

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE RESEARCH AND GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING February 14, 2020 APPROVED BY COMMITTEE March 13, 2020
Sub. To Exec. Comm. March 17, 2020 Approved by Exec. Comm. _____
Sub. To Acad. Senate _____ Approved by Acad. Senate _____
POLICY ITEMS _____

Members Present:

Karin Crowhurst (Chair), Michael Bryson, Zhen Chai, Yi Ding, David McCarty-Caplan, Justin Nicoll, Michelle Rozic, Suzanne Spear, Maryam Tabibzadeh

Members Absent:

Michael Carter, Joanne Scillitoe

Guest:

Dan Martin, Grace Slavik, Mary Beth Walker, Carrie Saetermoe

Staff:

Sheree Schragger, Naty Palos

I) Call to order

Meeting called to order by K. Crowhurst at 10:00 a.m.

II) Approval of Minutes

Minutes unanimously approved

III) Announcements

- **Please continue to encourage faculty in your college to submit a proposal for the RSCA competition – deadline is February 24**

K. Crowhurst asked the members to remind their Deans to send an email encouraging faculty to apply for RSCA. She also reached out to the Faculty President, Mary-Pat Stein, asking her to send an email to faculty regarding RSCA competition.

K. Crowhurst mentioned the committee will be given three practice proposals to review and discuss at the March meeting to prepare for the RSCA ranking meeting in April.

IV) Ongoing Business

- **Discussion of ideas on how to use endowment funds after this year**

K. Crowhurst asked the committee at the December meeting to suggest how the endowment fund should be used in the future to support research. S. Schragger mentioned there is a little more than \$50K that can be used but she will verify if some of the funds will be used for prior commitments. The committee discussed some options for using the endowment such as: supporting students receiving research based or project-based mentorship, creating an award similar to RSCA but specifically for mid-career faculty, or for seed funding. If a new granting program is created, K. Crowhurst asked whether the R&G committee would be the reviewers and if not, who would be considered? Discussions will continue.

S. Schragger spoke briefly about the summer grants program and mentioned that it was previously used for seed funding. The committee discussed whether the program should continue as is or change it to support proposal development, which is favored by the Provost. The committee suggested it be revised into a grant proposal development competition with clear review criteria and guidelines and a mechanism to provide feedback to faculty if they did not receive funding, similar to RSCA. S. Schragger agreed to redevelop the competition accordingly for this year and suggested a two-track approach (seed funding and proposal development) could be considered for future years.

- **IDC policy discussion (finalize)**

To be discussed at a later meeting

V) New Business

- **Discuss on faculty discontent regarding “research climate” – what can/should be done through this committee**

K. Crowhurst, M. Tabibzadeh, M. Bryson reported on a meeting they attended with the group of faculty that sent the letter to the President and Provost regarding research at CSUN. Discussions at the meeting consisted of the faculty group’s concerns in a number of areas and the perceived lack of response to their questions by the R&G committee and TUC. K. Crowhurst asked the faculty group to send her any additional questions/concerns they have and she would look into them.

M.B. Walker mentioned that when she came to CSUN, she met with faculty/ departments and felt it would be a good time to look into the research infrastructure, as the University has grown, and the interests of faculty have changed. Her goal is to gather a set of recommendations that can be handed to the President that would put us in a better position regarding research infrastructure. She suggested that the R&G committee consider hosting a website where faculty can ask questions and express their concerns and have the appropriate individual respond to each question. She also mentioned possibly creating small subgroups (led by members of the R&G committee) to investigate different areas and provide recommendations.

- **Dan Martin and Grace Slavik (TUC policies) – time certain 11:30am**

K. Crowhurst asked D. Martin, Controller and Director of Financial Services and G. Slavik, Post Award Manager of TUC, to introduce themselves and briefly describe their job functions. G. Slavik distributed a flyer that describes the functions of the post award office. D. Martin mentioned a Resource Fair will be held on February 26, and it would be a good educational opportunity for PIs and Admins that work on grants. Both D. Martin and G. Slavik answered questions from the committee regarding policies and procedures at TUC.

VI) Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.