Committee on Research


Description of Charge
The Committee on Research (COR) is a University Academic Senate (UAS) committee. Its charge is listed on page 13 of the UAS Statutes. ([http://www.marquette.edu/acad/documents/StatutesoftheUniversityAcademicSenateupdatedSept222009_002.pdf](http://www.marquette.edu/acad/documents/StatutesoftheUniversityAcademicSenateupdatedSept222009_002.pdf))

2010-2011 Officers and Members:
Voting Members:
   Steve Melching (College of Engineering), Chair
   Tom Jablonsky (College of Arts &Sciences: History), Vice Chair
   Joyce Wolburg (College of Communication), Recording Secretary
   David Clark (College of Business Administration)
   Arthur Hefti (School of Dentistry)
   Richard Friman (College of Arts &Sciences: Political Science)
   Marianne Weiss (College of Nursing)
   Doug Lobner (College of Health Sciences)
   Pinfen Yang (College of Arts &Sciences: Biological Science)
   David Papke (Law School)
   William Pink (College of Education)

Non-Voting Members:
   Vice Provost for Research: Jeanne Hossenlopp
   Director of ORSP: Keith Osterhage

Guest Members:
   Timothy Melchert (Graduate School)
   Beth McDonough (ORC – Human Rights)
   Javier Foronda (ORC- Animal Protection)

Summary:
During the 2010-2011 academic year, the COR reviewed:
- 50 SFF / RRG applications
- 4 Haggerty Award for Research Excellence in Research nominations
- 10 Way Klingler Young Scholar Award and 3 Way Klingler Fellowship nominations.

The following sections include a further description of the 2010-2011 activities of the COR.

Recurrent Tasks
Review and Selection of Research Awardees:
1. Summer Faculty Fellowship/Regular Research Grant (SFF/RRG) Awards.
   Both mechanisms help faculty initiate or reprogram research. They are important also for sustainably growing Marquette University’s research enterprise.
   Applications were reviewed by three panels with expertise in 1) natural, physical and applied sciences, 2) social sciences, and 3) humanities. Overall funding of $200,893 was available for distribution, which was a $50,856 increase from the amount approved a year earlier. The Table
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offers more details on the numbers of applications submitted and funded, the amount of funding applications allocated, and a comparison to the previous year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Submit 2011</th>
<th>Submit 2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Funded 2011</th>
<th>Funded 2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Funding 2011</th>
<th>Funding 2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>$7,203</td>
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<td>Social Sciences</td>
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<td>+1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>$87,534</td>
<td>$65,217</td>
<td>$22,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>+6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>$50,684</td>
<td>$29,348</td>
<td>$21,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
<td><strong>+4</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
<td><strong>+4</strong></td>
<td><strong>$200,893</strong></td>
<td><strong>$150,037</strong></td>
<td><strong>$50,856</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is good evidence that the faculty who received SFF/RRG awards have used them very effectively. It was proposed that the COR should track funding and publications that are the result of SFF/RRG projects as an outcome measure for program success or failure. The COR emphasized in its deliberations that SFF/RRG awards are the only lifeline for researchers who have lost extramural funding or need to retool and are important source of support for new faculty looking to get their research programs started. Other funding resources, in particular bridge funding from the university, have succumbed to the economic downturn.

2. Lawrence G. Haggerty Award for Excellence in Research:
   The Award recognizes scholarly distinction at Marquette University. In 2010/2011, applications were accepted from the natural, physical, and applied sciences. Four faculty portfolios were received for consideration. Lifetime achievement along with quality and volume of published oeuvre were outcome measures used to select among nominees. A unanimous decision was made to recommend **Dr. Rosemary Stuart** (professor of biological sciences) as the award recipient in 2011.

3. Way Klingler Faculty Development Awards:
   These awards are made possible through the Faculty Development Fund established in 2004 with a $15 million gift by the late Helen Way Klingler. The purpose of the Fund is to help support scholarly research at Marquette on an annual basis. The COR makes recommendations for the recipients of the Way Klingler Young Scholar Award and the Way Klingler Faculty Fellowship.
   a. Way Klingler Young Scholar Award:
      Dr. Hossenlopp informed the COR that the reduced number of awards from four to two begun in 2010 would continue in 2011. This year, 10 (2010: 12) submissions were received and reviewed. The COR members agreed that the top ranked candidates would be put forward to receive the award. They were **Drs. Martin St. Maurice** (assistant professor of biological sciences) and **SuJean Choi** (assistant professor of biomedical sciences).
   b. Way Klingler Faculty Fellowships:
      Portfolios of three (2010: 7) faculty members were reviewed for the Way Klingler Faculty Fellowship competition. The reduction in the number of applicants relative to last year was due to the fact that only the Fellowship in the Humanities was offered this year, whereas last year both fellowships were offered. The COR members selected **Dr. Sebastian Luft**, associate professor of philosophy, to receive the Fellowship in the Humanities. The name of the nominee was submitted as the COR's recommendation to Provost Dr. John Pauly for final approval.

