

University Research Council
Approved Minutes
October 16, 2008

Present: Sam Fernald, Mohammed Hussain, Linda Lacey, Kevin Melendrez, John Mexal, Rachel Navarro, Azadeh Osanloo, Meghan Starbuck, Myriam Torres, Enedina Vazquez, Patricia Wojahn, Karl Wood, Michael Young

1. Minutes for September 17, 2008 were approved as presented.
2. URC Fair Update

Hamid Rad, Special Projects Coordinator for the Vice President for Research office, provided an update and video on the URC Fair. This may be viewed at the following link: <http://research.nmsu.edu/urc/08/>. Some suggestions for next year included making the fair a two-day event and possibly holding the fair with the Graduate Fair in April.

3. URC / Graduate Council Joint Luncheon

Sam Fernald met with the Graduate Council Executive Committee and the URC Executive Committee to get topics for the joint meeting that is being planned. One specific topic requested by Interim President Cruzado through Dean Lacey was an update on research clusters and suggestions from the joint councils on ways to support the clusters. A meeting date/time request will be provided to council members so the majority can attend the joint luncheon.

4. Research Cluster Activity Descriptions and Support Ideas

It was agreed that Vimal Chaitanya would provide a presentation to the joint council meeting with a brief history and update on the clusters, and ideas for their success. Meghan Starbuck told members that a useful tool for successful collaboration with faculty members is the grid, which can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.grid.research.nmsu.edu/login.php>.

5. Lewis-Burke Visit

Sarah Spreitzer and Bridget Glynn of Lewis-Burke Associates, NMSU's federal relations firm, will be here on October 21st. Chair Fernald will work with Ricardo Rel in setting up a special session for URC.

6. Other

Karl Wood requested an agenda item for next month to discuss the Federal Initiatives and why they are limited in number.

It was asked that the VPRGI's Office of Strategic Initiatives attend the beginning of the next URC meeting to introduce themselves and provide a briefing on what the office offers.

Patty Wojahn requested the paper she wrote last academic year for URC to provide support (awards) to soft sciences at Vimal Chaitanya's request be submitted at the next meeting for discussion.

Minutes by Frances Schumacher