

Minutes
University Enrichment Committee

May 4, 2020
9:00 - 9:55 AM

Via the following Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/ivh-kvrg-zmj>
By phone: +1 570-783-1330 PIN: 508 370 467#

Secretary of the Day: Roger Allen

Present: Luc Boisvert (chair), Andy Rex, Lisa Johnson, Isha Rajbhandari, Tanya Stambuk, Bianca Wolf, Linda Williams, Renee Houston (ex officio), Roger Allen, Renee Watling

I. Minutes

Minutes from the April 20, 2020 meeting were approved.

II. Register Lecture

From among this year's nominees, the committee chose the 48th Register Lecturer. The lecture will be delivered during the fall 2021 semester (traditionally in November). Formal announcement will be made at a later date by the Associate Dean's office.

III. Report on Burlington Northern Curriculum Development Grants proposal

Provost Behling wishes for the UEC to explore parameters of Burlington Northern (BN) Grant. Going forward, the UEC will be tasked with selecting recipients. The purpose, eligibility, and application process are described on the following web page:

<https://www.pugetsound.edu/files/resources/burlington-northern-curriculum-development-2019.pdf>

Renee Houston, Renee Watling, and Luc Boisvert researched the funding parameters in practice by peer universities, who also fund faculty curricular development grants via BN. Luc reviewed the data collected from peer and "northwest five" institution programs. Renee Watling shared that the data gleaned from other institutions showed variation but was not significantly dissimilar from current practices at UPS. She felt that looking at other institutions has been helpful, but not necessarily directive.

The committee discussed the following factors to be considered in taking over responsibility for reviewing proposals and awarding grants:

- Whether to establish fixed proposal deadlines or ad hoc submission with rolling deadlines.
- Funding caps. Renee Houston shared that there is currently a \$3,500 cap with a great deal of past variation in award amounts (Provost Behling has indicated that this variation should not continue). There is about \$30K available per year to administer. This year there were 9 applications (which is typical over the last 3 years) and 8 funded (about equally divided between fall and spring).
- The current guidelines specify that preference is given to group projects, or team-taught courses. This opens the way to considering whether to have a reduced cap for an individual faculty member to develop a single course so as to distribute the funds more equitably.

- The program's MOU was drafted when UPS had a law school, so many of the provisions are not currently applicable. The committee considered whether the UEC should revise the current guidelines to reflect the current status of the university's academic programs, while staying as adherent to the original MOU as possible. It was agreed that we can't deviate too far from MOU. Also, the MOU contains no mention of caps.

At this point, the UEC has gathered information to inform the discussion. It was agreed that more thought and involvement is necessary prior to implementation of UEC oversight. The committee will review the original MOU. It was suggested that we may wish to look at coordination between BN and proposed Faculty Development Center (FDC) funding, given that it may be premature to make decisions on BN management before having the chance to coordinate with FDC. On the other hand, it was pointed out that since we can't rewrite the MOU, it opens the question as to what that coordination would look like.

Luc proposed tabling this for now and adding this discussion to year-end report to inform the discussion for next year's committee. The committee agreed and further expressed willingness to take on this charge.

IV. Online language for proposals missing components (Senate charge #3)

Luc will send us two suggestions for new language. We can address this later via email.

V. Phibbs Award

Faculty members receiving either a research or release time grant during this academic year were evaluated for eligibility and then considered for the annual Dirk Andrew Phibbs Award. Luc had shared with the committee the MOU regarding selection criteria and donor intent for the award. Linda Williams was selected as this year's Phibbs Award recipient for her project "Maya Christian Murals of Yucatán: Indigenous Catholicism in Early Modern New Spain." Congratulations Linda!

VI. Leadership and Well-earned Thanks

The members of the committee unanimously wish to thank Luc Boisvert for his exemplary organization and overall outstanding work chairing the UEC this year.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Allen
Secretary du jour

Addendum

2019-2020 Senate Charges

1. To collaborate with the Provost's Office with respect to the development of a Program for Faculty Development. As part of this work, the UEC might also propose a revision to its standing charges to include a link to a Program for Faculty Development.
2. To bring a motion to the faculty meeting to amend the Faculty by-laws so UEC has a standing charge to pick the recipients of Dirk Andrew Phibbs Memorial Research Award according to its Memorandum of Understanding.
3. To develop a policy regarding eligibility of proposals for funding consideration that are missing required elements, e.g, IRB approval. This policy should then be posted on the website describing submission guidelines and requirements.
4. To propose an on-line submission system for student proposals that has fillable fields for each required proposal component and a separate submission portal for the faculty advisor's letter.
5. To review the language of the application form to ensure inclusive funding for faculty research, scholarship, and creative work, including what expenses can be covered and how to cap reimbursements.