



USF Senate Research Council

Minutes

September 9, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Hybrid meeting via MS Teams

In-Person, USFRI Multipurpose Room

Attendance

Council Members

Keith Anderson (Ex Officio), Feng Chang, Elizabeth Hadley, Ganesh, Halade, Richard Heller, Matthew Johnson, Sandra Justice (Ex Officio), James Leahy, Kristina Schmidt, David Simmons, Marilyn Stern, Zafer Unal, Catherine Wilkins

Not Attending

Mark Luther, Uma Nair, Taryn Sabia, Kersuze Simeon-Jones, Sylvia Thomas (Ex Officio), Xizhen Qin,

Invited Guests and Other Participants

Eddie Aikins, Ross DuBose, John Johnson, Saundra Johnson Austin, Eric Kern, Tina Lucas, Allison Madden, Mark McLaughlin, Jason Ramage, Stephanie Rios, Benjamin Shnister

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda

Richard Heller called the meeting to order at 10:48 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: April 29, 2024, Meeting

Motion duly made, seconded, and carried; resolved, that the minutes of the meeting were approved. Approved.

3. Introduction of New members

1. Richard Heller, Chair – second term
2. Ganesh Halade, Chair-Elect
3. Uma Nair, Nursing
4. Catherine Wilkins, Judy Genshaft Honors College
5. Zafer Unal, St. Petersburg Campus

4. CONF Award Call Discussion

- a. Discussion of the conference planning grant, mentioning the guidelines and the proposal to modify it from \$10,000 to \$5,000
- b. Motion made by Dr. Leahy, seconded, and carried to change to \$50k for all CONF awards.
- c. Motion made by Dr. Leahy, seconded, and carried for max budget for each application to be up to \$7,500 each.
- d. Modify guidelines for more clarification, how does this grant improve preeminence and align with strategic goals, why these funds are needed for the conference.
- e. Modify application eligibility to include specifically how the funds would be used and must be open and accessible and promoted to the university community to include students, postdocs, and faculty.

5. NRG Award Call Discussion

- a. Discussion to bring back the New Research Grant
 - i. Motion made by Dr. Leahy, seconded, and carried to \$150k max award.
 - ii. Motion made by Dr. Leahy, seconded, and carried for max budget for each application to be up to \$20k per award.
- b. Clarify in the guidelines and application
 - i. Be tenure earning or in a renewable position.
 - ii. Have not reached the fourth anniversary of appointment to assistant professor level before the submission.
 - iii. Have a new area of research that is different from ongoing research.
 - iv. Identify why the funds are needed and how these funds are doing something that start-up funds are not supported. State all funds that are currently available.
 - v. Identify how these funds will strengthen your proposal and name the opportunity or RFP you will be applying for.
 - vi. Discuss specifying guidelines and application at a meeting prior to spring.
 - vii. Discussion of bringing back the Proposal Enhancement Grant at a future meeting.
 - viii. Discussion of bringing back the PEG Survey to faculty to discuss at a future meeting

6. Revision of IDRA

- a. Discussion for changing the IDRA
 - i. Change the IDRA into 2 different grants,
 1. Interdisciplinary Center Preparation Grants (ICPG), Large Center Scale Planning Grants – Pre-proposal screening and work with RDI to develop a funding plan
 2. Small Equipment Grants
 3. Motion made by Dr. Leahy, seconded, and carried for Large-center grants \$300k or 10% of funding target or whichever is less over a 2-year period
 4. Discussion at future meeting for more detail
 5. ICPG motion at next Sept. 23 meeting – for approval, or motion change

7. Discussion of Grant Submission with focus on Post Award

- a. Review outcomes and provide a bulleted list of internal funding, conferences held, external grants that came from funding. A win list that can be shared with the administration of all internal award impacts.
- b. Dr. Simmons requested the Research Council to assemble a list of biggest support concerns for the provost. Systemic barriers including Post Award, Purchasing, Human Resources, Facilities, and Research Talent. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Discussion on meeting day and time

- a. Schedule stays the same, every other Monday from 10:45am to 12:15pm

9. Other Business

- a. The council discussed the need for a written proposal for the Interdisciplinary Center Preparation Grants. Discuss the preparation grant proposal at the next Sept. 23 meeting.
- b. David Simmons suggested a two-stage process for the proposal enhancement grant to ensure serious center grant proposals.

10. Having completed its agenda, the Council adjourned at 12:23 p.m.