

**COMMITTEE:** 2016/2017 Research/Creative Activities Committee

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., Rawl 142

**PERSON PRESIDING:** Richard McCabe, Chair of the Committee

**REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Kenneth Ferguson (secretary), Hanna Jubran, Melinda Kane, Richard McCabe, Burrell Montz (vice chair), Michael Schinasi, Anne Ticknor

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Chal Benson, Jacques Robidoux, Paul Toriello

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## **ACTIONS OF MEETING**

*Agenda Item: Subcommittees made recommendations for funding of proposals*

*Actions Taken:*

The chair of four (4) subcommittees, after deliberating with the members of his or her own subcommittee, made a recommendation to the full Research/Creative Activities Committee about which grant proposals in their subcategory should be funded.

The Health Subcommittee, consisting of Megan Janke, Richard McCabe, Alice Richman, Jacques Robidoux (chair), Konstantinos Spaniolas, Paul Toriello, and John Willson, recommended funding for Proposal #2, *Reducing pollutant-induced hypospadias: Is Nrf2 driving the rescue?* by Krista McCoy (Biology), with a request of \$6250 for a summer stipend.

The Humanities and Arts Subcommittee, consisting of Kenneth Ferguson, Megan Jubran, and Michael Schinasi (chair), recommended funding for Proposal #5, *Cultural landscapes and intangible heritage: The case of the Navajo in Canyon de Chelly* by Jessica Christie (Art and Design), with a request of \$5293.27 for project expenses.

The Natural Sciences, Engineering, and Mathematics Subcommittee, consisting of Chal Benson (chair), Mary Farwell, Yuanming Feng, B. J. Kim, and David Rudel, made a recommendation to fund Proposal #8, *Particle creation in spaces with extra dimensions* by Guglielmo Fucci (Mathematics), with a request of \$6000 for a summer stipend, and Proposal #7, *Heavy metal toxicology of free-ranging vervet monkeys (Chlorocebus pygerythrus) living among humans* by James Loudon (Anthropology), with a request for \$2,560 for project expenses.

The Social Sciences Subcommittee, consisting of Melinda Kane, Ernie Marshburn, Burrell Montz (chair), and Anne Ticknor, recommended funding for Proposal #6, *The effectiveness of virtual reality public service announcements in eliciting pro-health behaviors* by Charles Meadows (Communication), with a request of \$6,250 for project expenses.

*Discussion:* McCabe noted that the available funds were sufficient for five grants, so that a second grant could be funded from one of the four subcommittees. Since the Natural Sciences Subcommittee, the category with the largest number of proposals (4/11) of any of the categories, recommended two proposals for funding, McCabe recommended that the fifth grant be selected from this category. Schinasi, chair of the Arts and Humanities Subcommittee, made the alternative proposal that any fifth grant should go to Proposal #9, *Poems toward book 4* by John Hoppenthaler (English), on the grounds that Schinasi believed each subcommittee had been asked to make only one recommendation but that Hoppenthaler's proposal was also considered worthy of a grant.

*Actions taken:* The voting members of Research/Creative Activities Committee voted unanimously to recommend each of the top four proposals recommended by each of the individual subcommittees. The full committee also recommended that if a fifth proposal could be funded, it should be awarded to an applicant from the Natural Sciences category, but that if more than one extra grant could be awarded, the next to be funded should be the second recommendation from the Arts and Humanities group. There was a further motion, also passed by the committee, that if the administration cannot add funds to supplement a complete extra proposal, that at least the surplus amount originally granted be made available so that a fifth applicant could be offered a partial grant in the amount of the original surplus.

*Additional duties assigned to:* McCabe, the chair of the committee agreed to send useful comments to those faculty whose proposals could not be funded and also to notify those who have been recommended for funding, if and when the recommendations by the committee are approved by administration.

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The meeting was adjourned by unanimous assent.

**NEXT MEETING:** No further meetings are scheduled for 2016-2017, but the chair agreed to keep in communication with the committee by e-mail as needed.