

University Research Council Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2010

I. Call to order

Dr. Jeff Brown called the meeting to order at 9:38 on February 9, 2010.

Roll call

The following persons were present:

Jeff Brown, Tom Vaughan, John Maxstadt, Louise Autio, Ken Tobin, David Beck, Tagi Sagafi-nejad, Christopher Ferguson, Nereu Kock, Jerry Thompson, Bill Riggs

In *absentia* was: Rohitha Goonatilake, Trace Pirtle

Juan Hinojosa is no longer a member of the committee, replaced by Bill Riggs

MOTION: Minutes unanimously approved from last URC meeting

II. Review Travel Grant Applications

Normal budget for travel grants is \$20000 but with potential budget cuts, need to plan for it to be only \$18000. If fund all travel grant applications, total is \$18303, so \$303 over budget.

Travel account is not state funds, so does not forbid international travel. Applications can be submitted for amounts greater than the \$1000 in the guidelines, provided that there is suitable explanation & justification of the higher amount.

Dr. Thompson was told not to apply for a URG by his department chair, so travel grant is only way for him to get funds for his research travel.

MOTION: Fund all travel grants but if there is a shortfall in the travel budget, then Dr. Thompson's travel award will be reduced by \$303. Unanimously approved

III. Review URDA Applications:

URDA Subcommittee (Drs. Vaughan, Pirtle and Thompson) gave a brief review of URDA grants.

COAS6 was ranked the unanimous first choice of entire subcommittee, has a lot of student involvement & PI recently received a NSF equipment grant.

COAS2 and COAS5 were equally ranked as second. COAS2 provided compelling supporting documents with the application and COAS5 has both a lot of student involvement and good potential for outside funding

MOTION: Approve funding the 3 URDA finalists, COAS 6, COAS2 and COAS5 on merit with the final budget amounts deferred until after the URG discussion. Approved with 1 abstention

IV. Pending URG Reviews

Before URGs can be ranked for next week's meeting, reviews are still needed from:
Beck, Kock, Sagafi-Nejad, Riggs (will do the URGs Hinojosa was assigned to review)

Next meeting February 16th, 2010 in KL 330 at 9:30-10:30

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at ~10:30 A.M.

Minutes submitted by: Dr. Jeff Brown & Celeste Kidd

Minutes are pending approval by University Research Council