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c. Comments on the Way Klingler Young Scholar Award:
The COR continued to be disappointed that the number of Way Klingler Young Scholar awards was reduced from four to two. In particular, there continue to be concerns that Way Klingler funds would be moved away from research permanently. In fact, there has been no assurance that the original status will be restored when the endowment recovers from its shortfall. Furthermore, the COR members continue to be troubled by the lack of procedural transparency and that the far reaching decision was made without seeking advice from the COR.

The Way Klingler Young Scholars awards of up to $32,000 are intended to fund $2,000 in operating costs and up to 50 percent of salary for a one-semester sabbatical. The COR noted that the actual cost to hire adjunct faculty to fill in for a junior faculty member on such a sabbatical is far less than $30,000. Thus, the COR recommended to Dr. Hossenlopp that perhaps the size of the Way Klingler Young Scholar award could be reduced so that more awards could be given to deserving Young Scholars. The COR felt most of the nominees for the award this year merited such a fourth year sabbatical, and they and Marquette University would benefit from such a sabbatical. This reduction in the amount of the award so that more awards can be given should not be done in substitution for restoration of funding to the Way Klingler Young Scholars award when the Way Klingler endowment recovers. That is, when the endowment recovers even more than the original 4 awards should be available at the reduced funding level.

In April, Dr. Hossenlopp reported to the COR that the recommendation to lower the amount of the Way Klingler Young Scholars Award going to departments to $15,000 so that more awards can funded had been presented to the Deans. Everyone was agreeable to the basic idea though the amount may be $20,000 to provide more of a cushion.

Completed Business
a. SFF/RRG Process:
The COR spent time during the 2010-2011 academic year trying to make improvements to the SFF/RRG process. These improvements are summarized in the following list.
- An RRG final report is now required to be published within 3 months after the grant period. Failure to submit a final report will cause the applicant to be ineligible to apply for another SFF/RRG.
- A template of what is required in the report was developed: 1) planned or completed grant proposals, 2) planned or completed publications, 3) substantial deviations from the submitted budget expenditures, 4) a brief summary. The template was attached to the same email as the award letter.
- Ms. Kathy Durben, ORSP: suggested that item 8, “ORSP Proposal Registration Form - Attach a copy of your Proposal Registration form to your application, if applicable. See Eligibility.” be removed from the “Instructions for Preparing Your SFF/RRG Application” section. The eligibility section does not clarify who should submit a Proposal Registration form. In any case, a Proposal Registration form is likely not necessary as ORSP provides the COR with a list of who is not eligible, based upon external proposal submission (see above). This change was passed unanimously.
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• Dr. Hefti, Dental School: proposed final reports be submitted to the Vice Provost for Research’s office. The COR chairperson rotates annually and doesn’t have the infrastructure needed to enforce the policy of reporting and to maintain the database. This change was passed unanimously.

b. Way Klingler Fellowship Issues:
The COR noted an issue with the quality and number of the proposals received for the Way Klingler Fellowship in the Humanities. Not all scholars at Marquette can easily classify their research as Science or Humanities, and concern was expressed that those in social science, education, or communication may not know how competitive they would be in the Science or Humanities category. A general concern was expressed that the current wording may discourage some applicants.

While there is an assumption that Social Sciences are included in Humanities, Dr. Hossenlopp suggested that changing the wording to make this explicit might garner more applications. It was agreed among the COR members that the language should be broadened to include the category Social Sciences and re-evaluated over a three-year period to see what the effect would be on the scope of applications submitted. A discussion also was held concerning the language that this award should be given to faculty with “significant scholarship.” The issue was resolved by stating instead that either an associate or full professor should have scholarship “appropriate to the stage of their careers.”

Ongoing Activities
The COR spent much of the 2010-2011 academic year discussing the contents of a summary document on research at Marquette University and its importance titled: “Exploration, Discovery, and Innovation: Research and Scholarship at Marquette.” This document is for presentation to the new president (Fr. Pilarz), the Board of Trustees, and others. It is expected that the document will be finalized at the final COR meeting of the year (May 11, 2011).

Other Activities and Pending Topics
• Monthly reports from the vice provost for research, Dr. Jeanne Hossenlopp.
• Monthly reports from Mr. Keith Osterhage, executive director ORSP.
• Bi-monthly reports from Ms. Beth McDonough, research compliance officer – human subjects and radiation safety.
• Bi-monthly reports from Mr. Javier Foronda, research compliance officer – animal and biosafety / director animal facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles S. Melching, Ph.D., P.E.
Chair, Committee on Research.