

MINUTES
RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (RSC) OF THE FACULTY SENATE

9/18/2015, 1:30–3 p.m.

238 Classroom and Business Building

Attendees: Maria Bondesson Bolin, Wynne Chin, Vallabh Das, Randall Lee, Stuart Long, Clayton Neighbors, Ezemenari Obasi, Robert Palmer, Shin-Shem “Steven” Pei, Jacqueline Bronicki, Raul Ramos, Gregg Roman, McClain Sampson, Gangbing Song, George Zouridakis, John Snow, Richard Wilson, Brad McConnell (for Richard Bond), Mary Ann Ottinger, Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Jack Fletcher, Brooke Gowl

Absent: Richard Bond, Jay Neal, Clayton Neighbors, Richard Simpson, Stuart Dryer, John Wolfe, Michael Zvolensky

- **Welcome by the Chair** (George Zouridakis):
 - Meeting start time: 1:35PM
 - Warm welcome and introductions

- **Comments by President of Faculty Senate** (Wynne Chin) **and President Elect** (Jonathan Snow)
 - Welcome to new members
 - Note that RSC is part of the senate.
 - Overview of Faculty Senate happenings
 - Encouraged everyone to attend Fall Assembly (October 21)
 - Committee on Government Relations
 - Scholarship & Community Conference XVI (October 23)
 - Budget Facilities Committee
 - Cost of living increases
 - Market adjustments
 - Merit raises
 - Dean developing a set of guidelines
 - \$27 million to the colleges – Where it will be directed is still being determined
 - Lee: \$1.4 million for graduate school – How will it affect graduate student stipends?
 - GPSC has new chair.
 - Search for Dr. Carlucci's replacement
 - Search for Chief of Staff for the President – new position
 - Small search committee – Chin involved
 - Position for a general Chief of Staff, broad scope
 - Faculty athletics engagement
 - Thursday game – parking for faculty, must be parked in Stadium garage before 3PM
 - Tailgate for faculty
 - Faculty to be honored during half time
 - Work load policy
 - Documents are ready.
 - Non-tenure track career opportunities are being addressed.
 - Annual performance review
 - Dan O'Connor
 - Maria Gonzales
 - Wants RSC to better focus on all types of research and scholarship
 - Other types of grants
 - Consider membership bylaws – need to expand the membership
 - RSC needs a concrete budget.
 - McConnell recommended adding money to support Animal Care Operations.
 - Maria is addressing this.

- **Review and approval of retreat minutes** (All)
 - Motion: Palmer
 - Second: Chin
 - Approved

- **Status report by IVC/VPR&TT** (Ramanan Krishnamoorti):
 - Introductions
 - Budget Overview (See slides)
 - Many buildings on DOR budget
 - No TRIP, no HEAF
 - Fighting to get more money into DOR
 - Lee – What can we do to get buildings off the budget
 - Ramanan – HEAF funds
 - Expect to be \$3 million short at end of FY 2016

- No core facilities have been funded in the last few years.
 - Zouridakis – Money for new faculty
 - Need a program to increase funds
 - Wynne – Board of Regents does not want to see surplus budgets.
 - Budget concerns are very important for the RSC.
 - Core facilities
 - Important
 - Need at least 1 new major core per year (\$1 million per core)
 - Challenge: budget constraints
 - Centers & Institutes
 - Thanks to RSC for linearizing the process.
 - Financial system
 - Need to revisit the topic.
 - Minor core facilities
 - Taken off the table for now.
 - Management issues
 - Budget constraints
 - If re-established, cannot be managed through DOR
 - Operation is the challenge
 - GEAR
 - \$250K assigned
 - Less money than what it once was – \$750K
 - VPR happy to support incentive program
 - Processes moving to electronic world
 - Compliance
 - RAMP will go away
 - Funding and research centers
 - DHS - Ottinger
- **Update by Interim Associate AVPTT (Richard Willson):**
 - OIPM
 - Things are fine; understaffed when he arrived
 - Working to transition processes to SOPHIA
 - Half of DOR funds in Tech Transfer
 - Thousands of patents
 - Going straight from provisional patents to full patents – need to improve processes
 - Pei – TDRC initiative leadership – Willson and Krishnamoorti
 - Song – GAP funding
 - Willson - funded 5 this year
 - Another cycle in the Spring
 - Those who got GAP had formal marketing training (e.g. ICORPS)
 - Looking for ICORPS teams
 - GAP is independent of ICORPS
- **Update by Associate VP/VC (Mary Ann Ottinger):**
 - National Centers
 - DHS
 - Award date July 3rd
 - Just getting moving
 - Ioannis Kakadiaris is PI
 - Will open up for interface with other groups on campus
 - Sole source capability due to DHS
 - Access to many agencies and opportunities
 - Gulf of Mexico
 - TX did not compete as well as MS and LA, but still a lot of money
 - Subsea Systems Initiative
 - HART Center
 - AMI
 - Limited submissions
 - Going electronic
 - Project with Jami Kovach
 - Complex proposals
 - Developing processes and guidance
 - Steven Pei – Gifts going through development office; concerns regarding credit
 - Ottinger – We interact closely with Corporate and Foundations Relations (CFR)

