Committee on Research Minutes
of the 4/8/15 meeting

Present: SuJean Choi, Abdur Chowdhury, Kim Factor, Sarah Feldner, Jeanne Hossenlopp, Sarah Knox, Tim McMahon, Donnalee McCarthy, Kristy Nielson, Chris Okunseri, Chad Oldfather, Joe Schimmels

Also Present: Melody Baker (note taker), Kathy Durben (ORSP)

Excused: Chad Oldfather

The meeting was called to order by Dr. McMahon at 9:00 a.m. The agenda was approved.

Reports:

Report from the Vice President for Research and Innovation –
Dr. Hossenlopp reported that a total of 180 innovation final proposals were received. Once the innovation council finishes reading them and making their recommendations, the ULC will read them next. The UFPRC will look at budgets, and then they will go to President Lovell.

Marquette Magazine has included a 2 page spread on research in the publication that just came out. Dr. Hossenlopp also reported that she has received several positive responses from readers of the latest Discover issue.

Report from the Chair –
Dr. McMahon noted that revisions to the SFF/RRG guidelines as discussed at the last meeting have been made and will be reviewed later in the meeting.

Report from the Director of ORSP –
Ms. Durben congratulated Dr. Factor and her colleague Dr. Brylow on their recent award which will fund summer students. A printed report of ORSP activities and award, application, and licensing figures was shared with the committee. Demos have been scheduled for an electron grant management database system which ORSP hopes to put in place soon. Such a system will make it easier for faculty to track their grants and the money on those grants.

Business:

Elections –
A new chair is needed to serve COR beginning with AY16. Dr. McMahon asked for nominations and Dr. Okunseri was named. A vote was taken, and members were unanimously in favor of Dr. Okunseri as chair. Elections for vice chair and secretary will be held in the fall.

Finalize SFF/RRG guideline updates –
With some minor additional wordsmithing, the updates to the guidelines were approved.

Way Klingler guidelines –
Dr. Hossenlopp explained that the application for the Way Klingler Fellowship asks for the names of 3 references who would be willing to discuss the applicant’s research with a review panel. This requirement has not been used recently. COR members agree that it is not
necessary to include external reviewers and the member consensus is to remove this section from the application. Secondly, some faculty submit journal articles or published books as part of their applications, but the books at least, are never looked at by the committee. Dr. Hossenlopp asked if there is an alternative.

It was suggested that monographs in a PDF form would be more useful and easily shared. It was also suggested to eliminate this requirement from the application and pointed out that not everyone has the expertise to evaluate a book from another discipline.

Another idea is to ask for electronic abstracts (PDF) of the applicants top 3 works instead. A link to a journal article could also be included in the application. There was other opinion that listing top 3 works will not be helpful, and that more emphasis needs to be on quality rather than on numbers. Applicants need to make the case for the significance of their research. A recommendation was made to ask for a lay argument for why the research is important or significant. It was pointed out that because the guidelines ask the applicant to propose a 3 year program of research, the case for support needs to be made. It was also recommended that the committee could make use of the E-pub site to view applicant works. The COR will consider taking a look at these guidelines again at the first meeting in the fall.

**Strategic Planning for Office of Research and Innovation**

Dr. Hossenlopp is the goal steward for the *Research in Action* part of the strategic plan. The COR is considered the faculty team that meets with Dr. Hossenlopp on research topics. President Lovell has announced a goal to double research in the next five years. A list of what is budgeted for research, and what needs to be counted towards R&D has been determined and Dr. Hossenlopp will be doing some planning with President Lovell at the end of the year. Today she reviewed some of the projections with members. It was noted that one area of improvement could be to increase state funding.

Strategies to address all categories across the board were discussed, including how to support faculty research. Members were asked to think of things that are missing from the document or, areas that should be emphasized. Recommendations included:

- Hiring and faculty development are tied to facilities development. For many departments, the hiring of faculty is limited by available space. Often, quality candidates are being lost due to inadequate space. Also, inadequate space and no room for new technology, is negatively impacting grant reviews.
- Graduate student support needs to be added.
- Faculty who are able to do their work without research dollars won’t be able to identify with this document, but it’s possible that if they can’t identify with financials, they may be able to identify with teaching loads. Dr. Hossenlopp also pointed out there is no lack of opportunity for discipline appropriate awards.
- Additional library acquisition funds. Faculty need designated money that is safe, not subject to budgets, in order to obtain materials that are essential to research.
- Discuss how to educate faculty on a culture shift. It was recommended that this education needs to come from across campus, rather than within units.

Early in the fall Dr. Hossenlopp would like to frame the cultural shift and put that in front of the document, with issues to follow that. She also would like to have a faculty presence in the Office of Research and Innovation. Topics to address include incentivizing faculty to build programs that will generate income, expected increases in F&A return.
Whether the May meeting will be held will be determined by whether any agenda items come up. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.