

Committee on Faculty Scholarship, Research, and Professional Development

Approved Minutes

Date: September 21, 2004

Time: 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Place: Horvitz Building, LaBonte Boardroom

Present: Ron Chenail (PRO), Mary Collins (FSE), Laurie Dringus (GSCIS), Franklin Garcia-Godoy (HPD/ EXEC.OFCS), Gary Gershman (FCAS), Harold Laubach (HPD/CMS), Leonard Levy (HPD/COM), Ling Li (HPD/CDM), David Loshin (HPD/OPT), Maryellen Maher (FGSE), Ron Needleman (HUIZENGA), Appu Rathinavelu (HPD/COP), Josephine Shallo-Hoffman (HPD/OPT), Kimberly Shaw (MSIECS), Barbara Sterry (OGC), and Mahmood Shivji (OSC)

Absent: Nathan Azrin (CPS), Elizabeth Brennan (UNS), *Arthur DeCarlo (HPD/COM), *Joe Grohman (LAW), *J. Preston Jones (HUIZENGA), Ed Keith (OSC), Ed Lieblein (GSCIS), Fred Lippman (HPD/ EXEC.OFCS), *Peggy Loewy Wellisch (FIN.AID), Harvey Mayrovitz (HPD/CMS), Keith Sherwood (HPD/CDM), and Hamdesa Tusso (GHS&SS)

* 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. (09/01)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The new members for 2004-2005, Franklin Garcia-Godoy, Harold Laubach, and Ling Li, were introduced.

2. Approval of Minutes from June 16, 2004

The minutes of the May 16, 2004 meeting were approved and will be posted at <http://www.nova.edu/cwis/vpaa/facres/forms/facres061604.pdf>.

3. Sub-committee on Best Practices and Benchmarking: Graduate Student Tuition Waiver Program – Ron Chenail

Dr. Chenail reported that President Ferrero had approved the proposal for the creation of the Graduate Student Tuition Waiver Program. He also reported that at least three faculty investigators with grants had expressed interest in applying for the program this year. After considerable discussion, the committee members supported a pilot testing period for the program for waivers to be issued starting in the 2004-2005 academic year. A task force consisting of Barbara Sterry, David Loshin, Ed Keith, and Appu Rathinavelu was appointed to draft the procedures and forms for the program. Dr. Chenail

added that he would contact Peggy Loewy-Wellisch to request her naming a technical assistant from her operation to assist with the process.

Committee members also expressed concern if the program had a total of only ten waivers, then the program may exhaust its total number of awards in the first year of the program and thus have no new waivers to issue until another four years had past. Dr. Chenail said the Committee would monitor the program closely and if the demand exceeded ten awards, then a request for additional slots/funding would be made to President Ferrero. Committee members also expressed the need for establishing an evaluation system for the waivers so student productivity could be measured and benchmarked.

4. President's Faculty Research and Development Grants (PFRDG) and Quality of Life Awards (QoLA) Update – Ron Chenail

Dr. Chenail announced that a preliminary calendar had been developed for this year's PFRDG and QoLA competitions. Ms. Sterry said she would send the calendar to committee members for their review. In addition, Dr. Chenail noted that Dr. Bruce Brydges was appointed as the technical advisory to the QoLA. Ms. Sterry also shared that she and her staff had created a handbook for the PFRDG that brought all of the information about the program into one place.

Dr. Chenail presented a proposed change in the eligibility guidelines for this year's PFRDG. Dr. Chenail said that a considerable number of investigators each year requested extensions for their awards. The extensions in many cases were for an additional year. Dr. Chenail stated that if these investigators were still working on open awards, the likelihood that they would have additional time to work on a new award was called into question. Given this, he and Ms. Sterry proposed the following new eligibility language

All full-time faculty members are eligible to apply. Faculty members who have received a grant in the past competitions are eligible to apply. However, principal investigators who have a current active award that has been extended beyond June 30, 2005 are not eligible to apply for the current competition. Should a principal investigator be awarded a grant and has an open account, the new grant award will be disqualified. Additionally, if a faculty member is serving as a reviewer for the competition, he or she is also eligible to submit an application.

