1. February 24, 2006 Minutes  
   Action

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   Information
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4. Economic Development  
   Discussion
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5. Office of Technology Transfer Initiatives  
   Information
Minutes
Research, Economic Development and Graduate Studies
Friday, February 24, 2006, 10:37am – 10:43am
Mendenhall Student Center Great Rooms

Mr. Robert Greczyn called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. and asked for approval of the committee minutes. Mr. Stephen Showfety seconded and the minutes were approved with no corrections.

Mr. Greczyn then turned the meeting over to Dr. Mageean who drew attention to the two information items and one discussion item in the Board book:

Internal Research Funding
Dr. Mageean reminded the committee of her report at the last meeting where start-up funds was reported and briefly reviewed the benefit of these funds. She said this year that same investment will be about another half million in research development grants. These are investments to be used as seed grants for faculty to develop preliminary data for a major research grant application to an external sponsor. Proposals for basic and applied research projects in basic and professional fields are to be considered. Submission of a proposal to an external sponsor will be required within 18 months after the start of the award.

Proposals submitted by faculty for external funding of projects was also provided in the Board book. As was noted earlier, the numbers show the benefit of the investment in seed monies which are leading to fuller proposals. It reflects the more complex and collaborative adventures and proposals that are going forward from faculty and a significant number of these are being generated by the new faculty of the type that are being attracted through the start-up funds as well as an enhanced increased effort by the faculty. Dr. Mageean gave accolade to the faculty on improving three-fold the number of submissions. She said this was a healthy sign of the level of research activity on the campus.

Dr. Mageean went on the mention one of the young faculty, Dr. Rebecca Torres in Geography, who has been awarded a National Science Foundation CAREER award. The CAREER award is one of NSF’s most prestigious awards in support of the early career development activities of those teacher-scholars who most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization. Such activities should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of integrated contributions to research and education.

UNC Coastal Studies Institute (CSI) Infrastructure
ECU faculty have assisted in providing UNC CSI with the estimates for the start up costs and the fitting of labs utilized in Manteo. ECU has a very strong and enthusiastic collaboration with the Institute. Dr. Mageean sees this as something that would benefit the citizens of North Carolina, particularly this region.
Economic Development
A very brief summary of edited highlights was provided for the Committee in the Board book. Dr. Mageean said that sometimes there is a lot of focus on research; however, her division also oversees economic development. At the request of Chairman Greczyn, the Committee will spend a full meeting on economic development activities and will make a report to the Board in the near future.

That concluded Dr. Mageean’s report.

Mr. Greczyn asked if there were questions for Dr. Mageean. There were none. Mr. Greczyn commented that this was another one of those circumstances where the university has some very positive things beginning to happen, especially the increase in funding in a tight environment and with all the universities chasing a decreasing pot of money.

Hearing no further questions, the committee adjourned at 10:43am.
**Personnel Update**

The Division of Research and Graduate Studies is pleased to announce the following news concerning personnel in the division.

An internal search for the position of Associate Vice Chancellor for Research has resulted in the appointment of Dr. Paul Gemperline. Dr. Gemperline is a professor in the department of Chemistry, a winner of the University's prestigious Five-Year Research/Creative Activity Award, and a respected scholar and teacher. He has served in the role of Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for 2½ years.

After an extensive national search for the position of dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Patrick Pellicane has agreed to accept the position. Dr. Pellicane is a professor of forestry at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, and served as Dean at that institution for two years. Dr. Pellicane will take up his position at ECU on July 1 and succeeds Dr. Paul Tschetter who has served as interim Dean of the Graduate School at ECU since 2002.

A national search has been conducted for the position of Director of Sponsored Programs. At the time of going to press, an offer has been offered to the top candidate and negotiations are on-going. We hope to have an announcement by the time of the BOT meeting.

The filing of these positions represents an important step in the restructuring of the Division.

**Yardley Research Group**

The Yardley Research Group, a nationally recognized academic consulting service company, was on campus April 2–7, 2006, to conduct an assessment of the graduate programs. They were contracted to provide assessment of doctoral and masters programs, including capacity as well as market assessment.

An extensive report will be presented to the Graduate School and will be disseminated to the university graduate community.