

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

MINUTES OF MEETING: October 14, 2022 APPROVED BY COMMITTEE: November 18, 2022

Sub. to Exec. Comm. November 22, 2022 Approved by Exec. Comm. _____

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

POLICY ITEMS: _____

Members Present:

Karin Crowhurst (Chair), Kyle Dewey, Minsung Kwon, Magdy Rizk, Christoph Schaal, Andrew Weiss, Sung Wook Yoon, Claudia Toledo-Corral, Pete Goldschmidt

Staff:

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

Guest:

Danielle Spratt, Andrea Marques-Perez

I) Call to order

- Meeting called to order by Karin Crowhurst at 10:00 am.
- Crowhurst welcomed and introduced new members to the committee. She mentioned that we are still waiting for representatives from two colleges to be assigned.

II) Approval of October 14th, 2022 meeting minutes

- Minutes unanimously approved

III) Announcements

- **Senate Executive Committee Liaison – Dr. Danielle Spratt**
Crowhurst introduced Dr. Danielle Spratt, who will serve as Senate Executive Committee Liaison for a second year. Spratt is a faculty member in the Department of English, is a member of the Senate Executive Committee and also the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee. Spratt is assigned to review the minutes for any new policies or policy recommendations to send to the Senate Executive Committee. She read the committee's charge and thanked all members for their service to this committee.

IV) Ongoing Business

- **Ideas on utilizing the quasi-endowment funds that have accumulated**
Crowhurst provided a quick update to the new members and mentioned that the R&G committee has a quasi-endowment that provides funds yearly for the committee to use to support Research and Grants related activities. A discussion was started at the September meeting on how to use the funds. It was discussed to supplement the amount of the Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (RSCA) awards. Crowhurst had asked Christopher Sanford if he would reach out the Chancellors Office (CO) if it would be okay to use the quasi endowment towards the RSCA awards. The CO's office is fine with how the money would be spent. It was asked if the entire amount of the endowment should be spent this year or could a portion be saved and used next year. Crowhurst mentioned that there is no requirement to spend it all this year, but if it was not used this year the committee would either have to limit the number of RSCA awards or have a complicated two-tier system, in which some awardees would receive more funds than others. Kyle Dewey said he would be

in favor of the one-time increase in the amount awarded, but it would have to be clear in the RFP that the amount awarded would be only for this year.

The committee discussed offering three options of awards (requesting only units, requesting only money, or requesting a combination of units and money), and each option would have to be clearly stated in the RFP that they will be only offered for the 2023-2024 RSCA awards competition. Crowhurst will update the RSCA guidelines with the options discussed and forward them to the committee to review and provide any edits/comments in advance of the November 18th committee meeting.

Crowhurst and Sanford mentioned that the Jerome Richfield Competition is coming up and the announcement is scheduled to go out next week and will be sent by the Provost's office through Academic Affairs. The committee is responsible for reviewing the Jerome Richfield applications and finalizing a list of up to five unranked candidates to be forwarded to the Provost. The deadline for the applications is November 7, 2022. The committee will be able to start reviewing the applications on November 8th, and discuss at the November 18th committee meeting. The applications will be submitted to Christopher Sanford and he will discuss the nominated candidates with the Provost. The Provost will make the final decision and select the winner. The winner will present their research presentation at the Provost's Colloquium in Spring 2023.

- **Possible work with RSP on faculty driven-webinars – *tabled to November.***

V) ***New Business***

- **Discussion about indirect costs (IDCs) – what they are, as well as current and future distribution**

Sanford provided the update on indirect costs (IDCs aka F&A [Facilities & Administration]), which are paid on some federal grants. He mentioned that the R&G committee is the voice of the faculty for research on campus and that their work is extraordinarily valuable, and that he appreciates everyone's hard work. Sanford mentioned that there is a lot of misinformation in the community and PIs across the country are often unclear on the purpose of IDC, how it is used etc. Sanford shared a presentation and provided an overview of IDCs and how IDCs at CSUN are currently distributed. Both the Provost and Sanford are very much in agreement that they would like to move to a more decentralized model and return as much of the IDC funds as possible back to the colleges, allowing the colleges to operationalize and prioritize the research infrastructure within each college. He mentioned that IDCs actually started back in the 1950s as a way to incentivize institutions of Higher Education and other entities to conduct research. He mentioned that IDCs are intended to provide funds to support infrastructure necessary to conduct research. This can include costs of items such as administrative expenses, electricity, libraries, facilities, building and equipment depreciation, maintenance, and staffing. Sanford reviewed the FY21-22 IDC breakdown and distribution of IDC funds, which included the return of IDCs to colleges, Research Reinvestment Fund etc. and that the largest portion of indirects received by Academic Affairs covers the cost of the Large Grant Program.

Sanford introduced Andrea Marques-Perez, the new Budget Analyst in Research and Sponsored Programs. Marques-Perez mentioned that if they have any questions about large grants to reach out to her.

Sanford mentioned to the committee that there is a plan to set up a search committee for a Director of Undergraduate Research who will be responsible for developing an office of undergraduate research at CSUN and it is part of the GI2025 initiative. The purpose of this

is to support undergraduate research at CSUN. Once the search committee for the director is established, they will draft a position description that will be announced to campus.

- **Discussion about Grant-Related/Specially-Funded Instructional Faculty Appointments (GRIF) – *tabled to November***

VI) *Adjournment*

- Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.