

University of North Dakota
Research Council Meeting
Date: Friday, March 23, 2007
Time: 3:06 - 4:05 p.m.
Memorial Union, River Valley Room
Minutes

Members in Attendance: Harmon Abrahamson, Julie Anderson, Tom Erickson, Bob Gallager, Mark Hoffmann, Gary E. Johnson, Glenda Lindseth, Peter Meberg, Jim Petell, David Schmidt, Wilbur Stolt, Klaus Thiessen, John Watson, and Greg Weisenstein.

Members Absent: Bishu Bandyopadhyay, Joey Benoit, Alice Brekke, Holly Brown-Borg, Sharon Carson, Gerald Combs, Rick Duquette, Mike Ebadi, Ahmad Ghassemi, Gerald Groenewold, Tom Hill, Kristin Hillman, Linda Hurst-Torgerson, Jon Jackson, William T. Johnson, Art Jones, Steven Light, Charles Moretti, Barry Milavetz, Eric Murphy, Leon Osborne, Kathryn Rand, George Seielstad, Richard Schultz, Mary Ann Sens, Mary Wakefield, Kara Wettersten and H. David Wilson.

Others in Attendance: Aaron Bergstrom (Computational Research Center), Diane Darland (Genomics, Proteomics & Bioinformatics Advisory Group), and Dorette Kerian (ITSS-Northern Tier)

Dr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. There were no additions to the agenda.

- I. Approval of the minutes: The EPSCoR report on the NATURE Workshop funding amount in the January 26 minutes was corrected from \$11K to \$100K as noted by Dr. Johnson. Dr. Harmon Abrahamson moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Dr. Peter Meberg seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by the Council.
- II. Announcements:
 - A. Interim VPR Position - Dr. Johnson reported that he has an agreement with President Kupchella to serve as Interim Vice President for Research through June 30, 2007. The appointment is subject to renewal if the Vice President for Research position has not been filled on a permanent basis by that date. A biography of Dr. Johnson was distributed to the URC members for their perusal. Dr. Johnson indicated that he does not intend to be an applicant for the vice president position.
 - B. F&A Consultants – Dr. Johnson reported that due to bad weather in Chicago, the BearingPoint Consultant Company meeting scheduled for March 22 at UND will be rescheduled.
- III. Reports:
 - A. Sponsored Awards YTD - Handouts were distributed. Mr. Schmidt reported on sponsored awards activity for Dr. Milavetz indicating that the number of awards is ahead of schedule compared to last year and for the same period in fiscal year 2005; however, the total amount of the awards is behind \$1.2M from a year ago but well ahead of the same period in fiscal year 2005. David stated that there are two substantial awards pending, a COBRE award in the MSHS for \$2M and an EERC DARPA contract for \$4M.

