

Minutes\*

**Senate Research Committee  
Monday, June 15, 1998  
433 Johnston Hall  
1:00 PM**

Present: Len Kuhi, Chair; Mark Brenner, Phil Norcross, Marilyn DeLong, Bianca Conti-Fine, Burle Gengenbach, Eric Klinger, Scott McConnell, Barb Van Drasek, Karl Kistler, Albert Nakano, WinAnn Schumi, Fay Thompson, Ed Wink, Mark Paller

Guests: Christine Maziar, David Hamilton

Regrets: Dorothy Hatsukami

Absent: Robin Dittman, John Finnegan, Kathryn Rettig

[In these minutes: Vice President Christine Maziar, Grants Management Committee Update, Cost-Benefit Analysis Resolution, Expanded Authorities]

The University Senate Research Committee met at 1:00 PM on Monday, June 15, 1998 in 433 Johnston Hall on the East Bank of the U of MN.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

The minutes from the Research Committee meeting held on Friday, May 8, 1998, distributed to committee members via e-mail prior to the meeting, were approved as written.

**VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTINE MAZIAR.**

Professor Len Kuhi, Chair, introduced Christine Maziar as the new Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School beginning July 1, 1998. He noted that he provided VP Maziar with a list of topics that the Research Committee wished to discuss with her, but she asked to defer two topics, IMG and the use of ICR funds, until she has had time to expand her knowledge on these issues.

A list of the topics included the following:

- ◆ Long-Term Goals for the U as a Research Institution
- ◆ The Future of ORTTA
- ◆ Role of the VP for Research versus the Dean of the Graduate School
- ◆ IMG and the Use of ICR Funds
- ◆ Interaction of the AHC Research Enterprise with the Rest of the Campus
- ◆ Copyrights and Intellectual Property Issues

Vice President Maziar argued for the integration of the two positions of VP for Research and Dean of the Graduate School due to the importance of faculty roles as researchers and scholars as well as educators. She hopes that the University mission could be one that is mutually supportive of both roles. When asked

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if she felt the responsibilities of the position were too numerous, she answered that she will ensure that qualified people whose decision-making abilities she trusts are appointed to work with her. She added that she will try to avoid further retrenchment for the Office of the Vice President for Research and will attempt to secure additional resources in the future. VP Maziar also noted that she recognizes the University's support of the grants management project and added that it is crucial that this process address NIH concerns. VP Maziar reported that her view on organizational structure is similar to that of President Yudof's in that she believes that the day-to-day decisions can be addressed at the department level, but that the oversight responsibility should remain at the University level. She views her role as an administrative facilitator of faculty views and hopes to help the University realize its potential.

One committee member described the difficulty ORTTA has had in retaining technical staff with excellent skills who have been moving on to other positions within and outside the University for higher salaries. Although it was noted that the environment has been made more appealing at ORTTA, VP Maziar asked to review an organizational chart of the unit. It was agreed that the issue of separation of license and patenting will be discussed with VP Maziar later in the summer or early in the fall.

Professor Kuhi asked VP Maziar to communicate the Research Committee's request to review additional changes to the Intellectual Property Policy during the summer. She agreed to contact the General Counsel's Office, copying Kate Stuckert, Len Kuhi, and David Hamilton, to see if the draft policy can be provided to the Research Committee in the next few weeks.

It was asked whether consequences to the Academic Health Center (AHC) result in consequences to the rest of the University since the amount of money in research and grants in the AHC is so large. VP Maziar stated that she will try to differentiate patterns and trends from isolated episodes when addressing all units. She recognizes the strength of the AHC, but also realizes that it is a great strength for the University as a whole.

Vice President Maziar expressed appreciation to Mark Brenner for his help and stated that she owes him a great deal of gratitude. The members of the Research Committee thanked VP Maziar for meeting with them and expressed the desire to meet with her on a regular basis once her appointment begins on July 1, 1998.

#### **GRANTS MANAGEMENT UPDATE.**

Professor David Hamilton gave a presentation to the Research Committee explaining the grants management project. The presentation outlined goals, vision (managing the laboratory, applying for a grant using EGMS, the expertise database), and principles of roles and responsibilities. Professor Hamilton also outlined the institutional oversight model, tools for oversight and compliance, and involvement of the Dean's office and service clusters. Copies of the presentation will be made available to the members of the Research Committee for their review upon request.

A discussion was also held on the risks involved with A21 and whether or not the University is over-interpreting A21 and requiring faculty to do more work than necessary. A faculty group is currently working on this issue, and it was recommended that a copy of a report from John Finnegan be obtained and distributed.

It was also noted that faculty need to provide scientific justification for each purchase. The University cost is approximately \$70 per transaction. If faculty have any problems or questions about this issue, it was recommended that they read OMD Circular 21.

**COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS RESOLUTION.**

Mark Brenner asked the Research Committee for clarification of the resolution calling for a cost-benefit analysis and passed by the Senate this year so that he can explain the committee's intentions further to the Executive Committee. Committee members stated that the purpose for the resolution is to increase accountability across the University; they recommended that this issue be taken up with the appropriate University organizations and that the University begin with a narrowly selected sample of departments for generalization. It was noted that this analysis should examine both new and existing policies, separately, with an estimate of the cost to implement new policies on an ongoing basis.

**EXPANDED AUTHORITIES.**

Ed Wink, ORTTA, noted that the communications plan of the Expanded Authorities Committee is going forward and asked that if any members of the Research Committee have questions or comments, they should contact him as soon as possible. He added that the 3PM deadline for the submission of proposals will be changed to 1PM; proposals submitted after the 1PM deadline should not be expected to be processed until the next business day. Ed Wink will advertise the change in this deadline often throughout the summer using 2-3 different mediums to insure that all faculty receive the message.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05PM.