- Colleges interact a lot with CFR

FY2015 Subcommittee Assignments (Zouridakis)

- **New Faculty Awards/Small Grants:** Raul Ramos, Neal, ~~Marino~~, Pei, Sampson, Bronicki.
 - Ramos – Already fielding questions
- **Excellence in Research, Scholarship, and Creativity:** Stuart Dryer, Neighbors, Chin, Obasi, Song, Palmer.
 - Zouridakis – level of funding to remain the same
- **GEAR Program:** Richard Bond, Roman, Palmer, Wolfe, Zvolensky.
 - Data supporting that this is increasing successes
 - Budget has gone down
 - Propose a better method for funding GEAR
 - Some of DOR IDC could go back to GEAR
- **Centers & Institutes:** Randal Lee, Bondesson, Long, Sharma, Zvolensky, Simpson, Obassi.
 - **New/Old Business/Comments** (Lee): By-laws of ICAS; Review/response of CAM
 - University has 5 major centers – get more IDC back
 - Need to approve some center bylaws – CAM
 - One recommendation is to have a score card for annual reviews
- **Resources & Core Facilities:** Gregg Roman, Chin, Wolfe, Neighbors, Das
 - Need to look at what is getting funded and what the facilities are doing
- **ACO User Advisory:** Maria Bondesson, Bond, Dryer, Frishman, Laren, Leasure, Brammer (*ex officio*), Gowl (*ex officio*), Rochford (*ex officio*)
 - Increase visibility of the committee
 - Be more proactive
 - Meet with all animal PIs
 - Per diem increase suggested by Dr. Brammer – 3%
 - Lots of discussion
 - Need to do a cost comparison of local institutions
 - Snow – High per diems could negatively impact grant success; use this as justification for institutional support
 - McConnell – very different format at Baylor versus UH
- **Publication costs:** Gregg Roman, Peters, Fox.
 - **New/Old Business/Comments** (Roman): Tabled issues from last spring.
 - Roman – open access policies and fees, money is needed for publishing after the life of the grant sometimes
 - Funds for publication costs – form LIB, DOR, both?
 - Bronicki has done the analysis
 - Zouridakis – compare with processes at other institutions
- **Conflict of Interest & Compliance:** Richard Bond
 - Zouridakis - Table the report
- **Intellectual Property:** John Wolfe
 - IP is not a senate committee
 - Snow – committee gets its charge from the Board of Regents
 - It might make since for RSC to have an IP subcommittee
 - Complications with RSC membership since IP is not Faculty Senate
 - IP approves patents on behalf of UH
- **Task Force on TRIP Guidelines:** Jack Fletcher, Roger Boltz, Raymond Bartlett, Wynne Chin, Mark Clarke, Mike Harold, Shannon Keen, Rex Koontz, Randy Lee, Cris Milligan, Dan Wells
 - TX Research Infrastructure Fund = TRIP
 - Donations to UH are matched by TRIP – at least \$100K
 - Policy has undergone many revisions over the years
 - 50% to DOR until 2013

- In 2013 this stopped, Admin and Finance started keeping the money
- \$17K-\$21K of approved TRIP not allocated
- No TRIP coming into DOR currently
- Reviewing current policy to present comments to the Chancellor
 - Chin – the process has been all over the place
 - Seeking transparency
 - Lee – alternative perspective – Welch example – getting all the money with no IDC is not always good
- **RSC-GPSC Task Force on the GTF & Tuition Rebate Policy:** Randal Lee, Obasi, Papadakis, Horn, Williams, Litvinov (*ex officio*)
 - Jack – Faculty liaison to encourage better interactions with faculty
 - Beverly Rymer is figuring out what can and cannot be done – A81 compliance
 - Make tuition part of the fringe benefits
 - Does not show up on the grant
 - Fixed cost would be easiest
 - Supplement the GTF
 - Another pool of money could be used for others kinds of students
 - Planning a meeting
 - Lee – Researchers who support students on NSF and NIH grants do not get all the money back
 - Obasi - What about the dollar gap?
 - Lee – OK right now, but should speak with Dmitri Litvinov
 - Discussions with HR on how to track the money

OLD Business:

- **Research Data Management (Kirstin Rochford):** Need to form subcommittee to implement guidelines associated with management of data generated during a research project and develop a university-wide policy.
 - a. Bronicki and Das will investigate.

Adjourn

Motion: Roman

Second: Das and Snow

Meeting End Time: 3:27PM

New Business: - Tabled

- **External Relations Committee:** David Francis, Dryer, Neal, Sue Battler, additional members ...
Form new committee to
 - Shepherd external awards for individuals
 - Prepare a portfolio showcasing UH research for external relations
 - Help improve relations with Washington DC / develop major research opportunities-initiatives
- Establish University-wide Distinguished Scholar Lecture Series:
- **IDC Allocation:** Zouridakis, additional members ...
- Evaluate benefits of **ResearchMatch** system

Next meeting October 16, 2015 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.