Coastal Carolina University

University Research Council Minutes

Wednesday, September 14, 2011 3:00 PM
(Kearns) Spadoni College of Education Room 205

Members Present: Carol Osborne for Daniel Ennis, Paul Gayes, Edward Jadallah, Var Limpasuvan, Gary Loftus, James Luken, Wink Prince, Mike Roberts, Charmaine Tomczyk, Cheryl Ward, Zan Wiggins, and Rob Young

Members Absent: Ralph Byington, and Sara Sanders

1. Rob Young did introductions of the new members to the group.

2. Rob Young briefly went over the goals of the committee and recapped last year’s goals.

3. Research and Emerging Initiatives:
   a) Dr. Roberts informed the committee of his new job responsibilities and his goals.
      i) To act as the point of contact for outside agencies that wish to work with a faculty member.
         1) Offering opportunities with external agencies to interact with faulty
         2) Working on nontraditional partnerships
      ii) To work with the Centers on campus to have some uniformity with how the centers function
      iii) To speak directly with faculty in all colleges to learn their activities and research goals.
      iv) To interact with the URC regarding knowledge and background on the research at CCU
   b) Discussion: Discussion primarily focused on the various Centers at the university:
      i) There is no uniform definition or policy at CCU regarding what defines a Center (or initiative or academy or…). Currently the term is used in various capacities, creating confusion.
      ii) Suggested the URC should discuss definitions and the basic criteria for creating Centers
      iii) This discussion may be most productive if it is after Dr. Roberts initial discussions with the Center directors.

4. Dr. Young handed out a draft report of grant activity (2010-2011), including various reports broken down by college and department.
   a) The breakdown of grant activity by department and administrative unit, including various categories, was well-received.
   b) The breakdown of the number of tenure-track faculty per department submitting/receiving grants generated discussion.
      i) Potentially useful for strategic planning by deans in identifying where additional efforts may be fostered and if existing research efforts are under-reported when looking at funding alone.
      ii) May help to encourage additional efforts to seek external funding.
      iii) The point was made that a similar accounting should be made to highlight the contributions by non-tenure-track faculty, as there are a number of staff and non-tenure track faculty with significant grant productivity, to the benefit of the academic programs.

5. Closing: In the interest of time, Dr. Young quickly reviewed that:
   a) the RFP for the URC Graduate Student Research Incentive Grants was coming up (Oct. 15 deadline), and that the next meeting should be pushed back 2 weeks to October 26 in order to review and vote on the proposals, and
   b) a clear priority issue for upcoming meetings will be to discuss institutional definitions and goals for Centers.

6. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.