

Chris Luecke
Mac McKee
Nick Morrison
for Craig Jessop
Jim MacMahon

VISITORS:

Jeff Coleman
Jeri Hansen

Shelley Lindauer
Teresa Seeholzer

1. **Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions** –Mark McLellan

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

- Requested Agenda Additions:
 - Update on Leave Accrual Pool Implementation
 - Large Disciplinary Project
- **ACTION:** The agenda with additions was unanimously approved.

3. **ACTION: Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2011** - Minutes approved unanimously.

4. **Vice President for Research Report** – Mark McLellan

- **National Science Foundation Visit** – Mark McLellan
On January 13, 2012, Mark visited NSF to discuss USU's programs with several NSF directorates. Mark commented that because of USU's strengths in the Sciences and Social Sciences, USU should be well positioned towards increased NSF collaborative funding opportunities in the future.
- **Grantsmanship Training** – Jerilyn Hansen
Jeri distributed an evaluation post-workshop summary from the faculty training session held on December 1, 2011. Faculty evaluation scores ranked from 4.4 to 4.9 on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest related to content presented, presenter knowledge, materials distributed and input if the material will be useful to faculty in their development programs. Overall comments from faculty were very positive. The next workshop will be held on April 17 for graduate students with another follow-up session for faculty on June 18, 2012. Jeri will distribute email notifications in advance of each session and let faculty and students know when registration will open. She reminded everyone that slots fill up quickly for these workshops, so registering quickly is important.

Funding opportunities with the GEM, RC and SPARC grants were discussed. Jeri now oversees the coordination of applications for these grants as part of her proposal development responsibilities. More information about these grants can be found on the Research and Graduate Studies websites at: http://research.usu.edu/vp/htm/faculty-funding-and-startup/grants_funding and Jeri emphasized that deans and department heads should encourage more submissions for the GEM grant where new investigators can mentor with a more established colleague to enhance their proposal development skills.

- YTD Proposal Submissions and Awards Update – Jeff Coleman

Jeff distributed charts showing the number of proposals submitted by Colleges and Research Centers thru December 2011. Also included were comparisons for YTD2010-2011, and YTD 2011-2012. YTD proposals submissions are slightly down (1.9% YTD) from the same time frame last year. Jeff noted that College and Research Center total award dollars are also down slightly (5.8% YTD) in comparison to last year's award dollars for the same time period. It was noted that two large awards in Education and Engineering resulted in FY2011 that created anomalies with YTD comparisons.

- Research Week 2012 – Mark McLellan

Research Week will have a few agenda changes in 2012. One new event, Research Gala, will highlight USU's top researchers. This will be a "by invitation" event held on Monday evening (April 2) where we can get together and celebrate the success of USU faculty and top researchers. On Friday afternoon of that week (April 6), a unique workshop will be introduced where those in the Sciences mingle with those in the Arts in a "right brain/left brain" interactive experience.

5. **Old Business**

- Leave Accrual Pool addressed in Committee of the Whole discussion.

6. **Committee of the Whole Discussions**

- Tuition Awards
- Fellowships
- Graduate Program Review
- Leave Accrual Pool Status
- Large Interdisciplinary Project

7. **New Business** - None

8. **Wrap Up Discussion & Calendar Events** – Mark McLellan

- February 15 – USU Researcher of the Year Nomination Packets due
(Deans submit to Office of Research and Graduate Studies – OM159)
- February 15 – February 15 – Deadline for Undergraduate Researcher and Mentor of the Year
(Deliver to OM159)
- April 2 thru 6 – Research Week 2012
- April 13 - Next Sunrise Session, 7:30-9:00 a.m. Grand America Hotel, Salt Lake City
Dr. Layne Coppock – College of Natural Resources
- April 17 – Graduate Student Grant Writing Workshop

Minutes submitted by: Teresa Seeholzer, Research Council Secretary