



# RESEARCH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Date: 11.1.2017

Start Time: 1:05                      Adjournment Time: 2:15 p.m.

Location: Sandel Hall, Room 236

<b>CHAIR</b>	Sami Nazzal
<b>SECRETARY</b>	David Irwin
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Katherine Boswell, Sami Nazzal, Paul Wiedmeier, Karen Witek, Guest: Barbara Michaeledes
<b>ABSENT</b>	Jeffrey Anderson, Joydeep Bhattacharjee, Madison Bonnette, Michael Chenoweth, Khalid El Sayed Megan Lowe, Siva Murru Jana Sutton, Richard Thurkill, Neil White, John Sutherlin (OSPR),

### AGENDA

**Emerging Scholars Program:** Barbara Michaeledes, Director of the Student Success Center (SSC) attended the meeting to discuss the Emerging Scholars program. She is the “oversight manager” for the program. The budgetary allocation is \$77,000 from the administration to operate the program. The funds are spread across the year. Each student in the program receives a \$400 scholarship and each faculty mentor receives a \$100 stipend for supplies per student. In the spring semester, a reception honoring these students and faculty are held with administration. B. Michaeledes explained that there is an effort to have the ES program “spread across the university”. It is primarily for freshman and sophomores and to build community support. B. Michaeledes presented several tables showing the distribution of the ES program the last 2 years. The distribution has those receiving the ES funds has been the College of Arts, Education and Sciences.

B. Michaeledes explained that “it is best if the faculty find a student” to participate in the program. All faculty receive an email to get involvement and identify students who may want to participate in the program. This is done a couple of weeks after the semester begins so faculty have time to focus upon recruiting potential recipients.

Faculty who have an ES student receive \$100 for supplies per student. She explained that this may be for extra printing supplies or laboratory equipment.

Faculty are responsible for “driving the project” and talk to the student about a specific set of responsibilities. The type of project can include a data collection project, doing a specific type of art, related to supporting the research of the faculty member. It does not have to something “extra” for the faculty member. The primary purpose is to have the student and faculty develop a relationship of comradery and collaboration. The outcome can vary depending upon the nature of the project. The University wants to improve retention of students and this is one way it might be done.

The role of the Research Council (RC) is to guide students to connect with faculty. S. Nazzal asked how does the RC get faculty aware of the ES program and increase the number of



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students being connected with faculty? B. Michaeledes explained that there may be a research symposium for students in the ES program. This would require the approval of VP Pani. P. Wiedmeier that research done may not always be a “deliverable” product. S. Nazzal said that a student might have a poster explaining what was learned from the project. There was not a resolution regarding this because a quorum was not at this meeting. K. Boswell stated that the students she has had from the ES program have been on both ends of the continuum. One student was extremely involved and resulted in a great research project. Another student did minimal interaction and was more interested in receiving the money.

S. Nazzal stated that perhaps a “focus group” of former recipients of the ES program might be done and discuss about what was learned, improvements and pros/cons of the program. P. Wiedmeier stated that if the Research Symposium being discussed is moved to a longer period of time might include students from the ES program. Of course, the feasibility to do this would require VP Pani’s approval.

**RC Update:** This the last meeting of the RC for the semester. S. Nazzal is considering to have more meetings next semester. P. Wiedmeier stated more help is going to be needed for Research Week to get the logistics determined and develop a plan. S. Nazzal said that revisions to policies being proposed need to be reviewed and discussed. However, without a quorum at the meetings, this makes it very difficult. S. Nazzal is going to request that members of the RC make every effort to attend the meeting (unless excused). Next semester the meetings will begin in early February 2018.

Respectfully submitted: D. Irwin, Secretary