Coastal Carolina University
University Research Council Minutes

Monday, December 6, 2010 3:45 PM
(EHFA) Edwards College of Humanities & Fine Arts Room 164

Members Present: Maria Bachman for Var Limpasuvan (on scholarly reassignment), John Beard, Ralph Byington, Paul Gayes, Gary Loftus, Dianne Mark, Claudia McCollough, Wink Prince, Michael Roberts, Emma Savage-Davis, Cheryl Ward, Charmaine Tomczyk, Deborah Vrooman, and Rob Young

1. Approval of Minutes from November 15, 2010: Minutes were distributed by email after the meeting and approved by email

2. Discussion with Provost: advancing the culture of research at CCU
   This discussion was the entire meeting. The Provost expressed full support for the mission and efforts of the URC, and for the importance of research and scholarship at CCU. He was receptive to the concern that research and teaching/”academics” have often been considered separate entities in the past rather than collaborative, essential components of the educational mission of the university. He agreed that research has been undervalued in some past decisions during periods of fiscal stress, and that research should and will be more highly valued in the decision and planning process for the university. The discussion focused on faculty teaching load, how research factors into that load, and associated responsibilities and expectations of faculty. He will work with the deans to foster departmental and college discussions regarding the development of policies and guidelines regarding these issues.

Adjournment

ADDENDUM:

An issue came up after the meeting on Thursday, December 9, regarding the URC Graduate Student Research Incentive Grants. The issue was discussed and handled via email. It is reported here in order to be entered into the minutes. Susan Slavik submitted a request to fund travel for 8 MAT Art students to the National Art Education Convention in Seattle in March. She did not receive notification of the award opportunity prior to the October deadline due to an error by the MAT program coordinator. Since the notification system had failed her and the requests were deemed worthy, the committee agreed to award $3308 as a special group award to be used equally by the 8 students. This amount, in addition to funds already raised by the students and funds committed by the CCU Student Government Association, were adequate to support their travel. To prevent a notification error in the future, Deborah Vrooman has established an email distribution list for all degree-seeking graduate students, and additional efforts will made to publicize the awards in the future.