**UNL Research Council**

**October 3, 2013, 344A Whittier Research Center**

**MINUTES**

***Present:*** Professors Awada, Azzam, Burnett, Enders, Ferguson, Gonzalez-Allende, Hachtmann, Powers, Sarroub, Soh and AVC Werum.

***Call to Orde*r:** Sarroub called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

***Approval of Minutes April 23, 2013:***  Motion made to accept the minutes as distributed. Motion seconded and approved.

***Introductions:*** Sarroub welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked them to state their names, departments, and how long they’d been at the university and on the Research Council.

***Comments/plans for the coming year:*** Sarroub talked briefly about her expectations on what the Council could accomplish this year. Sarroub would like to continue the discussion on mentoring that was started last year. Sarroub said she would try to send out the agendas for the monthly meetings one to two weeks ahead of time.

***Internal Grants for 2013-14:*** Sarroub went over the committee assignments for everyone. The budget amounts for each committee is listed in the handouts; if there’s a sub-committee, then each will get half of the amount listed. Sarroub reminded the members to review the application criteria carefully for each category; pay close attention to the requirements for generating external funding. After reviewing assigned applications, the sub-committee members should meet with the committee chair. Council members are to use the evaluation forms to critique each application. The critiques (with reviewer names deleted) would be shared with the applicants when the award/decline letters are sent out.

Sarroub would like each committee chair to bring their committee reports/funding recommendations to the November meeting, so they can be voted on. If possible, please send your recommendations to Sarroub prior to the meeting.

***Research Council RFA’s:***  Werum said updates to the RFA’s for internal competitions continue and should be completed in just a matter of time. She is currently looking at changing the language regarding eligibility criteria for Professor of Practice, etc., since the university has changed guidelines for those positions. The Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED) would like to use the review template that is currently used in NUgrant for Research Council awards for other internal award competitions, if that is okay with the members. Brief discussion was held, resulting in a consensus for ORED to use the same review template for other internal competitions.

***Nebraska Lecture Series:*** Sarroub encouraged all Council members to attend the *Nebraska Lecture* on November 7 at 3:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Auditorium. The featured speaker will be Susan Swearer, “Creating a Kinder World: Empowering Youth to End Bullying”.

***Other items:*** Sarroub had everyone look at their calendars to try and schedule the November and December meetings. After discussion, the November meeting will be held on November 18 at 2:00 p.m. in either the Alexander West Building or the Whittier building (depending on availability). Sarroub would like everyone to allow two hours for this meeting, even though it may not take that long. Azzam said he would be out of the country at this time, but could join the meeting via Skype. The December meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 9 at 2:00 p.m., location to be determined.

AVC Werum announced a new internal competition called the “Revision Awards” that will be up to $50,000; the submission deadline is December 2. It will be for faculty that had submitted proposals to a funding agency, had it reviewed and received feedback, but were not successful in obtaining funding. ORED will work with the faculty to revise the proposals using the feedback that was received from the reviewers, then they would resubmit the proposals. Werum also announced the RFA for the Pathway to Interdisciplinary Research Center is currently being revised. Phase II and Phase III applications are not being accepted.

***Adjournment:*** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.