

**University of North Dakota
Research Council Meeting
Date: Friday, January 26, 2006
Time: 3:05 - 5:00 p.m.
Swanson Hall, Room 16-18
Minutes**

Members in Attendance: Harmon Abrahamson, Peter Alfonso, Alice Brekke, Mike Ebadi, Thomas Erickson, Kristin Hillman, Linda Hurst-Torgerson, Gary E. Johnson, Glinda Lindseth, Peter Meberg, Barry Milavetz, Eric Murphy, Leon Osborne, , David Schmidt, Richard Schutlz, Wilbut Stolt, Klaus Thiessen, John Watson , and H. David Wilson

Members Absent: Julie Anderson, Bishu Bandyopadhyay, Joseph Benoit, Holly Brown-Borg, Sharon Carson, Gerald Combs, Rick Duquette, Bob Gallager, Ahmad Ghassemi, Gerald Groenewold, Tom Hill, , Mark Hoffmann, Jon Jackson, William T. Johnson, Art Jones, Steven Light, Charles Moretti, Jim Petell, Kathryn Rand, George Seielstad, Mary Ann Sens, Mary Wakefield, Greg Weisenstein and Kara Wettersten

Dr. Alfonso called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. There were no additions to the agenda.

- I. Approval of the minutes: Barry Milavetz moved to approve the December 8, 2006 minutes. Dr. Wilson seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by the Council.

- II. Announcements:
 - A. Status of F&A Consultants Search Dr. Alfonso reported that two of the four consultant firms that submitted a proposal will be invited to campus sometime in February. The F&A consultant selection committee consisting of Dr. Peter Alfonso, Bob Gallager, Alice Brekke, Dawn Pladson, Dr. Barry Milavetz and David Schmidt will select a consultant firm that will work with the university long range strategic to best use our resources.
 - B. Status REAC 1 Building – Dr. Alfonso reported that the design company of Perkins and Will and the PCL Construction Services have been selected for the construction of the Research Enterprise and Commercialization Park. He indicated that by March the final plans for the interior space should be approved and construction should start. The exterior plan has been approved; occupancy is planned for October 2007.

Dr. Alfonso reported that Tara Kopplin, has been hired as a Licensing Associate/Assistant in the Technology Transfer & Commercialization office. He also indicated that the Research Park Director position has been narrowed down to three finalists.

- C. Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) Accreditation - Dr. Alfonso reported that although accreditation is not mandatory, the University of North Dakota has received a qualified accreditation rating from the AAHRPP which holds research organizations to a higher standard of protection for research participants and promoting quality research. He indicated that this review took over two and one half years to complete and is a major accomplishment. UND is one of the first group of research universities to be accredited.
- D. Annual Report - Dr. Alfonso reported that the Sponsored Programs annual report has been mailed out across campus and the state. Copies were distributed to the URC members.

III. Reports:

- A. Sponsored Awards YTD –Dr. Milavetz indicated that the awards are about \$2 million above last year which at the present rate should be just under \$98 million at the end of the year. A corresponding increase in the number of awards received was indicated. He also stated that the number of proposals processed was up from last year, but down from two years ago. He said that being cautiously optimistic we could expect to reach \$100 million in sponsored programs this year.
- B. Grants & Contracts Expenditures YTD – David Schmidt reported that the grants and contracts expenditures for December are 19% ahead of the same period last year which is a direct reflection of the increase in awards. Currently at \$38 million in expenditures we could expect \$77 million in expenditures at the end of the fiscal year which would be a 7% increase over last year.
- C. EPSCoR – Dr. Johnson reported that he along with Dr. Alfonso from UND and Dr. Phil Boudjouk and David Givers from NDSU attended an EPSCoR House Budget Hearing in Bismarck on January 12. The Senate hearing will be in late February. He indicated that the state of North Dakota is very supportive of the EPSCoR program.

Dr. Johnson stated that a doctoral dissertation request for proposal will go out next week and will be due early in June.

Dr. Johnson reported that Dr. Paul Hardersen, Space Studies, is preparing a NASA EPSCoR proposal for \$125K per year for 3 years plus a 2 year extension.

Dr. Johnson indicated that a NATURE Workshop proposal is being prepared. If funded at \$11K, Tribal Colleges and EPSCoR jurisdictions will convene in Bismarck in April.

Dr. Johnson reported that preparations for the next EPSCoR proposal have begun. The NSF request for proposal however is not out yet. He went on to say that the reverse site visit of last October recommended “stabilizing and strengthening two State-wide Research Initiatives (Spintronics and SUNRISE) before starting new

centers". A solicitation from ND EPSCoR for white papers in support of the two existing SRIs will be issued soon.

- D. IP Report - Dr. Petell was not available to give a report
- E. CRC – Dr. Schultz reported that the Northern Tier internet connection between Minneapolis, Fargo and Grand Forks has been approved by Senator Dorgan's office. \$4M of Department of Defense money has been approved. It is estimated that \$9M is needed to complete the project. He also stated that the east/west –north/south links all will be up at the same time.

Dr. Schultz reported that the Computational Research Center has hired Aaron Bergstrom in a half time position supported by EPSCoR funding. Dr. Schultz indicated that Mr. Bergstrom is currently ½ NDSU/UND.
- F. ITTS - Dr.Schultz reported for Dorette Kerian.
- G. Genomics, Proteomics and Bioinformatics (GPB) - Dr. Alfonso reported that the newly formed GPB committee held its first meeting on January 24, 2007 at the ND Museum of Art with over 70 people attending. Dr. John Shabb was the guest speaker.

Dr. Ebadi requested the floor to read a tribute to Vice President Alfonso and asked that it be placed into the minutes of the January 26, 2007 minutes. Dr. Wilson made a motion which was seconded by Dr. Milavetz to accept the tribute into the minutes. The motion passed. There was one abstaining vote. See appendix.

IV. Discussions:

- A. Interim VP Research – Dr. Alfonso indicated it was likely that President Kupchella would announce an interim vice president for research the first week in February when he returns.
- B. VPR Search Committee - Dr. Alfonso reported that a search committee to be chair by Dean Wilson has been formed from a broad base of representatives from all sectors of the University.

V. New Business – There was no new business

VI. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Rosemary R. Thue

APPENDIX: