Committee Report Academic Year 2011-2012

Faculty Senate Research Committee

April 10, 2012

The research committee worked to resolve ongoing challenges that affect research at Clemson University, from hiring processes of personnel that impact research to instrumentation infrastructure and copyright issues. The current status is provided for each of the major challenges.

a) Single/limited Submission proposals: The process in which the University selects proposals in cases where only limited numbers of submission per university are accepted by the funding agencies does not include expert advice, the decision process is not transparent, and the proposer does not get helpful input.

Current Status: 1) A committee has been established by the Research Council to revisit the current procedures and suggest improvements. The committee is to report back to the VPR by May 1est. 2) A dialog was opened with the team at the provost office whose expertise lie in communication with foundations.

b) Hiring of adjunct professors: there is currently a large number of requirements that impede hiring of adjunct faculty to serve on graduate students’ dissertation committees.

Current Status: The issue was discussed with the D. Jackson at the provost office at the beginning of the academic year. Concerns regarding changes from accreditation point of view were presented. We have proposed to substitute the requirement for transcripts with a letter from current employer that outlines credentials. This procedure is implemented by several recently SACS accredited schools and could be easily implemented. We are still waiting to hear about possible improvements.

c) Intellectual Property (IP) Policy: the language of the current IP policy includes contradicting statements regarding a variety of issues such as copyright and ownership of intellectual properties and others that require clarifications/corrections. Some of these issues were jointly addressed by several committees and the university attorney.

Current Status: IP and copy-right issues have been discussed with CURF attorney together with the policy committee. We are waiting for input.

d) Infrastructure and Research support: a- Enhancing the capabilities of university instrumentation facilities in terms of new instruments for multiple users, maintenance and technical support. b- The support faculty receive for proposal development and submission is not even across the
university. In some colleges the pre-award office is extremely helpful while in others, it hardly exists.

**Current Status:** The VPR has taken significant steps to improve the research infra structure and has a plan for further improvements.

e) Revisit of past issues: While a simplified reasonable postdoctoral hiring protocol was established by the research committee, Clemson HR (with an OK from CU Access and Equity office) and the provost, about two year ago, it was not implemented.

**Current Status:** We could not find why the new protocol is on hold.