#### **MINUTES OF MEETING #6 (2006-2007) OF THE**

#### SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE

# HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 12th, 2007 AT 9:30AM - 11:00AM

#### **IN MC D350-L**

PRESENT: Dr. Barry Wright (Chair), Dr. Sandra Bosacki, Ms. Frances Chandler, Dr. Bulent

Menguc, Dr. Bozidar Mitrovic (Vice-Chair), Dr. Michael Owen, Dr. Lynn

Rempel, Dr. Marilyn Rose, Dr. Linda Rose-Krasnor, Dr. Stan Sadava, Dr. David

Siegel, Ms. Judy Maiden (Recorder)

**REGRETS:** Dr. Terry Boak, Dr. Tamara El Hoss, Ms. Michelle Green, Ms. Pam Jacobs

**ARRIVED AFTER MEETING START:** Dr. Patricia Debly

**Introductions / Welcome** (Barry Wright)

1. Approval of Agenda with Additions

**Motion:** That the agenda be accepted with the following addition:

Discussion of a memo regarding the establishment of a Lifespan Development Research Institute.

**MOVED:** Bosacki/Chandler

## Unanimously carried

## 2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

**Motion:** That the minutes be accepted as circulated.

**MOVED:** Sadava/Mitrovic

## Unanimously carried

#### **Business Arising**

Sub-committee reports

- a.1 Best Practices (Sandra Bosacki)
  - i. Met with Ron Dubien and Pam Jacobs in regards to smart goal objectives the two groups are sharing such as a researcher database.

ii. This online database has several goals: to promote collaboration between researchers, to provide potential students with an easy way to locate professors and learn of their research, and to provide University Communications with a quick method of obtaining data on researchers for promotional purposes.

iii. Fran Chandler met with Gail Pepper, Audrey Fehlow, and others in ITS, to discuss how to incorporate the needs of potential users, mentioned above. The challenge is to find ways to update database annually and who will take on this role. A possible method is to get researchers to update their own information at the same time as they update their annual reports. An example of an on-line annual report has already been developed in the Faculty of Education. A demonstration was given by Herman Yu in the Faculty of Education ITS department. Currently faculty members do not find the form user friendly so ITS will need to work on making this method of reporting more useable.

### a.2 Recognition Sub-Committee (Michael Owen)

- i. A number of nominations have gone out for researcher recognition and we know the results of some but not others. The process for recognizing faculty members for awards has been as follows: Individual faculty members nominate each other, and ORS staff members and the AVP Research communicate with one another on possible awards that are available and made suggestions as to who might be approached to be nominated. Larger institutions have committees who identify who the best individuals for nomination and we should be looking at a better way of identifying these individuals. One example within Brock is The Faculty of Social Sciences where a person is designated to assist with applications that can be very time consuming. The Deans and AVPR need to identify others methods of getting this information to the researchers.
- ii. Currently the AVPR has been working with the Innovation Institute of Ontario on a newly created database that could potentially create an annual report based on using for Tri-Council CVs however it would be premature to talk about this kind of approach without consulting with BUFA beforehand.
- iii. Through the efforts of staff members in ORS, editorial support has been secured in regards to obtaining the services of a skilled researcher to review and provide advice to faculty members on their methodology and in providing a small stipend that researchers can access to entice specialists in their fields to review their applications. This support will not cost the researchers any money. An email also went out recently advising faculty members as to

- editorial support they can access when writing their journal articles, and they can make arrangements on their own to access this person.
- iv. Support groups for faculty members have also sprung up and ORS is also willing to assist with this initiative.
- v. These supports have been secured however the following questions need to be addressed by Deans, Chairs, faculty members:
  - a. What role should ORS assume in conjunction with Deans, Chairs and faculty members in regards to the above mentioned ideas?
  - b. Should ORS send an email to faculty members to gauge people's interest, or should this come from the Deans?
  - c. What method will we use to recruit faculty based leaders for these support groups and;
  - d. Would the leader of the support group receive compensation for this role?

We will need to weigh the financial and time costs and potential benefits, reward mechanisms for group leaders and participants, and identify the roles and responsibilities for the AVPR, ORS, Deans, and researchers if we are to start these activities. If we agree then these groups should start quickly so decisions should be made as soon as possible on next steps. A recommendation could be made to Senate for a policy on this kind of activity.

