

**University Research Council**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**January 22, 2010**

**Present:** Jeffrey Arterburn, David Barney, Joseph Berning, Phillip DeLeon, Sam Fernald, Shanna Ivey, Jim Kroger, Michele Nishiguchi, Collin Payne, Meghan Starbuck, Steven Stochaj, Enedina Vazquez, Patricia Wojahn, Karl Wood, Michael Young

**Absent:** Kevin Melendrez, John Mexal, Rachel Navarro, Igor Sevostianov

1. Minutes from December 4, 2009 were approved as presented.
2. URC Award for Creative Scholarly Activity

Last year the URC voted to make the selection process for the URC Award for Creative Scholarly Activity an open submission process and not limit the submission to two junior career and two distinguished career per college. Only nine packets were submitted for review. Because of the low submission number, it was unanimously decided to request the college deans to submit two per category, per college; and also keep the process open for those who want to bypass the deans' submission. Chair Meghan Starbuck asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. Jim Kroger, Collin Payne, Phillip De Leon, Enedina Vazquez and Michael Young will serve with Dr. Young being committee chair. They were asked to review the criteria and make changes as needed and also serve as the review panel judging the packets. The call will go out in February.

3. Report on Whitepaper Tasks

Chair Starbuck told URC that while they are working on their whitepaper tasks they might find NMSU policy that is restrictive in nature for furthering research. She said that Faculty Senate (FS) Chair Chris Erickson has suggested that URC and/or individual faculty members or staff can submit a request to change policy. Once FS approves a request, it must go through other approval channels; however having passed through FS, it stands a better chance of being approved. Chair Starbuck told URC that this is an opportunity to improve upon current policy.

Enedina Vazquez who volunteered to research "Barriers to Research at NMSU" has created a survey using a small portion of the research survey that Glenn Kuehn composed. She will send the survey to members and has asked for their feedback. Patti Wojahn and Jim Kroger along with Chair Starbuck will be putting together the whitepaper. To facilitate this, it is requested that members submit their summaries to Chair Starbuck and copy in Frances Schumacher.

4. Invitation to President Couture

With New Mexico legislation ending on February 18<sup>th</sup>, it was agreed that the URC should invite President Couture to the URC meeting being held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. In order to prepare for her

visit, URC members will start meeting every Friday at 3:00 p.m. at various locations to work on the presentation. Jeff Arterburn suggested members could take the most important points of their whitepaper summary and forward them as bulleted items for the presentation. These items should be sent to Patti Wojahn at [pwojahn@nmsu.edu](mailto:pwojahn@nmsu.edu) and Jim Kroger at [jkroger@nmsu.edu](mailto:jkroger@nmsu.edu), and copy in Frances Schumacher at [maschuma@nmsu.edu](mailto:maschuma@nmsu.edu) . If President Couture is not available on February 19<sup>th</sup>, then the following meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> will be requested.

#### 5. URC / VPR Road Show

This Spring Semester the URC / VPR road shows will resume. The URC representatives for the college and Vimal Chaitanya speak to the colleges' faculty members and then have questions and answers at lunch on Fridays. Lunch is provided by the VPR office. Presentations will be tailored to the college. URC requested that the presentation time be limited to 20 minutes with 40 minutes for Q & A.

Minutes by Frances Schumacher