Coastal Carolina University  
University Research Council Minutes  
Monday, April 25, 2011 3:30 PM  
(EHFA) Edwards College of Humanities & Fine Arts Room 164

Members Present: John Beard, Ralph Byington, Rich Viso for Paul Gayes, Edward Jadallah, Var Limpasuvan, Mike Roberts, Charmaine Tomczyk, Deborah Vrooman, and Rob Young

Members Absent: Gary Loftus, Claudia McCollough, Wink Prince, Emma Savage-Davis, Cheryl Ward

1. Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2011: Approved

2. The committee unanimously approved the revised Research Misconduct Policy and Procedures document

3. URC Graduate Student Research Incentive guidelines:
   a. Dr. Vrooman reported Graduate Program students spend on the average of $1,500 on research travel, materials, and supplies. CCU tries to at least cover the students travel and materials. The CMWS program funds more money for research.
   b. Discussion: agreed to continue to fund both active research/scholarship and presentation travel, but should ask for more information from travel applications in particular. Recommended changes to the application/requirements/procedures include:
      • Check box: identify proposal as either presentation travel or research/scholarship
      • For research/scholarship proposals, URC co-chairs will identify a subcommittee to review and rank technical proposals prior to the full committee meeting
      • All proposals (travel or research) should address the:
         i. Contribution to the knowledge base of the discipline
         ii. Impact on personal career/scholarly development
         iii. Product that will be produced from the experience
      • Each of the above must be addressed in the final report by awardees. A copy or evidence for the product produced should be included.

4. Promoting the research culture: Suggestions from recent conversations:
   The committee discussed several ideas for promoting the research culture and engaging faculty. No directives came out of the conversation, but several suggestions were put forth.
   a. Engaging new faculty – Ideas for instilling the research culture immediately in new faculty (application varies by discipline):
      • Encourage peer research mentors in departments – in some cases support travel for a new faculty member to attend a conference (attend and meet/discuss). Perhaps in context of attending 1st year, presenting 2nd year, and funding some/all of own travel 3rd year.
      • In some departments, faculty teaching (for additional salary) in summer stifles research progress. Perhaps provide start-up funds in summer in exchange for research productivity.
      • Similar argument for funding a semester course release in the first two years.
      • Support travel to visit funding agencies, talk to program officers, etc.
      • Provide support from a grant-writer position
   b. Jump-starting research and proposal-writing – post-docs, research techs, grad assistants:
      • University-supported post-docs under specific areas and conditions may still be on the table
      • An idea to support a collaborative research technician prior to the required submission of proposals to fund such a position may be appropriate in the sciences
   c. Strategic grant-writing: departmental/college/university initiatives:
      • Strategic broad impact proposals were supported, but some participants indicated it needed to be lead from “on high” and required a grant-writer position.

5. Annual wrap-up:
   Dr. Young thanked the committee members for their excellent service this year.