

University Enrichment Committee (UEC)

UEC Meeting Minutes: 3/14/14

Attendees: Sunil Kukreja, Carl Toews, Gabe Davis, David Andresen, Amy Odegard, Wayne Rickoll, Sara Shapiro, Robin VanHouten, Stacey Weiss, and Randy Worland.

- 1) UEC meeting minutes from 2/28/14 were approved.
 - 2) Old Business – the issue of Summer Research funding – the committee discussed the letters from Andreas and Leslie.
 - a) The scope of our conversation excludes the fundamentals of the science student research program.
 - b) Questions within the scope are:
 - i) Can we streamline the budget portion of the summer research process for applicants and for UEC evaluators by using the criteria and results from science summer research evaluators?
 - ii) If we made this change, how might it affect applicants from other disciplines and the process in general?
 - (1) Sunil raised a number of concerns about transferring the evaluations from the science summer research program to the UEC student research process (provided in question form):
 - (a) How would the UEC align and convert the evaluation criteria from the summer research evaluators with its own without contaminating the process?
 - (b) What will the UEC do with proposals from non-science disciplines without previous reviewers' scores and with non-science proposals?
 - (c) The UEC needs to ensure equitable access to its funds
 - (i) For example, psychology students applying would be negatively affected because their applications would not include a prior, expert review like applications from the 'hard' sciences would – and this would require committee members to read more material than they do now.
 - c) In response to Leslie's letter that asked if the UEC could add a 3rd deadline for student research applications (in the fall) and if the UEC could change its deadlines?
 - (1) Members questioned how that might impact graduate students and undergraduate students from non-science disciplines.
 - (2) UEC's desired follow-up/response to Leslie:
 - (a) The Committee would like to know how many students are going forward with research currently that are impacted by the deadline structure.
 - d) Outcome from 'Old Business' discussion – decided to go with the 'do nothing' approach
 - i) Instead of having UEC applicants who have already applied for summer research reformat their applications; they should send them as they are to the UEC for review.
 - (1) Amend the UEC application to require applicants to include a cover page to explain their budget and the items included in it, as well as address the questions below:
 - (a) How is the project funded (i.e., what are the sources funding the project)?
 - (b) How will partial funding affect the project?
- 3) New Business
 - a) Sunil's report on the Register Lecture selection process
 - i) Two professors have applied/are candidates.
 - (1) Committee chair will introduce at the event.
 - b) Update on faculty research applications
 - i) Sunil's office received two applications.

Notes taken by Gabe Davis.