

Instructional and Research Support Committee Meeting March 5, 2012

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

Absent: Wayne Au

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Review of IRSC Minutes of February 13, 2012

The IRSC minutes of February 13, 2012 minutes were approved.

Internal Funds and Operations Offered by the ORS

Carolyn Brennan, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research reported on internal funds and operations of the Office of Research Support (ORS). The ORS helps faculty identify and pursue grant opportunities that generate collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects and engage students in field work and research activities. Brennan spoke on the mission of the ORS to facilitate the procurement of external support through research grants and to administer internal support for research. There are a variety of resources available to faculty for finding and managing research projects. ORS staff members working with faculty are Cindy Shirley, Assistant Director, Charlotte Rasmussen and Lorraine Hong, grant writers who also working on research cost recovery. Research cost recovery supplies seed money for second chance Royalty Research Fund grants, events showcasing faculty research and undergraduate research. Research cost recovery dollars from UWB Centers accrued during the fiscal year are dispersed in the following manner: with approximately 60% going to the ORS, 40% going to the Center and a small percentage put toward leasing UWBB. Some UWB faculty also receive federal funding and there are research interest groups that contribute funding to UWB, sponsoring travel to conferences for faculty and students and Pilot Study Grants. The UW sponsors an undergraduate research symposium each year, UWB student submissions are encouraged. The UWB Structures and Policies to Support Research and Sponsored Programs is posted on the Academic Affairs website offering guidelines for developing policies that support research, achieving increased participation in faculty submitting proposals for grant funding and improving organizational support for research and student involvement in research projects. The mission of the ORS is to stimulate and support scholarly activities that enhance the academic goals of the faculty and campus. Current goals for the program are \$10 million in awards and \$40 million in proposals and undergraduate research.

IRSC discussion points

- It is important to change the culture and foster interdisciplinary research groups, focus on collaborations.
- Hold focused interviews with faculty, "what would you do if you had funding, how would your research change?"
- Find out about faculty research agendas.
- How are 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.

TLC Policy

David Goldstein, Director of the UWB Teaching, Learning Center (TLC) updated the IRSC on strategic planning underway with the TLC. Goldstein is continuing the consultation process with key constituents on what the vision of the TLC should be, what should the TLC focus on? He would like to get feedback from the IRSC on an ongoing basis on the strategic plan and other issues. He will hold a retreat with TLC staff on Monday to assess goals and the progress made toward them. The timeline of the strategic planning process is to finish work on the plan this academic year and have a specific, measurable plan in place by the end of Spring 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. The IRSC agreed that on a policy level, faculty governance should have input, therefore policy decisions should be handled in consultation with the IRSC. The IRSC would like to be updated on strategic planning in the TLC regularly.

Recommendation to IT Questionnaire

Lavery brought an issue forward to the IRSC involving decisions that were made on implementation of technology for UWB as a result of a survey conducted without faculty input through the formal shared governance structure. Involvement of the IRSC in policies and procedures for these decisions is critical for resource allocation and in an advisory role to the campus.

Fukuda spoke further on the role of the IRSC in policy decisions on technology in the support of teaching on campus. As a standing committee of the GFO, the IRSC serves in an advisory role in the implementation of policies that facilitate teaching and learning at UWB. He serves on the TAC as a faculty representative although not in the capacity as the Chair of the IRSC.

IRSC discussion points

- The role of the IRSC must be more active in decision making at the earliest stage of planning, before decisions are made or surveys are conducted.
- The charge of the IRSC states that the committee shall advise the TLC and the ORS as well as other campus-level instructional and research support entities.
- We need to insure the IRSC is re-invigorated and stays robust.

IRSC consensus: The faculty, through shared governance in the IRSC need to be the core of teaching-related decisions. The IRSC should have an assigned seat on the Technology Advisory Committee.

General Technology Support for Instruction

Fukuda initiated a discussion on general technology support for instruction at UWB; much of our technology infrastructure was installed using the student technology fee (STF) funding. Per the STF committee, STF funding cannot be used for UWB core operations. Since our current infrastructure through the IT department does not support wifi as well as some other technologies our classroom pedagogy is impacted as students cannot connect via wifi on their laptops. This issue is under discussion in IT and elsewhere, should the IRSC weigh in on this?

IRSC discussion points

- Wifi access is becoming a curricular issue, the cost of this technology should be funded by IT.
- Infrastructure issues related to courses and curriculum should be funded by the campus.
- We could hold discussion with George Theo, Director of Student and Residential Life to bring this issue forward.

IRSC consensus: The IRSC can provide guidance on this issue.

The next IRSC meeting will be scheduled. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant