**UNL Research Council**

**November 25, 2014, 344A Whittier Research Center**

**MINUTES**

***Present:*** Professors Awada, Azzam, Burnett, Christensen, Dawes, Hachtmann, Jones, Olson, Powers, Soh, Zhang and AVCR Goddard.

***Call to Orde*r:** Awada called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

***Approval of Minutes September 24, 2014:***  Motion made to accept the minutes as distributed. Motion seconded and approved.

***Recommendations for Funding:***

**Grants-in-Aid:** Powers and Jones discussed their recommendations and the scoring process they used. If funds are available, there’s one additional application that they would recommend funding. After additional discussion on the applications, a motion was made to fund 8 applications for a total of $51,700. The motion was seconded and approved. **Faculty Seed Grants subcommittee 1:** Dawes gave the committee’s recommendations regarding the top 4 applications that they’d fund those for sure. If funds are available, they’d like to fund an additional 3 applications. After discussion on the additional three, a motion was made to fund a total of 6 applications for $59,996. The motion was seconded and approved. **Faculty Seed Grants subcommittee 2:** Burnett gave the committee’s recommendations regarding their top 5 applications and they’d recommend one more, if funds were available. Brief discussion on the funds available. A motion was made to fund 6 applications for a total of $59,809. The motion was seconded and approved. AVCR Goddard reminded the members that not all funds need to be used. Money can be saved and carried over to next year.

**Interdisciplinary Grants:** Christensen explained the committee’s recommendation for funding 4 applications. One application was requesting $5,504 over the normal $20,000. The committee found that the budget was reasonable for this research/application. A motion was made to fund the 4 applications for a total of $85,504. The motion was seconded and approved. **Visiting Scholars:** Azzam and Olson discussed their recommendations and said they would have funded more, if funds were available. There was also discussion regarding the difficulty in judging application that use “research” language. There was discussion on the funds available. A motion was made to fund 6 applications for a total of $4439.79. Motion seconded and approved. **Symposium/Distinguished Lecturer:** Azzam and Olson recommended funding three of the five applications submitted in this category. After a brief discussion about the funds that were available, a motion was made to fund the three applications for a total of $6,000. Motion seconded and approved.

There was discussion about the evaluation forms being used, the wording on the forms is not efficient for some the submitted proposals, i.e. department of music. There was also discussion about the funding amounts for each category. Awada talked about possibly re-evaluating the amounts for some categories. AVCR Goddard brought up the point that the funds we receive from the Foundation stays about the same each year, if you raise the amount of funding available for each proposal, then you decide if you want to fund less proposals or keep the amounts the same and fund more proposals. Brief discussion on possibly raising the amount of funding for the Grants-in-Aid to the same as the Faculty Seed Grants, $10,000.

***Topics for Future Meetings:*** The faculty requirements listed on the RFP’s.

***Adjournment:*** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.