

University Research Council

April 21, 2020

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Approved

Present: Maryam Ahmed, Becki Battista, Elaine Berry, Sarah Evans, Beth Fiske, Karen Fletcher, Tracy Goodson-Espy, Marie Hoepfl, Charna Howson, Alecia Jackson, Ece Karatan, Gary McCullough, Pam Mitchem, Andrew Monroe, Julia Pedigo, Abhi Ramalingam, Twila Wingrove

Excused: Erin Bouldin, Andrew Caldwell, Rebecca Witter

Absent:

Staff: Kate Hoffman

➤ Ece Karatan called the meeting to order.

➤ Motion (McCullough, Jackson) to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2020 meeting as amended. VOTE: 14 – Approved, 0 Opposed, 3 – Abstained. Motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS: Spring 2020 URC AWARDS

The top ten applications have been identified. Members may motion to fund the ten for a total of \$46,935 or select one more to fund for a total of eleven.

Motion 1 (McCullough, Monroe) Fund the top 10 and fund one additional proposal by highest vote. Motion passes and Dr. Ratchford application funded for a \$51,935 total funding package . VOTE: 15 – Approved, 0 Opposed, 2 – Abstained. Motion passes.

- Award recommendations from the Arts & Humanities review panel:
 - Hagan Gelber, Cara (Theatre and Dance) – \$4,582 - “Epoch | Era | Eon”
 - Reed, Randy (Philosophy and Religion) - \$4,998 - “Digital Jesus: Using Artificial Intelligence to Advance Biblical Studies”

- Award recommendations from the Social Sciences, Business and Education review panel:
 - Bro, Aniseh (Sustainable Development) - \$4,985 - “Understanding Guatemalan Coffee Producers’ Perceptions of and Responses to Climate Change”
 - Holman, Lynette (Communication) - \$4,300 - “Climate Change Storytelling: The Effects of Exemplification, Vividness and Narratives on Perceptions of Risk, Attitudes and Intended Behaviors”
 - Lakey, Emily (Communication Sciences and Disorders) - \$3,408 – “Let’s Make a Band! Connecting Interprofessional Learning Opportunities and Community Partnerships through an Inclusive Summer Camp Experiences”
 - Page, Amy (Sociology) - \$4,960 – “Assessing the Prevalence and Experiences of End-of-Life Doulas”

- Award recommendations from the STEM review panel:
 - Foroughi, Reza (Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment) - \$4,780 – “Adaptable Solar Shades for Small Commercial Buildings”
 - Rose, Annkatrin (Biology) - \$4,975 - “Isolation and Characterization Of Endophytes from Shining Clubmoss (Huperzia Lucidula)”

- Award recommendations from the Health review panel:
 - Chapman, Laura (Communication Sciences and Disorders) - \$4,987 - “ Does a Measure of Cognitive Effort Distinguish People with and without Cognitive Decline: a Pupillometric Study of Language Tasks”
 - Marler, Gregory (Nursing) – \$4,960 – “An Epidemiological Study of the Work, Safety, and Health of U.S. Long-haul Truck Drivers”
 - Ratchford, Stephen (Health and Exercise Science) – \$5,000 “Cardiac Rehabilitation to Improve Muscle Metabolism-Perfusion in Patients with HFpEF”

DISCUSSION ON COVID-19 IMPACT ON RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY - Ece Karatan

The [Continuity of Research, Creative, and Scholarly Activities website](#) has been created as a guide. All expenditure approvals are controlled by Paul Forte of Business Affairs. URC funds are flexible, but this funding can be absorbed by the state. Flexibility with the use of these funds will be granted to the extent possible.

Students are currently not working on grants. Funding is being drained by emergency leave pay to them. If possible, Office of Research will reimburse for this expense. Thus, these expenses need to be tracked. If research can be expanded and performed remotely, please submit a project modification.

The authorization to perform field work and return to labs is determined by the Chancellor. Office of Research is closely monitoring this and is establishing guidelines for field work for the Provost's review (safe distancing, safety contact if alone in the field, etc.). Multiple scenarios are covered in the return plan proposal.

Although some projects are time sensitive, please submit URC applications for review. Then, those concerns will be addressed and adjusted if necessary through scope modifications.

In Music there have been cancelled performances. Is credit still given? This is a question for the chairs to bring to Vice Provost Jacqui Bergman and Interim Provost Heather Norris.

Human Subjects research that cannot be done remotely is currently on pause. Some research projects can be converted to use online surveys.

All hires are approved by Chancellor Everts from a list provided by Provost Norris. Marie Hoepfl states that the Graduate School has blanket approval to hire graduate students who work remotely.

Adjournment (Pedigo, Goodson-Espy) at 5:23 pm