

Research Council Efforts During 2005-2006 Academic Year.

During this past year, 2005-2006, the Research Council was involved in several avenues of work:

A) Completed Committee Work

- 1) **EPPE (Exhibit, Publication and Performance Expense) Fund.** The application procedure for this awards fund was revised to facilitate both the application for and the awarding of appropriate monies. The process is now largely handled with the Office of Research. The Research Council is presented with a monthly spreadsheet as to who has been asking for the funds and how much was then allocated to the request. Because of high requests from certain groups, a special fund/procedure has been set up for them, that does not directly affect the EPPE funds.
- 2) **SARIF Equipment Awards.** A total of 17 applications for the SARIF Equipment awards were submitted this academic year. A committee of the Research Council was charged with examining the applications and making recommendations concerning the funding for these applications. The proposals were ranked and the results submitted to the Office of Research. Because the total funding request ~\$323K was fairly near to the amount that had been allocated for these awards, \$300K, all the applications were awarded their requested funds. It was noted that a) Certain requests seem to be recurring and that maybe some alternative method needs to be found for funding their requests and b) This year there was a large number of requests for funding of equipment that would eventually be used in the Joint Institute of Advanced Materials.
- 3) **SARIF GTA Awards.** As with the SARIF Equipment awards a committee of the Research Council evaluated the applications for the GTA awards. A total of twenty three awards were made with each award carrying a stipend of \$3600. It was recommended by the committee that the stipend level be increased to \$4000 for next year.
- 4) **Chancellor's Awards.** Again this year, a committee of the Research Council evaluated the nominees for the Chancellor's Research and Creative Achievement Award and the Chancellor's Professional Promise Awards. Through the Research Council's efforts four awards were made in each category.
- 5) **COEUS.** Dr. Billie Collier has kept the Research Council informed on the progress in the implementation of the online proposal submittal procedures.
- 6) **Compliance.** Dr. Billie Collier has kept the Research Council apprized of the various requirements that are in place with regards to be safety matters and also with regards to the various requirements for export of materials to other countries. Dr. Collier presented to the Research Council a form that will be used for incoming researchers to inform them of the various requirements that are necessary for compliance with regulations.
- 7) **Changes to Tenure Procedure.** The Research Council was kept apprized of the changes in tenure policy that were to be presented to the U.T. Board of

Trustees. One of the changes in particular could have an impact on new faculty hires who would be a joint appointment with an outside institution.

B) Work in Progress

- 1) **Centers and Institutes Review.** During Fall Semester 2005, the committee reviewed 5 centers/institutes as part of their 5 year cycle. For Spring 2006, 2 proposals and 5 centers/institutes are currently under review. This committee whether with the same constituency or not will be function over the summer of 2006.
- 2) **Research Data and Intellectual Property Policies.** At the beginning of the academic year, the Research Council was presented with these two policies in the hope that they might move forward to adoption by the Research Council and then the Faculty Senate. It immediately became clear that various criticisms and concerns of these two policies had not been taken into account. The Research Council has obtained, in addition to the previous various comment/criticisms, additional information concerning the requirements from various agencies as research data and intellectual property policies. As the members of this committee will be here during the summer of 2006, it is hoped that these policies can be reworked and then presented to the full Research Council in fall 2006 and then to the Faculty Senate.
- 3) **Scholarly Publishing.** The Research Council was forwarded a proposed Faculty Senate resolution from the Faculty Senate Library Committee. Unfortunately this policy will not be able to be taken up by the Research Council until its last meeting on May 8th, 2006.

C) New Business

- 1) **Post-Doctoral Handbook.** At the first graduate council meeting, it was mentioned that there had been some exploration as to what policies and/or procedures were in place with regards to post-doctoral appointments. Further action with regards to this was to be taken by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' Office. Once policies were formed, these would then be submitted to the Research Council for their consideration. As of this time, no further action has taken place.

Submitted by
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