

University Research Council
Approved Minutes
March 18, 2015

Present: Jeffrey Arterburn, Susan Beck, Maria Gurrola, Tom King (Joanne Esparza), Cathy Kinzer, Hongmei Luo, Jill McDonald, Mary O'Connell, Steve Stochaj, Mingjun Wei

Absent: Jamie Bronstein, Matthias Burkardt, Vimal Chaitanya, Sam Fernald, Kathryn Hanley, Stephen Hanson, Clint Loest, Mihai Niculescu, Hari Sankaran, Karin Wiburg

1. Approval of Minutes

February 18, 2015 minutes were reviewed and were approved with an edit.

2. Chair Elect Discussion

Members were asked to send URC Chair nominations to Frances Schumacher to compile into a ballot for the next URC meeting. She will contact anyone whose name is put forward to see if they agree to be on the ballot.

3. Lewis-Burke to Visit URC on April 1, 2015

The NMSU Federal relations firm Lewis-Burke will be on campus on April 1, 2015 and asked to visit with URC. They are able to connect faculty members with agencies and assist with potential federal competitive funding opportunities. Members were encouraged to attend and invite their colleagues at their colleges as well.

4. Data Collection for Provost Letter

Interdisciplinary Research Grants (IRGs) and Graduate Research Enhancement Grants (GREGs) are being held back from funding by the VPR office due to budget constraints and the need to use that funding for startup packages. The URC determined that it would be beneficial to get statistics on what these grants have accomplished and with this information, write to Provost Howard with a request that special funding be considered. Some of the categories will be whether the seed grant brought in external funding, publications, conference presentations, patents, student impact, interdisciplinary research to name a few.

5. Other

- a) Chair Stochaj said the University Budget Committee includes a member from the URC and that he attended a recent meeting. He said there is a steep decline in student enrollment. The university bases a \$1M loss for every 100 student not enrolled.
- b) There will be an NSF Day at Texas Tech and members were provided the information on that. It was suggested that NMSU have an NSF Day here and that UTEP and the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine be included.

Minutes by Frances Schumacher