Members of the committee were in favor of this new limitation, but also shared concerns that the eligibility language should be even more restrictive. One of these suggestions included previous winning principal investigators would not be eligible for subsequent competitions as principal investigators. Dr. Chenail said that a new round of research was being conducted on the outcomes of the PFRDG and that he favored waiting to see if multiple winners were being productive and were new submitters able to win the grants, etc.

Lastly a number of suggestions were offered to provide assistance for faculty submitting proposals. These suggestions included posting exemplary winning proposals and making sure these proposals illustrate a variety of methods. Dr. Gershman suggested that the language used in the PFRDG materials could lead some faculty members to conclude that certain research methods were

avored in the competition. Dr. Chenail asked Dr. Gershman if he would review the current language and make suggested changes in the language and Dr. Gershman said he would.

5. Protection of Human Subjects System / IRB Accreditation Update – Ron Chenail

Dr. Chenail and Ms. Sterry started their presentation by announcing that Jaime Arrango had been selected to be NSU's IRB Administrator. They also discussed the latest developments regarding the university's seeking IRB accreditation. They reported that NSU had sent in its application and fee to the Partnership for Human Research Protection, Inc. (PHRP) (<http://www.phrp.org/>). The staff of the Office of Grants and Contracts (OGC) is working with Joel Berman, university council, on the NSU-PHRP contract. In addition, OGC will be reviewing PHRP's accreditation standards in preparation for submitting NSU's survey.

As part of the accreditation self-study, the university needs to identify areas in which they are lacking programs, procedures, or outcome measures in its overall protection of human subjects system. Two areas identified so far as needing attention are training of IRB members, principal investigators, and student researchers and monitoring record keeping and data management of ongoing and completed research projects. To address the training program concern, OGC has been researching various training solutions. These include the online programs from the National Institutes of Health (<http://ohsr.od.nih.gov/IRBCBT/intro.html>) and the National Cancer Institute (<http://cme.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials/learning/humanparticipant-protections.asp>). OGC was also recommending the purchase and use of the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) Course in The Protection of Human Research Subjects (<https://www.citiprogram.org/default.asp>).

Members discussed the importance of academic units being able to customize their training needs for the particular situations of individual investigators. It was also discussed that the university may also wish to consider adding training in good clinical practice.

6. Research Task Force Update – Ron Chenail

Dr. Chenail reported that the Research Task Force had met on Friday, September 17, 2004 to review the latest draft of their report. The group expects to meet President Ferrero's timeline for delivery of a preliminary report November 1, 2004.

7. Potential Initiatives

Due to a lack of time, discussion of the potential initiatives was tabled for the next meeting.

a. Conduct a survey to determine what existing, official mechanisms exist within each School/Center/Department (as appropriate) to encourage, support and reward faculty research and scholarship. Based on the results of this survey, the Committee can then propose (for Central Administration consideration) policies and procedures that will increase the amount and

quality of research being conducted at NSU.

b. Conduct a survey of existing, official, faculty development procedures and funding allocated per full-time faculty by each School/Center/Department for faculty development. I suspect we might see considerable variation in faculty development opportunities university-wide, and it may be useful to gather these data for the Committee's deliberations and actions.

c. Develop internal funds to help NSU faculty secure R01 funds and the creation of a program for post-doctoral fellows.

d. Develop a technology-transfer department that can operate for all southeast Florida universities (NSU, FAU, FIU, and UM). In this way the department would be far cheaper to operate and the individuals who run the office could be of the highest quality. The sort of tasks that a technology-transfer officer performs does not cause conflict of interest between universities.

e. Suggest and support the appropriate units to create joint positions between Scripps and NSU.

8. Other Items of Discussion

Due to a lack of time no other items were discussed.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

10. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 20, 2004