**UNL Research Council**

**February 27, 2012**

**MINUTES**

***Present:***  Professors Ferguson, Hoff, Kamble, Ladunga, Marx, Sarroub, Shipley, Swearer and AVCR Hamernik

***Absent:*** Professors Albrecht, Bloom, Ford and Gonzalez-Allende

***Call to order:*** Swearer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

***Approval of Minutes, January 10, 2012 Meeting:*** Motion made to accept the minutes as distributed. Motion seconded and approved.

***Evaluation/Scoring Form Review***: A draft evaluation form for Interdisciplinary grants was distributed for review. Swearer said an evaluation form is being considered in response to faculty members requesting feedback on their proposals. Hamernik created the form using the information currently on our website that could be used as a mechanism for feedback. A form for each category will help summarize and streamline the process. A consensus statement can be added on the second page if reviewers choose to do so. Swearer asked for comments.

Subcommittee members would complete an evaluation sheet for each proposal they review. The form is a good way to organize the discussion, and comments from all reviewers could be combined into one form. The chair of each subcommittee would collect all evaluation forms at the conclusion of the review process, and the forms would be sent back to the Research Council office for distribution to the faculty member when the award and declination letters are sent.

Discussion held on wording changes. Suggest we remove the word “scientific” from bullet #1. Scientific may not apply to all applications. Suggestion to say Scientific/Scholarly and it covers both. It was decided bullet #1 will be worded “Merit and Relevance”. Ladunga suggested we include “publications” in the 3rd sentence under bullet #1.

Discussion held on bullet #3. Not every faculty member is going to be able to obtain outside funding, particularly in the Humanities. Should this be deleted? Hoff said it is extremely difficult to get outside funding for some areas in the Humanities. Discussion held on whether or not we can monitor if faculty members apply for external funding. Hamernik said they do monitor it on the Layman competition. Ferguson asked about acknowledging the effort, even if they haven’t been successful with outside funding. Kamble suggested we submit this form to VC Paul and see what he suggests. Hamernik will check with Paul.

Discussion held on the points assigned to each category. It was decided bullet #1 will receive 40 points and bullets #2-4 will each receive 20 points. These changes will be incorporated into the form and Peg will send to Council members for further review and approval.

***Spring Nebraska Lecture Confirmed:*** Jo Potuto will give the spring Nebraska Lecture March 28, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. in the City Campus Union. Swearer will moderate. Hoff suggested we invite Tom Osborne to the lecture as he provided information for the nomination. It was suggested either VC Paul or Swearer contact Osborne to invite him to the lecture.

***Announcements:*** The Visiting Scholar/Symposia/Distinguished Lecturer spring applications are due March 19, 2012.

It was decided a March meeting is not needed. An April meeting will be scheduled to vote on the applications received for the March 19th deadline.

***Adjournment:*** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.