

# OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

## STRATEGIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 25, 2010

Present: Chairperson Robert Bernhard, Jan Botz, Sunny Boyd, Julia Braungart-Rieker, Peg Brinig, Tom Cosimano, Richard Cox, Melanie DeFord, Jean Gorman, Tom Guinan, Terri Hall, Rick Hilliard, Roger Huang, John LoSecco, Jarek Nabrzyski, Karen Pace, Liz Rulli, John Stamper, Greg Sterling, Ann Strasser, Richard Taylor,

Absent: Brian Blake, Bruce Bunker, Peter Burns, Mark Cummings, Darren Davis, Agustin Fuentes, George Keegan, Dan Myers, John Nagle, Tracey Poston, Ramachandran Ramanan, Robert Stevenson, Jennifer Younger

Guests: Marianne Corr, Mia Reini

The meeting convened at 9:05 a.m. and the agenda was reviewed. There were no additions to the agenda.

- I. **Review of January 26, 2010 Minutes** – The minutes of the January 26, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.
  
- II. **Announcements** – Dr. Bernhard shared the results of several recent internal funding competitions. In December, the Strategic Academic Planning Committee (SAPC) announced those proposals that would be receiving funding from the second phase of the \$80M university investment. Two of the five full grant proposals will be receiving significant portions of their requested funding; the Sustainable Energy Initiative led by Joan Brennecke and Ken Henderson and the Environmental Change Initiative led by David Lodge. Four of the five seed grant proposals will receive funding to launch their efforts, including proposals submitted by Greg Hartland, Malcolm Fraser, Paul Huber and Tracy Kijewski-Correa. The other 3 full grant and 1 seed grant proposals will receive some funding to help launch those efforts.

This year, Library Acquisition was separated from the Equipment Renewal & Restoration competition. There were fewer requests were received than funds available, with one award. The Equipment Renewal & Restoration competition's budget increased to \$1M with 75% of proposals submitted funded. Additionally, the Faculty Scholarship and Award Program had more requests than could be funded, with 16 awards made.

Other noteworthy announcements included that annual research awards have passed \$88M in the first 7 months of FY2010. Proposal activity is up 34% over two years ago and requested funding \$ is up 102%.

- III. **Conflict of Commitment** – Dr. Bernhard introduced Marianne Corr, Vice President and General Counsel and Mia Reini, Policy Specialist to discuss and request feedback on the draft Conflict of Commitment Policy that was developed by a working group of the Faculty Affairs Committee of Academic Council and that would ultimately be subject to the Academic Council approval process. The draft policy had been distributed to the SRC prior to the meeting. Ms. Corr and Ms. Reini shared that the goal of the new policy had been to expand on the current Outside Activities Policy and put a process around it. Members of the committee shared their thoughts and asked questions about the draft policy. Once the policy has been fully vetted and approved by Academic Council, it was suggested that Ms. Corr and Ms. Reini return to review and clarify any additional questions.

- IV. **Technology Transfer Frequently Asked Questions**– Richard Cox, Director of Technology Transfer introduced a draft of the Technology Transfer Frequently Asked Questions document that will be part of the Office of Technology Transfer website. The draft document had been distributed to the SRC prior to the meeting. Mr. Cox shared that this document grew out of a need to differentiate services offered by the Office of Technology Transfer and those offered by Innovation Park at Notre Dame. Committee members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. Mr. Cox shared that the document is unedited and fluid. It was suggested that a revision date be added to the document.
- V. **Sharing** – The attendees reported various ongoing activities.
- VI. **Adjournment and Next Meeting** – There being no further business brought to this Committee; the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting of the SRC will be held on Friday, March 26, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bernhard  
Vice President for Research

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