

**University Enrichment Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 19, 2012**

Present: David Akers, David Andresen, Monica DeHart, Danny McMillian, Heidi Orloff, Carol Toews, Student Member: Rachel Mallon

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

- a. Minutes from the 8 March, 2012 meeting were approved with no changes.

**Announcements**

- a. *Phibbs Award.* Selection on the two finalist proposals will be deferred due to low turnout and insufficient preparation. It was decided that Heidi would consult Sarah Moore to see about the collection of votes via e-mail in lieu of a final meeting, tentatively scheduled for May 3. Members agreed to await further instruction about the Phibbs selection process.
- a. *End of the year report.* Heidi noted that she was about to commence writing the UEC end-of-year report and congratulated the committee on having met its charges for this academic year. She solicited suggestions for further action items for next year.
  - i. One suggestion was the prospect of a junior faculty research award--an idea that had emerged earlier in the year but had not been advanced. It was agreed that the FAC might be the best body to distinguish this award-winner; it was also agreed that some small monetary prize should accompany the award to make it commensurate with the teaching awards.
  - ii. Heidi noted that she had arranged with the Center for Writing Learning and Teaching to use a few Wednesday at 4:00 sessions to showcase research being done by faculty award winners.

Noting these suggestions, Heidi mentioned that she would circulate a draft of her report prior to the Senate meeting in order for committee members to suggest changes or identify potential future charges.

**New Business**

- b. *Student research grants.* David Andresen reported on the results of the Student Research Subcommittee review of the spring proposals. They reviewed a total of 33 proposals, all of which were funded in full or in part.

- c. *Chair signature.* Members discussed a proposal to do away with the requirement of the department chair's signature on student research grant proposals. While it was agreed that an advisor's signature was necessary, members acknowledged that the chair signature requirement put undue pressure on the chair at submission time and, in large departments, did not accomplish an additional layer of oversight or quality control. Members voted and approved the removal of the chair signature from the student research proposal.
- d. *Regester Lecturer Selection.* Members discussed their review of the seven (7) applicant files, considering the relative merits of each. Based on quick rank tally and consensus, members voted and approved the selection of Andy Rex as the 2013 Regester Lecturer. The student member, Rachel, did not review the files or participate in the vote. A conversation ensued about the appropriateness of student representatives reading the Regester files, given that many include FAC letters. It was agreed that the committee might suggest excluding student participation in that review in the future given the sensitive materials involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

--Submitted by *Monica DeHart*