

*University Research Council Meeting Minutes*

February 16, 2010

**I. Call to order**

Dr. Jeff Brown called the meeting to order at ~9:34 on February 16, 2010.

**Roll call**

The following persons were present:

Jeff Brown, Louise Autio, Ken Tobin, David Beck, Christopher Ferguson, Nereu Kock, Bill Riggs, Trace Pirtle, Tagi Sagafi-nejad, Rohitha Goonatilake

In *absentia* was: Jerry Thompson, Tom Vaughan, John Maxstadt

**MOTION:** Minutes from last URC meeting approved via email vote by committee members

**II. Review URG Grant Applications**

Dr. Kock & Dr. Sagafi-Nejad did not submit their assigned proposal reviews but Dr. Thompson did review the majority of proposals. The combined average score of all submitted reviews, including Dr. Thompson's, was used to rank the URG proposals to enable the discussion of which URG proposals to fund.

If all things are equal between proposals, preference is for supporting untenured faculty proposals PROVIDED their proposals have equal merit.

**COBA 1** – Dr. Sagafi-Nejad gave it a score of 75 in the meeting and said it is an extension of a previously applied model. Dr. Tobin questioned if this a discipline that can be funded externally? Dr. Sagafi-Nejad said that if it were to be submitted for external funding, would have a 50% chance of funding, depending on where submitted. PI self reported NSF Information and Intelligence Systems Human Centered Computing as potential funding sources. Dr. Beck questioned the justification for outside collaborator and while Canadian collaborator has gotten external funding they have only received small amounts (~\$14,000). New faculty member, untenured.

**MOTION:** Partially fund proposal with a budget of \$5000. Dr. Beck amends the motion that we should keep money internal and cut \$3000 for Canadian collaborator. Dr. Sagafi-Nejad proposed motion and Dr. Tobin seconded. Amended motion approved with 1 abstention.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COED 2** - Issues with proposal – unrelated to currently funded 09-10 URG, PI not attend any grant writing workshops in 09 which would have addressed 1st weakness; no description of sample (grade)/# of participants was given, without a description of N it's impossible to determine if contribution to field is significant or if the asserted quantitative methodology is appropriate; and if the expenditure of funds for the collaborating teacher is justified; without addressing these fundamental issues, highly unlikely proposal would receive external funding.

**MOTION:** Reduce budget to \$4000, request new budget from PI and leave it up to the PI to decide where to adjust their budget and Dr. Brown will approve this amended budget. Dr. Beck proposed motion and Dr. Pirtle seconded. Motion approved with 1 abstention.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COBA 4** – No explanation of what the \$3000 “other” is in the budget detail page as there is no budget justification; also no external grant reviews in application. Dr. Tobin pointed out faculty member has gotten 4 previous URG, 5 external grants, all denied. No reviews with the application, no review details in snapshot of the quality of those proposals. PI should know how to submit complete URG application after having gotten 4 URGs. Faculty member up for tenure this year or next year.

**MOTION:** Reject as an incomplete application due to missing budget justification and no external grant reviews. Dr. Riggs proposed motion and Dr. Tobin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COAS 10** – Concerns with low sample size (n=15) and emotional intelligence is a popular idea but not certain how external funding agencies would take to this idea. The interdisciplinary aspect and fact that this is an untenured faculty member strengthen the application.

**MOTION:** Fund proposal but with a 50% reduced budget. Dr. Beck proposed the motion, Dr. Pirtle seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COAS 6** - Co-PI is a visiting faculty member and may not be here in fall, concerns that PI will not be able to do the work if the co-PI is no longer here. Also, no discussion of this proposal or resource sharing with the environmental science faculty.

**MOTION:** Reject application. Dr. Riggs proposed and Dr. Ferguson seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COBA 3** - Dr. Sagafi-Nejad gave it a score of 80 in the meeting and point out that if this is funded must make sure faculty member does not also get summer pay from the School of Business.

**MOTION:** Fund at full amount, subject to PI not getting a SSB grant, must pick 1 or the other. Dr. Brown to confirm if SSB grant is funded or not. Dr. Tobin proposed motion and Dr. Riggs seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COED 3** - Concern about whether a medical exam for participants is necessary prior to starting study. IRB Committee will address this issue with the medical advice from Dr. Palacios and Dr. Burkhalter. Untenured faculty.

**MOTION:** Fund proposal at the full amount. Dr. Beck proposed motion and Dr. Ferguson seconded. Motion approved with 1 abstention.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COAS 2** - Has current URG, this proposal is an expansion of that project, just getting started on data collection with current URG.

**MOTION:** Fund at full amount. Dr. Beck proposed motion and Dr. Tobin seconded. Motion approved with 1 abstention.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COED 1** - No justification for why doing this study, no justification for outside collaborator travel. Concerns regarding the lack of a robust research model.

**MOTION:** Cut \$3000 for external collaborator travel, funding is contingent on IACUC approval. Dr. Beck proposed motion and Dr. Ferguson seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MOTION: URDA** – We also need to finalize the URDA budgets for the approved proposals from last week, now that the URG proposals have been decided. Votes to approve (or not) the URDA budgets for the three (3) URDAs approved last week to be emailed to Dr. Brown.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at ~11:30 A.M.  
Minutes submitted by: Dr. Jeff Brown & Celeste Kidd  
Minutes are pending approval by University Research Council