Senate Research Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 27, 2009

attendees: Paul Alberto, Pam Barr, Tim Bartness, Dan Benardot, Bill Kahnweiler, Chris Henrich, Beth Jones, Steve Manson, Robin Morris, Don Reitzes, Mary Ann Romski, Rose Sevcik, P.C. Tai, Lacey Enyart, Mary Stuckey, Florian Enescu, Don Edwards, Jennifer Patico, Leslie Wolf, Olga Jarrett & June Houston

Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM April 27, 2009 by Rose Sevcik, Chair.

- March 16, 2009 minutes approved.
- Introduction of new committee members.
- Rose Sevcik asked for nominations for the Chair for the upcoming year. A vote was taken unanimously for Rose Sevcik to continue as the Chair.
- Robin Morris was asked to give his report. Robin commenced by stating that approximately 40 Challenge grants being submitted by April 27. He reported there were two major equipment grants submitted along with one large renovation grant. Biology submitted approximately 10-12 challenge grants. He reported this competition will be very competitive. He stated the NIH Research Conference had been well attended and a big success and gave credit to Amy Lederberg and her staff. He reported that the new Science Building’s external façade was almost complete. Kell Hall decisions about decommissioning labs and renovations of other labs once folks move to the new building are now being worked on. Robin stated the Provost will be putting together an Ad Hoc Committee to address allocation models for specialize research space that contains such items as fume hoods, special HVAC, plumbing and safety requirements, to ensure maximum utilization and return on these high cost facilities, and determining how much more space would the university need. Robin reported the second building is still in discussion; that 80,000 sq ft had been lost in the current building due to the escalation of construction costs and we need more space to meet our needs of 3 years ago. He also reported on Ft. McPherson (140 acres) that is being considered for a research park by BOR. This park will be utilized for specialized research with a BioTech focus. There will probably be housing available for post docs and graduate student housing. Robin stated there were issues to be concerned with by the committee in the coming year, including updating the conflict of interest policy, the need for research integrity training for all NSF grant submitters (and probably all federal grants sooner or later), review of the new Spectrum System and insuring the new on-line Grants Module is working properly for PIs for internal online grant submissions and signoffs, policy related to University level research centers, etc. The new GaTech/GSU Imaging Center is now open and a new director has been hired for the Center. The Center is located on Marietta Street and will be used by GSU and GaTech researchers.

- A discussion focused on President Becker’s set aside of $2.5 million dollars and would this be for research? A discussion of Dr. Becker’s State of the University speech related to cluster hiring, research infrastructure needs to support research administration, and how input from the Senate Research Committee would link to those decisions. Dr. Morris said part of his job would be to communicate the Committee’s interests and there was discussion that the new Provost will be a part of all these plans.

other committee reports

internal grants – Dr. Lederberg could not make the meeting but asked Rose to report that the new internal grants awards this year was very successful. There had been a rumor that the internal grants program had had a major budget cut this year but that was not the case.

research center review – Don Reitzes reported two research centers will be going up for review and
the his subcommittee would look at the criteria as well as the questionnaire for such reviews.

**Research Integrity** - Chris Henrich reported that his subcommittee had not met but whenever a meeting is scheduled the subcommittee would be looking at government requirements concerning staff and students.

**Strategic Planning** - Don Reitzes reported that this was a strategic planning year and that the subcommittee would be reconsidering a new representative.

**IRB Advisory** – Don Reitzes reported that there is a need for a general ombuds-like committee on compliance issues and asked whether it should be a part of the IRB Committee. The committee agreed it should be considered part of the IRB Committee.

**High Performance Computing/IS&T and Research** – Steve Manson reported that there were now computing facilities on campus that researchers are tapping into as the hardware to handle the large computing requests was now available. There is still the need for some policy related to priority user access.

**Intellectual Properties** – There is only one member on this committee, Mike Metzler, who was not in attendance.

**Library-Research Joint Subcommittee on Institutional Repository** – Nancy Seamans is aware of the NIH criteria for grants’ publication access and the need for data archiving of large scale studies, conference materials and scholarly research to be archived. There is some university level discussion about digital storage and security needs going on.

**GSU Research Foundation Board** - The Research Committee voted unanimously for Dabney Dixon, Susan Laury and Dr. Tai to remain on the Board.

Before the close of the meeting, Rose Sevcik asked all committee members present to sign the subcommittee list and designate their committee preference.

There will not be meetings during the summer unless an important issue is to be addressed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.