



Research Council

Minutes

Date: Dec. 7, 2015

Start time: 1:30p.m.

Adjournment Time: 2:30p.m.

Location: 150 Sugar Hall

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| CHAIR | Kevin Baer |
| SECRETARY | Elizabeth Stammerjohan |
| ATTENDEES | Dr. Kevin Baer, Dr. Katherine Boswell, Dr. Leonard Clark, Dr. Khalid El Sayed, Dr. Ann Findley, Dr. Gary Findley, Dr. Karen Frye, Dr. Chris Gissendanner, Dr. Seetharama Jois, Dr. Eric Pani, Dr. Elizabeth Stammerjohan, Dr. Matthew Talbert, Dr. Paul Wiedemeier, Ms. Lawanna Gilbert-Bell, Ms. Diane Gooden |
| ABSENT (EXCUSED) | Dr. Karen Briski, Dr. Aimee Galick, Dr. Terry Jones, Dr. Matt Lovett, Mr. Don Smith, Dr. Neil White |

Agenda

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| GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS | |
| DISCUSSION TOPICS | |
| | <p>Dr. Pani asked if we had all seen the vision and goals for the research corporation. He stated that Dr. Bruno saw it as an opportunity to enhance research and revenue for the University. Ultimately it should be fully staffed with grant writers, budget people, compliance people etc. The director's job is to grow it to that level. Starting with developing policies and procedures, matching people and opportunities. Dr. Pani thought there would be an advantage to have someone solely focused on research. Ultimately the research corporation should be self sustaining, supported by indirect costs and F&A. Eventually perhaps it would have its own labs. At this time, it adds another person to OSP.</p> <p>Dr. Gary Findley asked what sort of person should be hired. Dr. Pani said ideally, an assistant director from a university research center, but most importantly someone to pull groups together. There was some disagreement whether a non-scientist would be able to do this job. Dr. Pani believes that scientists don't necessarily make the best administrators (people able to manage teams), and besides, a scientist would have to give up doing research to focus on this job. He mentioned that there are a couple of people training for this type of thing now. It should be somebody to look for projects that matched the interests of faculty. Again the concern was expressed that the research funding process was being removed farther and farther from faculty. Dr. Pani thought the proposed internal structure was something that would be appropriate in the future, but not now. For now, a director for the corporation was the best structure.</p> <p>Dr. El Sayed made the point that we are very competitive in several areas, and that we need a person to sell ULM faculty to the funding agencies. Dr. Frye mentioned that we need better get too many unrelated opportunities. Dr. Pani suggested that the first job of the new director is to make contacts. Dr. Findley thought that those contacts were really only going to be available to someone with research credentials, but Dr. Pani disagreed.</p> <p>Dr. El Sayed asked how the university can help make the faculty more competitive. Dr. Pani replied that faculty should expect a greater emphasis on research in the future, including performance goals related to research. Dr. El Sayed mentioned that we need specific goals, which Dr. Pani thought we should expect to see in the new</p> |

workload document. Every faculty member will be expected to contribute to scholarship. It was suggested we need more PR: billboards, on the web-page, etc. Dr. Pani said keep sending information to PR and if not getting out, copy him.

Dr. El Sayed suggested we can develop intellectual properties that could make money for the school. Dr. Pani thought that without more internal expertise in developing intellectual properties we were better off to partner with external partners for commercialization of these properties. There are currently some negotiations in the works on this.

The initial funding for half the director position will come from the university, and he is thinking \$100,000 for a 12 month position. The director’s first priority will be to offer projects to ULM faculty, but then could look elsewhere for suppliers. Dr. Pani saw the research corporation as a 10 year project.

Dr. Baer asked what is the role of the research council in this. Dr. Pani replied that he is looking for feedback and ideas for things we can do now. He restated that the proposed structure was something that might be done in the future but wanted ideas for now. Dr. Gary Findley asked that the emphasis on research be put in writing so that the deans would realize the importance to ULM. Dr. Frye felt that clinical faculty will say they have no time. Dr. Ann Findley agreed that research simply got pushed to the back of the line due to demands for teaching and service. Also, new faculty will tend to pattern themselves on what they see. Dr. Pani’s point was that it is good to reward successful researchers with reduced teaching loads, but that means that less successful researchers have to pick up the teaching load. Dr. Pani suggested that researcher look for projects so they can “buy out” part of their contract (for the cost of an adjunct). He restated that the university needs to come up with the strategic plan, and that the research corporation is the tool of the plan.

Dr. Clark was concerned what happened to the current structure of OSPR. Dr. Pani said nothing would change this year.

CONCLUSIONS

Dr. Boswell suggested that the research council should review the job announcement in a meeting during professional development week, before the start of the semester.

ACTION ITEMS

| ACTION ITEMS | PERSON RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| Dr. Pani made several notes for action items for himself: Maintenance/mass spectrometers Promote research through marketing, PR, and the website Convey the importance of research to deans Facilitate the strategic plan through adding someone from business to research council See if some IDC could be returned to faculty for spring. | Dr. Pani | |
| See about meeting date for professional development week, See if job description is available. | Dr. Baer | |

Approved by committee/council chair Yes on 5/2/2016