- a.3 Raising our Profile (Bozidar Mitrovic)
  - i. This committee suggests that Jim Kerr be invited to attend our meetings as he is acting in Ron Dubien's past position.
  - ii. Researchers should be encouraged to apply for awards and recognition and Deans should encourage their faculty members to apply to opportunities apart from the usual ones that they know about such as the Steacie Fellowship.
  - iii. Bozidar Mitrovic is to chair this subcommittee in the absence of Ron Dubien. It was suggested that subcommittee chairs meet.

**Motion:** That the two sub-committees, *Raising our Profile* and *Recognition*, be merged to one.

## **MOVED: Siegel/Rose**

### Unanimously carried

- a.4 Financial (Barry Wright)
  - i. Data is in the process of being gathered from the deans. The data needs to be sent in as soon as possible so it can be ready for the next meeting.
- b. Strategic Research Plan (SRP) (Michael Owen)

Comments have been incorporated and the SRP has been posted on the Associate Vice-President, Research and International Development's web site. The SRP was passed to the Provost for placement on the Committee of Academic Deans' (CAD) Agenda.

- 4. New Business
  - a. Review Policy none
  - b. ORS Review (Michael)

The External Reviewers were Dwight Ball, Executive Director, Office of Research Services, University of New Brunswick and Dr. Adele Reinhartz, Associate Vice-President Research, University of Ottawa. The Internal Reviewers were Dr. Frances Owen, Chair, Child & Youth Studies, and Dr. Vincenzo DeLuca, Canada Research Chair, Biological Sciences.

- i. The review was positive and recommendations made as to organizational structure and staffing of positions. The organizational chart proposes core funding for existing staff positions (Grants Facilitators, Finance Officer and Ethics assistant) and additional staff including a Director, Senior Grants Facilitator, and specialists in contracts and other legal, intellectual property, and technology transfer areas, an additional finance administrative Assistant. Mention was also made regarding the Ethics Officer's position that currently does not allow for backup should this person become ill or take holidays.
- ii. The report has gone to the Provost, SAC, CAD and the budget committee. It is to be determined as to whether the report should be presented to Senate.

**Comments:** The report did not mention the necessity for stronger ties to be forged between ORS, HR, and Graduate Studies at both the operational and

strategic level. It did not fully address the issue of backup for the Ethics Officer and resulting implications for the role of the Chair of the REB, and Vice Chair. In addition, a system for recruitment of new REB members needs to be finalized. It did not address International development and interactions with other institutions. The final report will be posted on the AVPR web page.

5. Updates and Information Items (Committee)

**Motion:** 

That a recommendation be made, on behalf of this committee to Senate, that Senate approve the establishment of the Lifespan Development Research Institute.

**MOVED:** Sadava/Menguc

### Unanimously carried

**ACTION**:

Barry Wright to submit the memo, from Sid Segalowitz dated February 13<sup>th</sup>, to Senate to approve the establishment of a Lifespan Development Research Institute.

- 6. Other Business
  - a. Use of animals in Research

### **Preamble:**

Pursuant to Brock University Faculty Association (BUFA) article 11 regarding academic freedom, this committee acknowledges the right of each faculty member to chose and pursue an area of research of their choice. In addition, members of this committee support the BUFA agreement and its statement regarding the responsibility of each faculty member to ensure he/she does not "infringe or abridge the academic freedom of any member of the university community".

**Motion:** 

That Senate supports Brock University investigators who conduct research with animals, in which the research is conducted within guidelines established by the Canadian Council on Animal Care and the Brock Animal Care and Use Committee, and the right to conduct their research free from harassment.

**ACTION:** Barry Wright to submit this motion to Senate regarding the ability of faculty to conduct research within established guidelines for human and animal ethics.

#### **Date of Next Meetings:**

Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 10:00am - 11:30am

Monday, May 14<sup>th,</sup> 2007 from 1:30pm - 3:00pm Wednesday, June 13<sup>th,</sup> 2007 from 10:00am - 11:30am The above meetings will be held in MC D350-L (Research Services/Graduate Studies Boardroom)

7. Adjournment

11:00am