

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
RESEARCH AND GRANTS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF MEETING: October 8, 2021 APPROVED BY COMMITTEE: November 12, 2021

Sub. to Exec. Comm. November 12, 2021 Approved by Exec. Comm. _____

Sub. to Acad. Senate _____ Approved by Acad. Senate _____

POLICY ITEMS: _____

Members Present:

Karin Crowhurst (Chair), Christopher Higgs, Jacob Hinkel-Lipsker, Minsung Kwon, Magdy Rizk, Joanne Scillitoe, Maryam Tabibzadeh, Andrew Weiss, Kyle Dewey, Ivor Weiner, David McCarty-Caplan

Staff:

Christopher Sanford (Executive Secretary), Naty Palos (Recording Secretary)

I) Call to order

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

II) Approval of September 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

- Minutes unanimously approved

III) Ongoing Business

- **Next steps with respect to policies on the use of IDC funds**

- **Discussion of IDC data from grants – spreadsheet 2018 – 2021**

Crowhurst reviewed with the committee data (provided by RSP) which included all of the grants and contracts awarded to the university over the three fiscal years from July 2018 to July 2021. Discussion included the amount of grants received, indirect costs (IDC), grants that are LGP (Large Grant Program) eligible. She mentioned that the number of grants that people applied for once the pandemic hit went up so numbers may be higher. She also mentioned that there are numerous foundations that faculty could apply for that fall within the allowance of indirect costs. Faculty can reach out to the Research and Sponsored Programs (RSP) office for a list of those foundations.

- **Brainstorming on priorities and strategies**

Committee shared ideas as far as: using an equitable approach to redistribute IDC as motivation to apply, setting aside a certain amount of money from the IDCs and creating a lottery system for people who are below the minimum threshold to receive release time through the LGP and also possibly using some of the money that we have for from the pseudo endowment to create a grant program where people could apply for three units of release time to give them time to write a grant. Crowhurst mentioned that RSP has a summer grants program that provides summer salary to faculty to write grants. She also mentioned that at the faculty forum (held in May) it was suggested to break down units from the LGP in one-unit increments but feels the challenge would be is whether one unit could actually be used by faculty in their colleges without the possibility of rolling over the units to future years.

Crowhurst suggested creating sub-groups and asked for volunteers to meet and strategize ways to make our committee more visible and demystify LGP/IDC process, the feasibility of one-unit increments, and lottery / three-unit grant.

- **Concrete plans to increase the visibility of the R&G Committee, and to be a more active liaison to the college represented by each committee member.**

Crowhurst asked if anyone had ideas on how to increase the visibility of the Research and Grants Committee. She suggested having each committee member report to their college at least once a semester about research opportunities. Christopher Sanford suggested reaching out to Laura Serrano in RSP and she can assist in finding any funding opportunities. Andrew Weiss suggested some outreach trying to match people with grants or match departments with grant funders perhaps by distributing a newsletter each month. Magdy Rizk suggested possibly creating a specialty canvas page with links to funding opportunities.

- **Discussion of other priorities for this year**

- **New type of microgrant – graduate students versus faculty**

Crowhurst asked if there were any thoughts on a new type of microgrant. It was suggested to allow faculty to continue to use the funds to supplement research and also be allowed to support graduate students with research training. Committee agreed to increase the amount from \$1000 to \$2500 and fund up to 20 awards. Crowhurst will write the RFP and distribute to committee for review.

IV) ***New Business***

- **Update / info on Jerome Richfield competition**

Sanford mentioned that the Provost would like the announcement to go out through Academic Affairs and it will also be sent thorough the RSP newsletter. Charlene Manzueta of RSP will reach out to Crowhurst with last year's version for review and have the announcement go out as soon as possible. The deadline for applications will be November 5, 2021. The committee will have about a week to review the applications and prepare to discuss at the November 12, 2021, R&G committee meeting. Approximately 3-5 unranked candidates will be sent to the Provost. The Provost will make the final decision and select the winner.

- **Timeline for update and release of RFP for RSCA grants.**

Crowhurst mentioned that the RFP for RSCA grants usually goes out in November. Crowhurst will send a draft RFP to the committee for their review and discuss if any modifications are needed at the November meeting.

V) ***Adjournment***

- Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.