COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
Minutes
February 13, 2013
325 Burruss Conference Room
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm


Absent: Randy Wynn and Heather Moorefield-Lang.

Guest: Joe Merola, Laurie Coble, Kay Heidbreder, Stephen Capaldo, Peggy Layne, Sandra Muse.

I. Approval of the Agenda – Motion approved.

II. Announcements
   a. Announcement of electronic Approval of the Minutes of December 12, 2012 - M. Akers
   b. Next meeting date changed to March 27, 2013 – M. Akers

III. Unfinished Business
   a. Report of Ongoing Activities
      i. University Library Committee – Jennifer Nardine Lauren Pressley will be here Monday, February 25. Scale up classrooms ready next week. The library has a line-up of events for black history month.
      ii. Centers and Institutes Update – W. Knocke – Provost’ Office (through Ken Smith) is continuing to update master roster of centers and institutes around campus.
      iii. Research Faculty Initiatives – M. Akers - Report to be given under new business.
      iv. Research Administration – M. Daniel – Efforts underway include:
         1. Budget Development Tool - OSP Spreadsheet ready in April
         2. Research Portal – Promotion to start in the next month.
         3. Salary Planning Tool – Expected to reduce number of retroactive salary changes.
         4. Agreements tracking – Agreements to be tracked more carefully through OSP using a product called JIRA. The new system will be implemented in March.
5. Steering team working on a review of Cayuse SP which had been previously evaluated. The new product offers greater functionality and will connect with Cayuse 424 which is already in use across the campus. Cayuse SP will allow faculty investigators to enter and track proposals, and offers functional integration with other research tools.

IV. New Business
      First reading – Bill Knocke provided an overview to the Commission on the proposed changes to the University’s IP policy (Policy 13000).
      Primary changes were focused on (a) reflecting the current operational approach of the Intellectual Property Committee (as opposed to the Committee’s approach when the policy was last updated in 1991), (b) policy wording changes on the requirement of faculty to disclose IP as per employment requirements (changes felt necessary after US Supreme Court case of Stanford vs. Roche), (c) revised wording regarding ownership of IP associated with the work of unfunded VT students, and (d) inclusion of language related to “Commissioned Works” that will be important to the negotiation of contracts with third-party entities who are being hired to do commissioned works for VT (primarily envisioned to happen through the Center for the Arts). A motion to approve the revisions as presented was offered, seconded and was carried.

   b. Postdoctoral Associate Survey – M. Akers
      An Ad Hoc group was formed from membership of the Commission to brainstorm what results would be desired from a postdoctoral survey. Center for Survey Research will administer the survey and prepare the results. M. Akers will lead the group.

V. Adjournment – 5:05PM