

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL
Minutes of 14 June 2012

Members present: Osama Abudayyeh, Steve Bertman, Martha Councell-Vargas, Muralidhar Ghantasala, James Kiddle, Mary Lagerwey (for Mary Ann Stark), Dan Litynski, Lisa Minnick, Shellie Mosher (for Sandra Steinbach), Vladimir Risukhin, Susan Steuer, Stephen Tasko.

Absent without substitution: Brooks Applegate, Manuel Bautista (for Alan Wuosmaa), Muhammad Razi, Susan Stapleton, Muthanna Yaqoob.

Also present: Allison Weiner, Research and Sponsored Programs

Council Vice Chair Stephen Tasko called the meeting to order at 2:36 p.m.

Approval of Agenda for 14 June 2012

A motion was made by Minnick and seconded by Bertman to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes of 17 May 2012

Bertman noted that Gene Freudenburg was listed as present at the meeting. He was not. The change was made.

A motion to accept the amended minutes was made by Bertman and seconded by Risukhin. Motion passed.

Reports

Council Vice Chair – Stephen Tasko

Tasko thanked the departing members Alhassan Abdul-Muhmin and Carrie Leatherman of the 2011-12 council and welcomed the newly elected members Lisa Minnick (re-elected), Muhammad Razi and Susan Steuer to the council.

Vice President for Research – Dan Litynski

Vice President Litynski reported activity with the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) grant is ongoing.

Litynski reported that WMU has joined a consortium that includes Michigan State University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University as well as industry to seek grant funding for a large manufacturing initiative. This pilot project, if funded, would bring approximately 30 million dollars to the consortium.

Approximately 6 million dollars will go to the three universities for applied research in manufacturing. If awarded, WMU would receive about 1.5 million dollars to pursue a variety of projects.

Litynski reported that the WMU Evaluation Center will be providing evaluation services for the Swiss National Science Foundation and a charitable foundation from Russia. The Evaluation Center, which already has a strong reputation nationally, is now getting some international recognition.

The Office of the Vice President for Research is currently working with research associate deans in order to develop a plan for more internal research collaborations across the colleges.

Dean of the Graduate College

There was no Graduate College report as Dean Susan Stapleton was unable to attend the meeting due to a meeting out of town.

Continued Business

Council Charges – Stephen Tasko

- a. Charge #2 – Litynski reported that a draft of the revised Misconduct Policy was not yet complete and would be presented at the September 2012 meeting.
- b. Charge #4 – Kiddle and Risukhin presented (1) a copy of the old Conflict of Interest Policy and (2) a first draft of a revised Conflict of Interest Policy. Kiddle noted the original policy was principally focused on financial conflicts of interest and did not address other conflicts such as conflicts of commitment. Due to the length of the document, Minnick suggested that members review the draft and include it as an agenda item for the September 2012 meeting.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Abudayyeh made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Minnick seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Tasko