

Committee on Faculty Scholarship, Research, and Professional Development

Minutes

Date: September 18, 2002

Time: 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Place: Horvitz Building, President's Dining Room

Present: Ronald Chenail (Academic Affairs), Mary Collins (FGSEHS), Gary Gershman (FAR), Ed Keith (OSC/IRB), Leonard Levy (HPD/COM), Harvey Mayrovitz (HPD/CMS), Ron Needleman (Huizenga/IRB), Barbara Packer (FGSEHS), Appu Rathinavelu (HPD/COP), Josephine Shallo-Hoffman (HPD/OPT), Kimberly Shaw (FAM. CTR.), and Barbara Sterry (OGC)

Absent: *Nathan Azrin (CPS), Elizabeth Brennan (UNS), *Laurie Dringus (GSCIS), *Bill Hardigan (HPD/COP), *Marianne Janssen (HPD/CAH), J. Preston Jones (HUIZENGA), *Billie Jo Kaufman (LAW), *Ed Lieblein (GSCIS), Fred Lippman (HPD/Exec. Offices), *Peggy Loewy Wellisch (Student Financial Services), *David Loshin (HPD/OPT), *Andres Malave (HPD/COP), Keith Sherwood (HPD/CDM), *Mahmood Shivji (OSC), and Hamdesa Tusso (GSHSS)

* Emailed to report scheduling conflict

Committee Charge: The purpose of the Committee on Faculty Scholarship, Research, and Professional Development is to assist with the development of goals and expectations for scholarship and research and to define the policies and procedures needed to support these activities in a high-quality manner.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Chenail welcomed the members to the first meeting of the 2002-2003 academic year. Members did self-introductions. Dr. Chenail explained that Mr. Joel Munson the Institutional Advancement representative had left the university and when his replacement is hired, that person would take his place on the committee. Dr. Ron Needleman, the incoming chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB), was introduced. It was also announced that Dr. Ed Keith, out going chair of the IRB, would stay as a member of this committee by virtue of his position of Past-Chair on the IRB.

2. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2002

The minutes were approved unanimously without revisions. They can be found online at <http://www.nova.edu/cwis/vpaa/facres/forms/facres061802.pdf>.

3. United States Geologic Survey Update

Dr. Chenail reported that President Ferrero was representing the university in Washington, DC this week in an effort to secure political support for NSU's appropriation requests along with building support for the university's efforts to respond to a recent RFP from the United States Geologic Survey (USGS).

Dr. Chenail summarized the university's efforts at securing the south Florida office of the USGS. NSU is the lead university of a consortium of NSU, the University of Florida (UF), and Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Dr. Chenail stated that this would be a major achievement for NSU and could lead to the creation of a major research park in Broward County. The USGS will be highly involved in the Everglades restoration project and having their office and research facilities spread between the three schools of the consortium would be a great advantage for us all in securing additional research funding in the area of environmental sciences and studies.

Dr. Chenail also presented an overview of the university's plans to compete for one of the centers of excellence (<http://www.myflorida.com/myflorida/etc/index.html>). Dr. Chenail explained that the centers of excellence were initiated by Governor Bush as a way of stimulating economic development through partnerships between universities, state government, and the corporate world. Building upon NSU's collaborative efforts with UF and FAU, Dr. Chenail anticipated that the university would submit a consortium-driven proposal to create a center of excellence in environmental sciences.

Dr. Chenail concluded by saying that the review process for both programs would continue on into 2003. He said he would keep members of the committee informed of both initiatives.

Dr. Levy reported that the Health Professions Division was working on securing funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for an \$8 million science building to support collaborative research at NSU. Half of this figure would come from the NIH and half would consist of matching funds from NSU. The proposal for the project is due February 1, 2003.

4. President's Faculty Scholarship Awards (PFSA) Update

Based upon the committee's recommendation, the beginning date for the PFSA awardees to start drawing down funds has been moved from July 1 of each year to June 1. This change went in effect with the 2002-2003 awards.

