

**University Enrichment Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 4, 2014, 8:00-8:50 a.m.**  
**Collins Memorial Library – Misner Room**

**Attendees:** Dawn Padula, Sara Shapiro, Kabir Jensen, Aaron Pomerantz, Jess Smith, Randy Worland, Sunil Kukreja, Erin Colbert-White, Terry Beck, Roger Allen

**Approval of minutes:** Minutes from October 7, 2014 were approved following a passed motion to delete the following line: “In addition, Grove funding for OT/PT students is running low, causing OT/PT students to increasingly turn to the UE for research funding support.” The line was omitted because the Grove Fund no longer exists.

**Announcements:** Chair Dawn Padula reminded everyone of the UEC-sponsored Register Lecture on November 13 at 7:30pm in the Tahoma Room. Attendance was encouraged. Padula also reminded everyone of the student research deadline (Nov 7) and faculty research deadline (Dec 1). Sara Shapiro (chair of student research subcommittee) announced she would be contacting subcommittee members soon.

**Old Business:**

**1. BTF Proposal**

The proposal was submitted October 31. The final proposal asked for \$50,000 to be divided up between faculty travel (\$35,000) and student research (\$15,000). Martin Jackson and Kris Bartanen will be adding the proposal to their academic proposal for the year.

**New Business:**

**1. Senate Charge #4**

*Formalize and publicize rules for a streamlined application for UEC summer research support.*

Discussion of Streamlining the Application

Currently, students applying for summer research stipends have a very brief turn-around time to apply for summer UEC funding, which could be frustrating. One proposed solution was to add a footnote to the UEC application explaining that funded summer students can submit their original summer stipend application with a cover letter stating 1) that they secured summer funding, and 2) why they are requesting the additional UEC funds. To streamline this idea even further, there was a suggestion to add a yes/no checkbox on pg. 1 of the UEC application asking, “Did you secure a summer research award?” Another suggestion proposed a checkbox asking for clarification of the new budget and confirmation from the student/faculty that the project can still be completed with \$500 in the event additional funding such as McCormick grants were not awarded to the summer student.

Padula and Sunil Kukreja will meet with Leslie Saucedo (who oversees Summer Research Awards in Science/Mathematics) to discuss changes that would work best for both parties. Suggestions will be brought back to the UEC for approval.

### Discussion of IACUC Modification

Erin Colbert-White raised a concern regarding the UEC application's ambiguity surrounding IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee) approval. There is no explicit mentioning of obtaining IACUC approval prior to disbursement of funds. Erin offered to amend the proposal with IACUC committee member Alyce DeMarais' help. The UEC will review the changes at the next meeting.

### **2. Senate Charge #3**

*Investigating the feasibility and desirability of implementing three separate application deadlines for three separate funding periods.*

This would divide the UEC budget into thirds—fall deadline (November) for spring research, spring deadline (April) for summer research, and a new third deadline (TBD) for fall research. Discussion centered on when this new deadline would be, and whether the fall deadline should then be pushed back to accommodate it. Some members suggested having the fall research deadline be in early September to allow UEC committee members time to get settled and to allow for training of new members to read proposals. The point was raised that if a student signs up for one unit of fall research, then cannot conduct their research because they are not awarded UEC funding, that student would be stuck finding a fourth class after the semester has already started. To avoid this, ideas were proposed either to have a skeleton UEC committee from the previous year read proposals in August, or to have fall proposals due with summer proposals (April), but not announce award recipients until the new fiscal year starts.

Student members Aaron Pomerantz and Kabir Jensen added that if the fall research opportunity was publicized, students would put in the work to meet an August deadline. Without publicizing, an August deadline probably wouldn't draw many students. They also shared that an August 15 deadline would definitely require students to hit the ground running, but that if the students were motivated to conduct research, they would meet the deadline.

During the next meeting, committee members will look at a calendar to see where the "early bird" fall research deadline should be.

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Colbert-White  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology