

**Research Council Meeting  
February 11, 2015  
Blount Hall, Room A004**

**FINAL**

**Attendees**

Tina Shepardson (Chair)	Holly Mercer
Chris Boake	Robert Muenchen
Matthew Cooper	Janet Nelson
Ian Down	Robert Nobles
Bill Dunne	Annette Ranft
Ramki Kalyanaraman	Dawnie Steadman
Rebecca Klenk	Kenton Yeager
	Nathan Meek (GSS)

**Guests**

Carol Malkemus and Kelly Steele

**Welcome by the Chair – Tina Shepardson**

Tina Shepardson thanked everyone for coming.

**Vote on approval of minutes from December and January**

The December and January Meeting minutes were not presented for approval because there was not a quorum of RC members present.

**Presentation – Chris Boake (Associate Dean for Research and Facilities, Arts and Sciences)**

Tina Shepardson introduced Chris Boake, Associate Dean for Research and Facilities, College of Arts and Sciences. Chris Boake gave a presentation titled “Construction Update for Academic Buildings” which was an overview of planned construction on campus, ongoing work: Strong Hall, long-term: Hill Master Plan, Campus Master Plan. Chris Boake explained the role of the Campus Planning & Design Committee which makes recommendations to the Chancellor’s Cabinet on the outside appearance of new buildings while including the Chancellor’s mandatory regulations. Chris Boake is a member of the Campus Planning & Design Committee. Chris Boake complimented the system and the cabinet on working well together on construction. There is much more harmony now than ever before.

**Business**

**Update: Chancellor’s Awards Committee – Ben Auerbach**

Ben Auerbach is the Chair of the Chancellor’s Awards Committee, and he gave the following update on nominations received:

19	Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement
15	Research and Creative Achievement
1	Success in Multidisciplinary Research

The Chancellor’s Awards Committee will meet on February 16, 2015 to finalize their recommendations for each award.

### **Update on conversations about IRB, IBC, iMedris – Robert Nobles**

The IRB is experiencing an unacceptable timeframe for review and ORE is taking a number of steps to resolve the issues with the IRB Chairperson. In the short term, ORE is shifting internal resources by reallocating the primary responsibilities of two staff persons (Deanna Parker and April Griffin) to support IRB review functions. The IRB is also recruiting a Vice Chairperson to assist with research reviews, trainings, and issue resolution. He is confident that these immediate actions will help get us to an acceptable timeframe for conducting reviews and sharing information back to our research faculty.

iMedRIS the CITI training certificates are now being directly downloaded into iMedRIS. This will reduce the burden on research teams and increase efficiency in the review process. We are beginning the iMedRIS integration process for Biosafety Committee.

PRIMR We are planning on having PRIMR provide a campus training and workshop on April 27th beginning at 8:30am. All IRB members, Department review chairs, administrators, and researchers (faculty, staff, and interested students) will be invited to attend.

Laboratory Workplace and Safety Committee has been constituted with a faculty lead, Terry Hazen, and is in the process of broadening representation to include appointed department safety liaisons. The Committee is charged with assessing and providing recommendations to improve our institutional safety culture.

### **Update on Senate Bylaws request – Shepardson**

The Faculty Senate asked each of their subcommittees to review their bylaws. Tina Shepardson has spoken to Joanne Hall, Chair of the Faculty Senate, about revising the policy on who is allowed to vote on the Research Council. The Research Council suggested that the Faculty Senate have a meeting with all 12 Faculty Senate subcommittees about developing the same voting policy for each subcommittee. There was a discussion about encouraging Research Council Members to attend the meetings and to ask Department Heads to encourage members in their departments to attend. There was also a discussion about moving the Research Council Meetings to a more convenient time for everyone.

### **Update from ORE – Janet Nelson**

Janet Nelson discussed a strategy for SARIF funds for FY16. There are a number of funding categories that supports areas of research such as the Equipment and Infrastructure Fund, the Exhibit, Performance and Publication Expense Fund, the Federal, Corporate and Foundation Opportunity Fund, the Foreign Travel Fund, the Opportunities Fund, the Scholarly Projects Fund, and the Supplemental Funding for In-Residence Fellowship Awards. The Summer Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) had been discontinued, and Janet Nelson asked for opinions on reinstating it for FY15. There was a discussion on using GRA funds to boost faculty doing research in humanities and social sciences. STEM faculty receive funding through other funding. There were positive recommendations for this opportunity. Janet Nelson asked Tina Shepardson to form a Research Council Subcommittee of 4-5 people to review applications. Plans are to announce the GRA opportunity in early March, applications due mid to late March, and the subcommittee will review and have their recommendations to Janet Nelson by mid April.

The ORU funds are also under the STIR funds. Janet Nelson mentioned that the process for ORU funds is being reinvented. The continuum of STIR funds will focus on interdisciplinary opportunities, opportunities that align with the Top 25, Community of Scholars, and groups that demonstrate sustainability. The plans are to have the process in the spring with a more stream-lined fashion. An

announcement will come out soon on ORE's webpage and to the Associate Deans for Research. There will be no budget hearings for ORU funds.

### **Office of Research & Engagement Staff Changes**

The Office of Research & Engagement is conducting a search for a Core Facilities Director. The person in this position will report to the AVCRD and work closely with the Core Facilities Advisory Committee (CFAC) and other organizations. Bob Muenchen represents the Research Council on the CFAC and Shawn Campagna is the Chair of the CFAC. The CFAC is looking for shovel-ready core facilities, which are facilities already sharing equipment with others on campus.

Suzanne Lodato resigned as the Faculty Development Team Director. A search will be conducted to fill this position.

Charlie Senn announced he will retire as Director of the Research Development Team. He is working part-time as he transitions to a new position. A search will be conducted to fill this position.

Recommendations for these open positions should be sent to Janet Nelson ([janet.nelson@utk.edu](mailto:janet.nelson@utk.edu)).

### **New Business**

#### **Speaker suggestions?**

Ramki Kalyanaraman suggested asking someone to speak who can explain the out-of-state and in-state tuition policy.

Meeting ended at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Jane Taylor