

**Appalachian State University  
University Research Council  
Minutes of the Meeting Held April 20, 2010  
(Approved October 19, 2010)**

**Voting Members Present:** Les Bolt, Edelma Huntley, Pollyanne Frantz, Steven Hageman, Charna Howson, John Krumrine, Angela Losardo, Susan McCracken, John Pine, Lisa Runner, Karla Rusch, Leslie Sargent Jones, Amauri Serrano Susan Staub, Julie Taubman, John Turner, Meredith Whitfield

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Ed Brewer, Megan Johnson

**Absent/Excused:** Joseph Cazier, David Dickinson Holly Hirst, Lynn Gregory, Alan Utter

**Absent:** Bill Bauldry, Kristan Cockerill, Lisa Curtin, Cindy McGaha, Amy Roberts, Jennifer Snodgrass

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Edelma Huntley.

It was moved (Krumrine) to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2010 minutes with corrections as noted:

- Change “Pis” to “PIs”
- Under Research Protections, change the wording concerning IRB summer reviews to read “IRB will not meet during the summer; requests that require full board review will be addressed on an as-needed basis.”

The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Announcements from Dean Edelma Huntley**

- The Department of Technology is one of twenty worldwide to have an exhibit accepted into the 2011 Solar Decathlon sponsored by Department of Energy. The team is comprised of Jamie Russell, Chad Everhart, and graduate students.
- One biology graduate student in Kannapolis will receive a \$37,900 stipend (\$22,000 per year plus tuition and housing through Dr. David Nieman’s external funding from the US Department of Agriculture.
- Faculty and administrators will meet with a delegation from Mexico, including their newly appointed Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, regarding interest in a faculty exchange/research exchange. Areas of interest include environment, renewable energy, tourism, recreation management, geography and planning, and urban studies.
- Dr. Hirst is not present as today is the deadline for theses and dissertations.
- Faculty interested in serving on a review panel to select ten new GRAM recipients should contact Dr. Huntley. The GRAM deadline is this week. Faculty apply for funding for graduate assistants to help with their research. The \$10,000 stipend is for two years if the student maintains grades. During 2009-10, GRAM students received

a \$9,000 stipend plus a \$1,000 research award. Due to heavy activity in the office, for 2010-11 students will not be given the research stipend and will receive \$10,000 as a full stipend.

**Announcements from Charna Howson, Sponsored Programs**

- Awards continue to grow. Submissions are up 69% in monies and 13% in number of submissions for the current year. Two proposals submitted last month were for ARRA for recovery funds; we currently have 9 funded ARRA projects. Awards are up 22% or \$13.4M from this time last year.
- ORSP is sending letters to sponsors to ask whether monthly reports are required. If not, quarterly reports will be submitted.
- ORSP continues to receive last-minute proposals for submission. Proposal submission in a timely manner will reduce pressure on the staff.
- Sponsored Programs is getting closer to electronic proposal processing.

**Announcements from Pollyanne Frantz, Proposal Development**

Events are wrapping up for Spring. There is an NSF web conference (Transforming Undergraduate Education in STEM) on April 22. Nikki Bennett (CHE) will be one of the presenters.

**Announcements from Julie Taubman, Research Protections**

- The office is working toward IRB electronic submission.
- IRB discussions continue between ASU and Appalachian Regional Health Center.
- The Biosafety Council will assess the level of campus activities.
- ASU was unprepared for a spot radiation safety inspection. The Radiation Safety Task Force is working toward a campus management plan; these efforts demonstrated “good-faith” in these early stages of compliance.

**Announcements from Meredith Whitfield, Federal Relations**

- Senator Kay Hagen’s office in Asheville is seeking interns. For additional information, contact Meredith Whitfield or visit Senator Hagen’s website.
- The next earmark submissions should come out before end of the Spring semester.

**NEW BUSINESS: URC Awards, Spring 2010**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Research</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Badurek, Christopher	Geography & Planning	GIS Assessment of Mountain Hazards Mitigation in the Guatemalan Highlands	\$4,995
Balling, Kevin	Communication	Film Collaboration with Joseph Bathanti	\$4,941
Battista, Becki & Stephanie West	Health, Leisure & Exercise Science	Testing the Efficacy of Geocaching as a Means for Promoting PA	\$4,955
Brauer, Suzanna	Biology	Pilot study of microbial community diversity in caves	\$5,000
Caton, Daniel	Physics &	A Search for a Stellar Flare Cycle in	\$3,230

	Astronomy	the Binary Star CM Draconis @	
Cecile, Jennifer Perry	Chemistry	Organic Anion Transporter Function in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>	\$4,990
Eloranta, Jari	History	Portuguese Trade with Small and Neutral States during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Conflicts	\$4,676
Getz, Lynne	History	The Wetherill Wives: the Women of a Pioneering Four Corners Family	\$2,480
Gu, Chuanhui	Geology	A Heat Pulse Method for Measuring Sediment Water Flux	\$4,998
Hambourger, Michael & Dale Wheeler	Chemistry	Hydrogen Production Using Ruthenium/Cobalt Catalysts	\$5,000
Heckert, Andrew	Geology	Timing Triassic Theropod Evolution-- Were dinosaurs evolving rapidly before they dominated the earth	\$3527
Jackson, Alecia Youngblood	Leadership & Ed Studies	Thinking with Theory in Qualitative Research: Using Epistemological Frameworks in the Production of Meaning	\$1800
Ludwig, Scott	Art	Creative Research Residency at Beijing Studio Center	\$4,090
Siefferman, Lynn	Biology	The Influence Of Maternal Social Aggression On Offspring Growth, Behavior and Immunity	\$5,000

**ACTION 1:** It was moved that those listed as “recommended for funding” be approved. Vote carried unanimously.

**ACTION 2:** One application required additional information. It was recommended that this application be funded pending submission of additional information. Vote carried unanimously.

**Other:**

Dr. Huntley noted that policies need to be fine-tuned to clearly state a deadline for extension requests. Most requests for extensions are received when reminders for final reports are sent.

It is suggested that when funds become available, the URC pursue a micro-grant program, possibly up to \$10,000, for those who need a small amount for seed funding.

Motion to adjourn.