Dr. Chenail reported that a review was being conducted to make sure faculty investigators were securing proper IRB approvals and for those projects coming out of HPD, approval by the HPD Research Committee. A number of committee members raised issues regarding the HPD Research Committee. Some were uncertain as to the role of the committee and others said the process was a slow one that could jeopardize the start-up of the PFSA projects. Members also raised a concern about the coordination of the forms and information required by the IRB and the HPD Research Committee. It was suggested that the review process for the PFSA projects could be done in a parallel manner.

There was considerable discussion on the IRB approval process and how that relates to the PFSA program, as well as to research in general at the university. Ms. Sterry is going to review the NSU policy and report back to the committee to clarify the question of whether the IRB needs to review all research protocols or the IRB needs to review only those protocols that involved human subjects. In addition, Dr. Chenail would set up a meeting with Drs. Keith and Needleman to discuss how the meeting schedule of the IRB can be coordinated with the awarding timeline of the PFSA.

Committee members also stated that there could be confusion on the part of investigators when it came to judging whether or not a project involved the involvement of human subjects (e.g., when using surveys or questionnaires). It was suggested that all faculty investigators be required to view and pass the online course on the IRB process. Ms. Sterry said that the IRB was looking into reintroducing some of the educational programs that had been done by the IRB in the past as a way to address this educational need.

Dr. Levy raised concerns about the perception of some faculty members as to the meaning of the PFSA. He pointed out that for some faculty, the PFSA were a be all and end all. He was worried that faculty members were not looking to build upon the awards to begin to generate a research program for themselves. Dr. Chenail acknowledged that there was a need to educate faculty members as to issues like this and to mentor them as researchers.

Dr. Chenail distributed an updated timeline for the 2003-2004 PFSA. He noted that the faculty members were going to receive notification of the award deadlines much earlier this year than what was the practice in previous years.

Dr. Chenail informed committee members that Ms. Sterry, Dr. Janssen, and he were working on an evaluation process that was focusing on the protocol and reviewing process of the PFSA. The sub-committee had met a number of times over the summer and that they were working on a method for evaluating whether or not the structure of the protocol and reviewing process was more favorable towards certain methodologies than other research designs. The sub-committee would make a report back to the full committee later in the year.

Dr. Chenail reported that he and Ms. Sterry met with Mr. Greg Horne of the Office of Information Technology to discuss the creation of a web-based system for reviewers to submit their reviews. OIT is working on the development of this application. Committee members will have an opportunity to view the system when the test version is ready.

5. Sub-committee on Best Practices and Benchmarking: Graduate Student Scholarship Program

Dr. Chenail reported that the sub-committee was still working on the report regarding the academic unit's student tuition waiver policies. Dr. Keith will work with Dr. Chenail to have a draft ready for the committee's review at the October meeting. Dr. Chenail also shared that the university was conducting a study of the current employee tuition waiver program. He said information from that report could be informative to the student waiver proposal on which the committee had been working.

6. Research Day

Dr. Chenail reported that the sub-committee was recommending postponing the holding of the university-wide Research Day until 2003-2004. He said the committee wanted more time to build consensus for the program.

7. Other Items of Discussion: Faculty Development

Dr. Levy announced that the College of Osteopathic Medicine was continuing its collaboration with the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services to develop a master's of education program in health education. This initiative has grown out the college's effort to build an effective faculty development program. The program could also lead to the possibility of faculty members earning a doctoral degree. Dr. Levy also stated that in the future, the program could be opened up to students from outside of the university.

Dr. Chenail also reported his office was working with the university's Office of Research, Planning, and Governmental Affairs to write a report on faculty development programs in the individual academic units as well as those programs that are available university-wide. The report will help the university to identify best practices and to see if there any gaps in these areas.

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 16, 2002

9. Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM