

Research and Creative Activities Committee
Minutes of February 24, 2014

Present: Chal Benson, Jason Brinkley, Bernice Dodor, Sitawa Kimuna, Alex Manda, Richard McCabe, Jay Newhard, David Rudel, Mustafa Selim, Britton Theurer, Hans Vogelsong

The chairman, Dr. Brinkley, called the meeting to order at 4 PM noting that a quorum was present.

The committee discussed the grant proposals rankings. A motion was made and seconded to limit considerations to the top 10 ranked proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

It was first noted that ranking procedure, adjusted for each committee's rating methods as previously discussed, did result in at least one fundable proposal from each of the main discipline groups on campus. It was also noted that the absolute scores afforded by the individual review committees likely had a statistical effect such that those review sub-committees with the lower variance among their scores ended up with final scores lower than those review sub-committees with greater variances in scoring. The chair of the review sub-committee in questions offered as the consensus of opinion of that committee was there the majority of the proposals were not superior or outstanding and that this was the cause of low variance. Consequently, it was further suggested that the ultimate result was not inappropriate. It was also noted that another committee had two proposals just below the 'pay line'. The chair and another committee member both indicated that they felt the outcome was appropriate in comparison to the proposals above the 'pay line' and recommended no further adjustments.

One proposal was well over the amount suggested by the committee and resulted in the total fundable proposals being slightly about the amount allocated. Dr. Brinkley indicated he has spoken to the administration about this outcome and they felt they could of make up the difference from other funds.

A motion was made and seconded to allow full funding for the grant that ran over the guidelines, rather than to fund it at the maximum guideline level. The motion passed with 11 in favor and 1 opposed.

After some discussion it was suggested that the top proposals computed by the previously approved methods be put forth for funding and that additional meritorious proposal be put forth in case funds should be available. A motion to this effect was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously in favor of this proposal.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Dr. Brinkley at 5:18 PM.