- B. Grants & Contracts Expenditures YTD – Handouts were distributed. Mr. Schmidt reported that expenditures are up about 10% this year over last year for the same period. David also stated that with the increase in awards this year, the expenditures increase will follow.
- C. EPSCoR - Dr. Johnson reported on the following EPSCoR items:
- Dr. Johnson reported attending an EPSCoR Coalition and Foundation meeting held in Washington DC on March 5-7. He indicated that each EPSCoR state invited a young investigator to participate. Diane Darland, Biology, attended from UND. Dr. Johnson, Diane Darland, and NDSU EPSCoR Counterparts made visits to the ND Congressional staff.
 - Dr. Johnson reported that as of the closing date of March 21, 2007, four proposals were received for the Graduate Student Research Assistantship Program (GSRA).
 - Dr. Johnson also reported that 14 mentor proposals for the Advanced Undergraduate Research Awards (AURA) have been received as of this date. The proposals are due by April 11, 2007 with award notification to be made by April 24.
 - Dr. Johnson announced that the deadline for proposals for the Doctoral Dissertation Assistantships (DDA) is June 6, 2007.
 - Dr. Johnson announced that the NSF CAREER Proposal and Grant Seminar will be held on Friday, April 27. A panel of CAREER award winners at UND will discuss their experiences with writing NSF grant proposals and the proposal review process. The session is open to all, but recently hired faculty and their department chairs are especially encouraged to attend.
 - Dr. Johnson stated that the next two requests for proposals will be for the DESCoR pre-proposals which are will be issued around April 1, and the New Faculty Startups for fall 2008 which has a tentative issue date of May 9 with a proposed deadline date of August 15.
 - Dr. Johnson stated that the next RII proposal for the ND EPSCoR 2009-2012 funding, is due sometime in October.
- D. Intellectual Property: An intellectual property report was distributed. Dr. Petell reported on the increase in IP agreements that have been reviewed by TTC and discussed the importance of these agreements to the University. He also reported that the invention disclosures and patents and trademarks applications for FY07 are projected at the same rate as last year. Dr. Petell indicated that additional tenants have been secured for the Research Enterprise and Commercialization Park with the first tenants scheduled to move in during the November/December time period. Groundbreaking for the building should take place in April. Dr. Petell announced the hiring of a licensing associate, Tara Kopplin, in the TT&C office and indicated that Michelle Meyer will take on more of a marketing role. Dr. Petell stated that the Centers of Excellence for Economic Development call for proposals will be coming up in April. \$20M has been designated for this program. Dr. Petell indicated that proposals should have corporate partnership implications. Dr. Petell announced that the newly hired director for the REAC Park, Kevin Cooper, started today, March 23, 2007.

- E. Computational Research Center (CRC): Aaron Bergstrom, high performance computing specialist, up-dated the members on CRC activities. He indicated that the web site had been up-dated facilitating communication and cluster account application process. He went on to say that the Aspen updates had been completed with Torque scheduler and X11 libraries installed; however, PVM was not installed and MAUI scheduler is yet to be installed. Mr. Bergstrom indicated that reports for 2006 usage and CRC updates on his personal blog can be accessed at the following URL <http://www.und.edu/dept/crchpc/reports>. He also reported that telephone conversations and emails have been exchanged with LCI workshop organizer, Henry Newman, from the Oklahoma University Super Computing Center regarding NSF MRI and NSF CRI programs. Mr. Bergstrom also reported that he has made contact with the Virginia Tech Advanced Research Computation Facility regarding the NSF CISE CRI proposal in conjunction with UND CS Department. Mr. Bergstrom indicated that he attended an IBM luncheon where discussion took place on ways to increase CRC usage by reaching out to the business community and the Red River Valley Research Corridor. He indicated that further discussions with IBM will need to take place to discuss economic impact. Mr. Bergstrom mentioned possible Arctic Cat Contract/Research work with Computational Dynamics Flow Simulation: F-Series and OpenFOAM. Mr. Bergstrom requested that Rosemary Thue send the URL web site electronically to all the URC members. Mr. Bergstrom indicated that he is physically located in ITSS in Upson II should you want to contact him.
- F. Northern Tier: Dorette Kerian reported that the dollars have been committed on a one time basis through this biennium for the east/west - north /south, border to border networking system. She indicated that Senator Christmann has proposed an amendment to House Bill 1461 that would impose limitations for its use to research and education missions of the NDUS system only.
- G. GPB Up-date: Diane Darland reported that the Genomics, Proteomics and Bioinformatics group is being utilized as a communication catalyst across campus. One more meeting before semester break is being planned. She indicated that new information would be posted in the University Newsletter.

IV. Discussions:

- A. VPR Search Committee: In Dr. Wilson's absence, Dr. Johnson reported that a search committee organizational meeting was held on July 1, 2007. It was indicated that three names, unranked, were to be forwarded to the President for his decision.

V. New Business: It was agreed upon by the URC members present that all the handouts for the next URC meeting would be in electronic form versus paper.

VI. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.