

Minutes of Enrichment Committee meeting, April 25, 2011.

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. Present were: Brendan Lanctot, Jennifer Utrata, Sarah Moore, Heidi Orloff, Dawn Padula, Peter Greenfield, Ben Tromly, and Jim Evans.

Jennifer announced that she was preparing the committee's annual report to the Faculty Senate, and asked that any input be sent to her.

Discussion turned to the awarding of the Dirk Andrew Phibbs Award. There was extensive discussion of the criteria, based on the memorandum of understanding governing the award, as well as the committee's past practice, leading to the conclusion that the committee has considerable latitude. However, it was suggested that the committee might give itself a charge for next year to examine the criteria more systematically.

Candidates for this year's award were discussed. It was MSP to award this year's honor to Prof. Patrick O'Neil.

Jim Evans presented language drafted by Brendan Lanctot and himself to modify the requirement that student research grant applications for work involving human subjects should have IRB approval in hand at the time of grant application. Based on extensive discussion within the committee over the course of academic year, as well as consultations with the IRB, with the academic departments involved, and with the associate dean's office, the Evans and Lanctot proposal urged that there was a gap between this requirement on paper and the committee's actual practice, and that the requirement was not really workable for some departments, especially for the fall grant applications. The new proposed language would require that such grant applications be accompanied merely by a copy of the application for IRB approval. (The detailed language is attached). It was MSP to adopt the new rules.

Discussion then turned to the ever-vexing problem of category caps for faculty conference participation. It was agreed that the university's pending move to P-Cards for travel grants renders the committee's deliberations moot. However, it was agreed that it was desirable to collect information about how well the University's allocation for conference participation actually meets the expenses incurred by faculty. Associate Dean Sarah Moore suggested it would be possible to modify the expense reimbursement form, so that faculty could be encouraged to report more information on how much they had actually spent on their trip, which often, it was supposed, could be considerably more than the amounts reported for the purpose of reimbursement. Sarah agreed to make such a revision to the form.

It was MSP to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by J. Evans