



**Meeting Minutes**  
**22 February 2016**

**Committee members present:**

Brian Vander Naald (chair), Brian Buma, Chris Donar, Roxy Felkl, Kelly Jensen, Claire Ligsay, Chip McMillan, Karen Schmitt, Jan Straley, and Emily Wall

**Ad-hoc member(s):**

Carolyn Bergstrom (IACUC representative for UAS)

**Committee members absent:**

None

**Guests:**

None

**Members emeritus:**

Sanjay Pyare, David Tallmon

**Discussion Items**

**New Business**

**Student volunteers at UAS...challenges with forms...**

Brian B reported that some faculty are having difficulty recruiting student volunteers because there are questions regarding the number of hours worked and/or volunteered. Karen offered the following clarification: in accordance with federal labor laws, students may not volunteer time to do work for which they are otherwise being paid if they have reached the maximum number of hours allowable for paid work. Karen suggested that faculty contact her office to clarify what is allowable.

Additionally, Brian B reported that the required volunteer forms are so lengthy in processing that they are precluding last minute volunteer opportunities.

**UAS internal audits taking place...**

Roxy reported that internal audits are taking place within Grants and Contracts specifically related to grant effort certifications. She asks PIs to be on alert and prepared for emails and detailed questions regarding certifications. Additionally, PIs can phone or email Roxy and/or Claire if there is confusion or need for further direction about how to respond.

**Personnel news/announcements...**

Brian VN reported that he has accepted a position at Drake University in Iowa and will begin work there in the fall. Upon this announcement, he also notified the group that he has spoken with Brian B about chairing this committee next year. If no other nominations for chair



come in between this and the next meeting, and in accordance with its bylaws, the committee will vote by consensus at its next meeting to appoint Brian B as incoming chair.

Chip announced that he is retiring and will no longer serve on this committee. He agreed to ask the School of Education faculty members if anyone is interested in serving on this committee and will report back to the group at its next meeting.

Congratulatory remarks were expressed to both Brian VN and Chip.

### **Continuing Business**

#### **SPBAC and research activity reporting...**

Brian VN met with Brad Ewing to discuss metrics and the proposed revisions; the meeting was marginally helpful and Brad will need to source, query, and supply different data to meet the needs. It is unclear if this will take place. However, with this committee's approval of the proposed changes (see attached document), and then on to Faculty Senate for deliberation and approval, Brad can report to SPBAC the request for new metrics. The committee, by consensus, approved the revisions.

#### **Proposal Prioritization Committee (PPC)...**

Brian Buma provided the flow chart/priority-setting document developed by the PPC (see attached document) and asked for discussion regarding the document. The document has been approved by NS and needs to go to SS and Humanities for approval. Once approved by these departments, the process/flow chart will be implemented. Brian B again posed the request that G&C Office eliminate the need for review of internal proposal submissions (those that go to EPSCoR, BLaST, INBRE – at a minimum, eliminating the review of travel grant proposals). Claire responded that this will be a point of discussion during a meeting with her, Roxy, Kelly, and Karen.

#### **URECA discussion...**

Kelly reported that there were 3 awards made to a total of 4 applications. The 4<sup>th</sup> application was unable to be awarded due to IRB considerations and precautions. Brian B suggested the possibility that less applications were received due to the change in funding cycle timing this year (all funds have to be spent by June 15<sup>th</sup>). Kelly suggested that consideration be added to the program review which is to occur next year.

#### **SoM representative on this RCA Committee...**

Discussion ensued on this topic and generally, on other positions to be filled on this committee. The group decided by consensus that, in accordance with the bylaws, a SoM member should be invited in the "at large" capacity and a SS member should be identified and invited to replace Brian VN (perhaps the incoming IRB Chair if that task is not transitioned to UAF) as well as affirming the earlier discussion that a SoE member should be retained.

#### **Field safety training...**

Brian B reported that he is reviewing an online field safety training module. It includes both terrestrial and marine components. Brian will continue to review and report back to this group its applicability and usefulness for UAS purposes.

#### **ORCA Manager recruitment...**

Brian B inquired about the status of the ORCA Manager position; Karen reported that she still intends to hire the position as it is a recognizable void and that Pat Belec is still filling in as her time allows.

#### **Closing discussion...**



Karen offered several comments regarding the recent statements made by Representative Wilson with respect to research funding in the UA system. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the role of research at UAS and all MAUs and the importance of providing tangible evidence of faculty and student scholarship to the legislature.

### **Establish next meeting date**

The group decided by consensus that the next meeting shall be held in March. Brian VN will send a Doodle Poll to establish a date and time.

### **Action items**

- Identify and extend invitation to a member of SoE to serve on this committee (Chip)
- Provide background/context to Emily for taking to Humanities the PPC proposal (Kelly and Brian VN)
- Take the PPC proposal to Humanities department meeting for deliberation and approval (Emily)
- Take the PPC proposal to SS department meeting for deliberation and approval (Brian VN)
- Discuss and possibly eliminate the need for G&C review of internal proposal submissions (Roxy, Claire, Karen, and Kelly)
- Extend invitation to identified SoM faculty member to serve on this committee (Brian VN)
- Report of field safety training review (Brian B)
- Survey poll for next meeting date (Brian VN)