Senate Research Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 20, 2007
315 AH

Attendees: Robin Morris, Don Reitzes, Robert Curry, Albertha Barrett, Amy Lederberg, Bill Prigge, Pamela Barr, Carol Hansen, Steve Manson, Paul Alberto, Beth Jones, Randy Malamud, Chris Henrich, Mary Ann Romski, Art Vandenberg, Bill Nelson, Tim Bartness, P.C. Tai, Rose Sevcik, Skye Hardesty, Laurie Tis, Dabney Dixon, Stephen B. Dobranski, Dee M. Baldwin, Al Baumstart and Charles Derby.

April minutes approved
Don Reitzes presented a Certificate of Commendation to Robin Morris and his Assistant and Associate Vice Presidents for their outstanding work at building Research at GSU.

Don Reitzes introduced Bill Nelson and asked him to give a report regarding a proposed joint research with IS&T on “High Performance Computing” and that a committee be formed comprising of 6-8 people. Don Reitzes asked for volunteers. Steve Manson volunteered and the following names were recommended: Martin Grace, Dave Wilson, Don will check with Vijay Vaishnavi. The group asked Don to check with Business or Economics, as well as someone from Policy Studies. This diverse subcommittee would guide & set policies and establish priorities. Art Vandenburg explained that high performance computers would not replace desktop computers. High performance computers would be for specific types of computational problems. Examples given for using high performance computers were imaging and visualization to name a few.

Standing Committees
1. Internal Grants (Stephen Dobransk) – No report – “gearing up”
2. Multiple Principal Investigators (Rose Sevcik) – Committee investigating procedures and looking at other universities – will have a report at the next meeting.
3. Research Center Review (Don Reitzes – No report) – Don also reported that a new subcommittee (IRB Committee) will be set up to develop on-going specific feedback of IRB compliance issues from faculty. This new subcommittee will meet quarterly.
4. Research Integrity – No report
5. Strategic Planning – No report – will not meet this summer
6. Research Infrastructure – No report

Robin Morris
Robin gave a brief summary of sponsored program activities. He distributed an annual report dated July 2006 to June 2007 and commented that last year was record breaking in that proposals were up as well as awards. Indirect costs were up by one million. Robin said the $0 to $50K grants were really our meat and potatoes. He was asked where GSU stood nationally and reported that GSU was in the top 100 in faculty awards but about 150 in grant dollars. He’ll give another report at the next meeting. Briefly, GSU is moving up in rank but it is hard. His main concern was to get groups to go after the “big bucks” which normally takes 1-2 years of planning and development in order to be competitive. Although GSU has a lobbyist in Washington, we are still a small player when it comes to grants. Robin would like to look at strategies at the next meeting in getting teams to go for the “big bucks” and resources.

Robin showed group a picture of the new Science Building. The construction should begin in late October or early November. He reported that BOR had found a Privy and that the Department of Historical Preservation must review the site but don’t think there is too much to be concerned about.
He reported that the Provost had approved stipends for the regulatory subcommittees (IRB, IACUC, IBC and Radiation) and the chairs for summer support.

Amy Lederberg
Amy briefed the group regarding the new Personnel Effort Reporting system. This PERS system will be rolled out by October 8. The system implementation is by Maximus. There are various workshops on policy and procedures for department coordinators who will assist with certifications. Amy said PIs are responsible for certifying their own effort and those of their staff and students working on their grants. Amy reported she will be happy to come to departments to offer the necessary training.