

MINUTES OF THE RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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September 6, 2016

Members present: Tamás Forgács, Jenna Kieckhaefer, Song Lee, N. P. Mahalik, James Marshall, Fayzul Pasha, Helda Pinzon Perez

Members excused: Liu Lubo (sabbatical)

- (1) The committee approved the agenda (S.L/P.M), the minutes from 9/28/2015 (J.K/F.P., 6-0) and the minutes from 8/24/16 (P.M/S.L, 6-0)
- (2) Our new members were introduced and welcomed to the committee.
- (3) T. Forgács and J. Marshall reported on their meeting, and shared some of the research related goals J. Marshall as dean would like to see work towards during the year. These include
 - (i) the promotion of research on campus,
 - (ii) continuing the trend of increased grant activities on campus, and
 - (iii) increasing the percentage of faculty involved in research.Some of the concern areas to be addressed were unfulfilled equipment purchase and maintenance needs, lab space, and faculty release time in support of research activities.
- (4) J. Marshall reported on the future of the Central California Research Symposium (CCRS) and the Graduate Research Symposium. Moving forward the two events will be combined into a two-day long expanded CCRS (this year April 18-19). Abstract submissions will be handled through INFO Ready. H. Perez pointed out that historically the goal of strengthening undergraduate research on campus was tied to the CCRS, and was wondering whether we would keep this emphasis. J. Marhsall noted that undergraduate research support won't be hurt, opportunities may even increase for students to present in the expanded version of the CCRS. P. Mahalik suggested that some sessions may be designated as undergraduate only, if need arose to protect that student segment.
- (5) The committee unanimously voted in favor of adding a delegate from the Library, and suggested Vang Vang for the position. T. Forgács said he would manage the process in accord with the APP and the Dean of the Library if necessary.
- (6) The committee discussed two small changes to its charter. One was to change the language to reflect the fact that we now have a Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, who would be the likely designee of the VPAA. The committee also felt that the General manager of the CSUF Foundation or his/her designee need not be an ex-officio member of the committee, but could be invited to any meeting where their input/expertise would be required to support the work of the research

committee. J. Kieckhaefer moved to strike section 3/B of the charter (S.L seconded, 5-0). T. Forgács will work on getting the changes approved.

- (7) T. Forgács reported on his meeting with the Dean of the CSM for informational purposes. Based on his presentation, the committee discussed the type of information that each of the schools is likely to have, and we agreed that at this point committee members will do their best to understand what kind of data is available, and would gather it, understanding that some of the more detailed data might be difficult to acquire. Meetings with the deans of the various schools will go on during the rest of the semester. As we discussed some of the challenges regarding research support in the CSM, H. Perez asked whether overload allowance is handled at the college or the university level. J. Marhsall noted that overload requests are likely get pushback from various units (Faculty affairs, union) and are hard to manage equitably, although externally funded overload activities usually do not face such hurdles.
- (8) P. Mahalik raised concerns over available funds for page charges when publishing papers in high impact factor, high quality journals. He points out that such charges can easily reach \$2000 for a paper, and some deans/departments/colleges may not have the funds to pay for it, leaving the individual researcher to have to bear some, or all of the costs. T. Forgács noted that in Mathematics, there is a growing trend of publishing in open access journals, which is also quite expensive (sometimes \$3000 for a paper), because the journals want to collect some money up front in exchange for giving up their revenue in sales of an article. J. Marshall raised the point that there are disciplines where page charges are a signal of a journal having questionable reputation. The idea of creating a pot of money on campus for this purpose was raised by P. Mahalik. J. Kieckhaefer pointed out the issue of how to include (or not) schools that don't face this problem. H. Pinzon suggested that committee members talk to their deans about this issue during their meetings. J. Marhsall noted that some deans use indirect recovery to offset such costs, and that high impact journal publications can lead to increased grant activity (a justification for such expense). J. Kieckhaefer suggested that faculty could write in publications costs as part of their grant budgets, and T. Forgács mentioned that not all research activity that leads to publication is grant funded. The committee also noted that there are smaller, reputable journals which may need to levy page charges in order to cover their costs. We see this as a real, and complex issue, and are looking forward to including the library representative in the ongoing discussion of the issue.
- (9) The item on Indirect cost sharing among CoPIs - current policy and amendment was tabled.
- (10) The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.