

COMMISSION ON RESEARCH

November 12, 2008

325 Burruss Hall

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: L. Coble, D. Cook, N. Clemency, S. K. De Datta, C. Dawkins, R. Hall, B. Huckle, T. Inzana, D. Jones, R. Grange, R. Kapania, S. Martin, T. Schroeder (for D. Dean), B. Siegle, R. Veilleux, B. Vogelaar

Members Absent: T. Fox, T. Herdman, D. Leo (for R. Benson), P. Young, P. Zellner

Invited Guests: R. Dymond, B. Carstensen, C. Montgomery, S. Muse

1. Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was offered by C. Dawkins and seconded by T. Inzana and carried.

2. Approval of the minutes for CoR meeting October 8, 2008: A motion to approve the minutes was offered by T. Inzana and seconded by L. Coble and carried.

3. IP Policy 13000 Revision:

As a follow-up to business from a previous meeting, COR was presented with a Resolution for Change in Membership of the Intellectual Property Committee (IPC). The document is attached to these minutes. The IPC is one of the subcommittees in the governance system that reports to the COR. The purpose of the resolution was the change in job titles and functions at the university. Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties (VTIP) is now represented by its President. Virginia Tech's financial interests are represented by the Office of the Controller. The motion to approve the resolution was offered by R. Grange and seconded by T. Inzana and carried. The resolution will be sent to the University Council and if passed will be used to update the Bylaws of the University Council and Policy 13000.

4. Proposed Policy on Removal of a PI from Sponsored Projects: B. Huckle presented the CoR with a document that outlined the commission's compiled comments regarding the policy. There was further discussion on concerns with this policy as written.

It was also noted the term 'incapacity' needs to be defined within the policy. B. Vogelaar was concerned that we were providing an avenue for the sponsor to complain. L. Coble stated that we need to convey to the CFA that this policy as written needs a full review and comprehensive document to represent this policy.

B. Huckle explained that he would amend the document outlining the CoR's concerns to include what was discussed. A motion to approve the document as amended was offered by R. Grange and seconded by T. Inzana. B. Huckle informed the CoR that he will deliver this document to the CFA for their review at its next meeting.

5. Center for Geospatial Information Technology (CGIT) 5 year review: The Chair of this review, C. Dawkins, opened this discussion with the Commission with some background information on the center. As the center is relatively new, this is the center's first review. The review team recommended that the center be renewed for an additional five year term, however they also had some recommendations in regards to the Centers research and its mission. C. Dawkins explained that it appeared to the review team that at least some of the Center's grant-funded activities have been services that are similar to those that could also be provided by the private sector. R. Kapania, who was also a member on the review team, expressed concerns that the Center is involved to such a degree with outreach and applied research that it has not emphasized enough fundamental or basic research and scholarship in the area of Geospatial Information Technology (GIS). Therefore it was so recommended that they continue to trend toward submitting fewer but larger proposals and that it should seek funding from outside agencies for fundamental research. C. Dawkins explained outreach makes the work that they do visible; however the center should also publicize the fact that the faculty and staff have published research in scholarly journals.

R. Dymond, one of the two co-directors of the center, responded to the CoR on the recommendations of the review team. He explained that center is a collaborative effort from many faculty members across the university with very little support from the university. R. Dymond emphasized the research being done at the center. However, as noted by R. Kapania, in the response to the review, outreach was more heavily emphasized. However, it was agreed that the center did meet the three initiatives: research, outreach and education. A motion recommending approval of the review and the reappointment of the co-directors was offered by C. Dawkins and seconded by R. Kapania. The motion was carried unanimously.

6. Representation by COR in limited submission processes: S. Muse briefly reported on the process used by Virginia Tech when the sponsor limits the number of submissions by one institution.

7. Overview of Virginia Tech's Research Performance: S. Muse reported on the research performance of the university as reported to the National Science Foundation. The full presentation can be viewed at: http://www.research.vt.edu/pubs/bovrc_082408.html under the fifth item titled "research performance update."

8. Policy 13005 Interdisciplinary Research Centers: Due to the time shortage, it was decided that this item of new business would be up for discussion during our next meeting.

9. Other Business: T. Schroder informed the Commission that D. Dean plans to submit a charter for the Fralin Life Sciences Institute to the CoR for review at our February meeting.

10. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.

**Resolution for Change in Membership of the Intellectual Property Committee
(Change to the University Council By-laws)
Commission on Research
Resolution 2008-2009 A**

Approved by Commission on Research	8 October 2008
First Reading to the University Council	(20 October 2008)
Approved by the University Council	
Approved by the President	
Effective Date	

Whereas, publicly supported universities have the multiple missions of teaching, research, support of the public interest, fostering of economic development in their local region, and effective dissemination of Intellectual Properties derived from scholarly activities; and

Whereas, the University strives to maintain comprehensive policies to establish criteria for ownership of Intellectual Properties and resolve ownership questions if such arise, to define the responsibilities, rights and privileges of those involved, and to maintain clear guidelines for the administration of the Intellectual Properties Policy;

Therefore Let It Be Resolved that the membership of the Intellectual Property Committee : the University Council By-laws be revised to reflect the following changes in

Current: “Associate Vice President for Research and Interdisciplinary Studies”

Proposed: “Associate Vice President for Research Programs”

Current: “Assistant Vice President and Controller, Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc.”

Proposed: “The University Controller”

Current: “The Executive Vice President of VTIP”

Proposed: “The President of Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties, Inc. (VTIP)”

Current: “Nine at-large members of the faculty-A/P faculty-staff (with patent and copyright experience) nominated by the Associate Vice President for Research in conjunction with the Presidents of the Faculty and Staff Senates and the chair of the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (three-year term) (one must be an A/P faculty member and one must be a staff employee)”

Proposed: Nine at-large members of the faculty-A/P faculty-staff (with patent and copyright experience) nominated by the Associate Vice President for Research Programs in conjunction with the Presidents of the Faculty and Staff Senates and the chair of the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (three-year term) (one must be an A/P faculty member and one must be a staff employee)