

**RESEARCH COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**Memorandum #186**

November 20, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Bigelow	Phil Blick	Pamela Crowell
Deanna Dye	Deb Easterly	Kay Flowers
Dianne Horrocks	Cyndy Kelchner	Scot Kelchner
Deana Molinari	Kelly Moor	Alba Perez
Mukunthan Santhanakrishna	Marco Schoen	Corey Schou
Dan Tappan	Jessica Winston	

Absent: Sean Anderson, Rajendra Bajracharya, Colden Baxter, Shelly Counsell, Chris Daniels, Lori Johnson, Skip Lohse, Herb Maschner, Subbaram Naidu, Keith Weber, Doug Wells

Jim Bigelow declared there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

I. Approval of Minutes

Jessica Winston moved to accept the minutes as written, motion seconded. Motion passed (Memorandum #185) (10Y, 0N). Alba Perez arrived after the vote.

II. Reports

- A. Faculty Research Committee (FRC) – Carole Gull reported there were approximately eleven proposals received and the meetings to review and award grants are scheduled for the first two Fridays in December.
- B. Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Committee (GSRSC) – Kelly Moor reported that the committee received 40 proposals, which will be reviewed via Moodle. Meetings to review and award grants are scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Undergraduate Student Research Committee (UgRC) – Dan Tappan reported that twelve proposals were received and eight awarded. Award letters went out today.
- D. Humanities/Social Sciences Research Committee (HSSRC) – Jessica Winston reported that five proposals were received. Meetings to review and award proposals are scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>. The committee is considering changing the bylaws to widen project eligibility.
- E. University Research Committee (URC) – Pamela Crowell reported that the committee does not meet until spring.

- F. Vice President for Research Report – Pamela Crowell reported that while in Washington, D.C. she visited multiple institutes within NIH. Several program officers offered to come to ISU to do a presentation.

Larry Grossman, the ISU lobbyist, was on campus November 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, for federal appropriation requests. Dr. Crowell and Mr. Grossman will strategize on which requests to take forward to the Idaho Delegation.

Distinguished Researcher nominations are due tomorrow, Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup> in the Office of Research.

Inland Northwest Regional Alliance (INRA) is talking about a possible change in governance. The VPRs and Graduate Deans would play a more active role than the university presidents which is now the case. INRA is no longer securing federal earmarks. This is an opportunity for large collaborative efforts in research.

- G. Issues from the Constituency – Jim Bigelow opened the meeting up for general discussion.

Cyndy Kelchner asked for clarification on the increased scrutiny of positions. When a position is on sponsored funds 95% and 5% on local funds, does this need to go through the proper channels? Dr. Crowell spoke up and said that it does, but it would not be scrutinized and should go through without any problems. Deanna Molinari stated that she was told that all new position requests even if grant funded must be routed through the proper channels. Dr. Crowell stated that this would be approved with no problems, even if it did come to them for approval.

Kay Flowers brought forward an issue concerning library faculty with regard to conducting research. Library faculty is not adequately represented on any of the internal grant committees and would like this matter addressed.

### III. Council Business

- A. Focus Group Report and Research Infrastructure Survey – Jim Bigelow reported that Gesine Hearn has finished the focus groups and does not feel there is any further information to be gained by holding more groups. Four focus groups were held. The next step is to collect the hard data that Gesine suggested and then develop a web based survey.

Jim Bigelow made a motion that RCC move forward with a subcommittee to come up with topics for the survey, and use the expertise Ann Hunter and Gesine Hearn to develop questions for the survey. Motion was seconded, motion passed (10Y, 0N), 1 abstention by Jessica Winston. Jim Bigelow, Deb Easterly and Pamela Crowell will be on the subcommittee.

- B. College of Technology Representation – Jim Bigelow turned discussion on this issue over to Cyndy Kelchner. The council was provided with revised Bylaws to include a representative from the College of Technology. Motion was made by Deanna Dye to accept the Bylaws as revised, motion passed (12Y, 0N), 1 abstention by Mukunthan

Santhanakrishna. (This vote included emails in favor of the revised Bylaws from Rajendra Bajracharya and Shelly Counsell).

- C. Election of the Chair and General Bylaws Revision – Jim Bigelow turned discussion of this issue over to Cyndy Kelchner for discussion. With the current structure of the Bylaws, the council is made up of half voting and half non-voting members, with 1/3 of the voting members being chairs of the internal grant committees.

Discussion on the Bylaws was as follows:

- What is RCC's role with the subcommittees (internal grant committees)?
- How does RCC see itself?
- How should we be structured?
- Who are we?
- Should chairs of subcommittees be voting members in RCC?

The subcommittee formed to rewrite the Bylaws will come up with a mission statement for RCC and will present it to the Council at our December meeting.

#### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Miscellaneous – Deb Easterly reported that the Undergraduate Research Symposium will be held April 9<sup>th</sup>, a Graduate Student Research Symposium will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup>, and Research Day at ISU will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Jim Bigelow stated that RCC owes Gesine Hearn a big “Thank You.” Dr. Bigelow made a motion to suggest that this be reflected in Gesine's service component. Motion was seconded and passed (11Y, 0N).

Action items for RCC:

- Dr. Bigelow will forward revised RCC Bylaws to Faculty Senate for approval
- Comment on the draft faculty policies in Moodle (THE POLICIES HAVE BEEN LOADED into Moodle and a forum has been created for each policy, so RCC members can discuss prior to the December 18th meeting)
- Bylaws subcommittee work on a Mission statement and continue on the rewrite of the Bylaws
- RCC members to talk about policies with constituents
- Chairs of the internal grant committees are to solicit comments from their respective committees, concerning issues addressed by RCC with regard to the sub-committees

Meeting adjourned at ~4:40 pm

Approved by Research Coordinating Council: January 15, 2009

Accepted by Faculty Senate: February 2, 2009