

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

STRATEGIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES APRIL 1, 2009

Present: Chairperson Robert Bernhard, Peg Brinig, Bruce Bunker, Richard Cox, Melanie DeFord, William Gilroy, Jean Gorman, Terri Hall, Rick Hilliard, Roger Huang, Jeff Kantor, George Keegan, Larry Lamm, John LoSecco, Patricia Maurice, Fred Mittelstaedt, Dan Myers, Karen Pace, Tracey Poston, Randy Ruchti, Liz Rulli, John Stamper, Greg Sterling, Ann Strasser, Richard Taylor, Jennifer Younger

Absent: Tom Cosimano, Mark Cummings, Agustin Fuentes, John Nagle, Robert Stevenson

Chairperson, Dr. Bernhard opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m. and reviewed the agenda as distributed.

- I. **Review of February 4, 2009 Minutes** – The minutes were reviewed and approved.
- II. **Announcements** – Dr. Bernhard shared that the Strategic Academic Proposal Committee (SAPC) would announce on Friday, April 3 which of the 45 proposals submitted this round would move on to Phase 2. Dr. Bernhard encouraged participants in Phase 1, whether or not invited to Phase 2, to see him for additional information on their proposals.
- III. **Foundation Relations** – George Keegan presented an overview of Foundation Relations. He outlined three levels of current faculty engagement: Stage 1 – Support Stage (~93% of ND proposals), Stage 2 – Partnership State (~6% of ND proposals) and Stage 3 – Investment/Naming Opportunity Stage (~1% of ND proposals). Foundation Relations drive is to move more proposals into Stages 2 & 3. Also reviewed were Foundation Relations' existing strategic relationships and proposed approaches for future proposal development. Please direct any additional questions to George Keegan in Foundation Relations.
- IV. **Update on NSF Monitoring Visit** – Ann Strasser provided an update on the upcoming NSF Monitoring Visit scheduled for May 6-8, 2009. She indicated that the NSF would be sending two individuals to focus specifically on the financial side of one NSF award in the College of Science. She will provide the committee with more information at future meetings.
- V. **Stimulus Proposal Submissions** – Dr. Bernhard shared that the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) is forwarding opportunity information to the Deans as they receive it. The OVPR, along with the Office of Public Affairs & Communications, are also focusing efforts on finding opportunities for ND that will come from non-traditional sources. Liz Rulli shared that ARRA awards will have different and increased reporting requirements; i.e., jobs created, jobs retained, quarterly reporting.
- VI. **Postdoctoral Appointment Performance & Potential Loss of Funding** – Liz Rulli outlined that within the State of Indiana, you are either employed “at will or definite term”. Postdocs are considered definite term employees who can only be terminated for cause (i.e., felony, research misconduct) prior to end date of their appointment. If a postdoc is in the United States on an H-1B visa, they must leave immediately upon termination of employment. J1 visas allow 30 days to leave the country. If faculty are interested in ending a relationship with a postdoc, this information needs to be considered.

- VII. **Department Sharing** – The attendees reported various ongoing activities.
- VIII. **Adjournment and Next Meeting** – There being no further business brought to this Committee; the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bernhard
Vice President for Research

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