The Advisory Committee to the Vice President for Research

Summary of the General AC/VPR Meeting

Thursday, September 5, 2013 from 3-5 p.m.

University of Oklahoma, Norman Research Campus

**Members Present:** Lawrence Baines, Robert Cichewicz (delegate for Sheena Murphy), Rena Cook, Chitru Fernando, Le Gruenwald, Karen Hayes-Thumann, Randy Hewes, Diane Horm, J.T. Johnson, Marguerite Keesee, Hong Liu, Ed Sankowski, Paul Spicer, Charles Warnken, Kim Winton

**VPR Office Staff Present:** Andrea Deaton, Kelvin Droegemeier, Alicia Knoedler, Rick Luce, Cathi Parker

**Brief Introduction:** Dr. Droegemeier welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the role and previous activities of the AC/VPR. New committee members present were Professors Lawrence Baines, Le Gruenwald, Randy Hewes, Diane Horm, J.T. Johnson, and Hong Liu. Additional new members, not present, were Professors Kirsten de Beurs and Sheena Murphy.

**VPR Update:** FY13 year-end information, challenges, opportunities, priorities (K. Droegemeier): It was a tremendous year for Norman Campus research in FY13. Norman Campus research expenditures reached an all-time high of $96,176,994 which is $5 million more than for the entire OU campus when President Boren took office in 1994. We had a record number of awards and books published. Federal budget outlook: Congress is only in session for nine days and it seems unlikely the government will shut down; the VPR Office is being very careful with commitments and it lost roughly $12 million in total project funding. The State of Norman Campus Town Hall Conversation will be held on September 16 with a new format: overview of FY13, faculty panel, and Q&A session with University administrators and faculty.

**CRPDE Update (A. Knoedler):** Every year OU adds approximately 40-50 new faculty and CRPDE will continue to reach out to them with the focus of assisting them to reach beyond their research programs, determining their needs, and connecting them with potential partners. They continue to work on large initiatives and have submitted several large proposals over the summer, anticipating at least one invitation for a full proposal submission. Research Liaisons: CRPDE encourages departments to ask for content from meetings as the Research Liaisons are the communication connection from departments to the VPR Office. The next Research Liaison Meetings are scheduled for September 10 and October 30. Diversity position update: The position must be filled by 2014 with three candidates scheduled to interview in September and October. CRPDE will update the progress to the AC/VPR Committee.

**General Discussion:**
- Rewards and incentives for research influenced by tenure/promotion guidelines: How can we think differently about this? Comments from AC members follow:
  - With only five years to prove yourself as a junior faculty member, stick to what you know, no time to learn new disciplines; it’s a deep cultural/philosophical issue; hard to know what to tell faculty with regards to time commitments, etc.; more success with staying in your own disciplines; every unit has different culture; no one clear answer; cultural-specific to individual departments.
- CRPDE: How do we let faculty know about the services we offer? Comments from AC members follow:
  - Attend departmental faculty meetings, some faculty are too busy for email communication – notices are lost in the shuffle; create a video to show at faculty meetings, interactive applications on CRPDE website; take advantage of first week/first month with new faculty.

**ORS Update (A. Deaton):** The Office of Research Services will implement a new grants management software, Cayuse SP, which will result in an electronic proposal routing process for proposal certification. ORS
has used the same grants management database since 1997. Demos are not ready yet but there will be plenty of opportunities for training on the new system both in Norman and Tulsa. The Cayuse vendor will be in Norman the week of September 23 with two one-hour trainings available. There are plans to eventually develop dashboards for deans and others to be able to pull down statistics/information and refine and streamline the info sheet.

**Open access planning for data and publications (R. Luce):** Communication went out last Spring regarding online repository and discussions have been held with faculty.
- What will data repository look like?
- What does it mean to house data
- What is the timeline for implementation? Hope that structure will be ready in two years but it will probably be longer.
- What areas have taken an interest? Biological Sciences
- How will faculty be informed? Have been attending department meetings, information on University Libraries website.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on November 18 at 3-5 p.m. in the Charlie Conference Room.