# Instructional and Research Support Committee Meeting February 13, 2012

Present: Munehiro Fukuda, Chair, Carolyn Brennan, David Goldstein, Kevin Laverty and Becca Price

Absent: Wayne Au and Peter Littig

## **Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

#### Review of IRSC Minutes of December 7, 2011

The IRSC minutes of December 7, 2011 were posted to the IRSC Discussion Topics, the minutes were approved.

## Report on the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)

Fukuda reported on the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting held December 12, 2011. Fukuda serves as liaison with the TAC for IRSC, it is important that IRSC be involved in decision making in the TAC and the Faculty User Group. TAC is in the process of forming subcommittees, a Digital User Group, a Hybrid Learning Group, which was initiated by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and a Research/Grant Interest Group. Faculty input on these committees is encouraged to help inform TAC on learning strategies to consider. The Research Interest Group will ensure that faculty have the infrastructure to support their research. Fukuda asked IRSC members to consider IRSC representation on these committees and provide him with feedback on this.

#### **IRSC** discussion points

- How are resources allocated for faculty research? What is the decision-making process on purchases for research?
- Faculty representation is needed in this decision-making process.
- Not all costs are covered by a grant, matching funding or additional funding is sometimes required, what are the resources for additional funding here?

#### Class Observation – IRSC Catalyst GoPost

David Goldstein, Director of the UWB Teaching, Learning Center (TLC) spoke with the IRSC on the subject of class observation. Comments and questions on how UWB conducts class observations were discussed on the IRSC Catalyst GoPost. Goldstein stated that the TLC is not involved in classroom observation or peer observation. TLC does not presently have the resources to coordinate multiple peer observations for faculty in the classroom. Currently the programs coordinate these evaluations, although the TLC has considered working with a part-time faculty member to develop a network of peer observers for faculty.

The TLC is currently undergoing a strategic planning process which affords an opportunity to refine the mission of the Center and is open to feedback and input from the IRSC. Goldstein is consulting with key constituents on what the vision of the TLC should be, what faculty want the TLC to focus on? He would like to get feedback from CUSP, the GFO and ASUWB, among others. The timeline of the strategic planning process is to finish work on the plan this academic year and begin implementation over Summer Quarter. The Center would like to have a faculty advisory group in place for consultation on the impact of

the budget and setting priorities in the TLC. Previously Goldstein conferred with an advisory group for grant requests and other issues; he would like to continue that collaborative process with faculty. The IRSC agreed that on a policy level, faculty governance should have input, therefore policy decisions should be handled in consultation with the IRSC. A subcommittee could be formed to advise the TLC on budget related issues. The IRSC would like to be kept informed on strategic planning in the TLC.

### Office of Research Support Activities – Internal Funding

Carolyn Brennan, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research updated the IRSC on the work of the Office of Research Support (ORS). The ORS is addressing 3 issues at this time:

- 1. Internal Research
- 2. Undergraduate Research Grants
- 3. Research Circles

Internal Pilot Study Grants are a UWB program to coordinate with the Royalty Research Fund (RRF) to utilize the RRF application and review process to fund meritorious but unfunded RRF proposals with research cost recover dollars. The RRF offers substantive feedback on proposals; this feedback is useful to faculty in the submission process for future grants. Those proposals not funded by RRF can be considered for a UWB Internal Pilot Study Award. A small, interdisciplinary committee reviews and rates each proposal on explicit criteria.

#### **IRSC** discussion points

- How are these internal grants funded? Brennan stated some funding comes through the Worthington funds.
- Some faculty would like to find ways to support student's undergraduate research projects or fund travel to conferences.
- ASUWB has grants to fund student that have papers accepted at conferences.
- How do we fund smaller, ad hoc requests at UWB for faculty?

The IRSC will continue the discussion on funding sources and grants at UWB and activities of the Office of Research Support.

The next IRSC meeting will be scheduled. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant