

Research Council Minutes
Thursday, April 28, 2011
2:00-3:00 p.m.
214 Hamilton Hall

✓ McCoy, Tom	✓ Johnson, Cheryl	Shaw, Joe – on telephone
✓ Black, Laura	Kuntz, Sandy – on telephone	Whitlock, Cathy-unavailable
✓ Cloninger, Mary	✓ Gee, Regina	
✓ Douglas, Trevor	✓ Jutila, Mark	✓ Potvin, Martha
Erickson, Joanne – unavailable	Marley, Robert – unavailable	Yarnell, Allen-unavailable
Hays, Rick – on telephone	Pascual, David - unavailable	✓ Fox, Carl

VISITORS: Brian Rossmann and John Neumeier

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes of April 7, 2011 meeting - approved
- III. Information/Announcements
 - **CANCELLED: Thursday, May 19, 2011, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in 214 Hamilton Hall**
- IV. Topics for Discussion
 - Enhancing Graduate Education – finalize recommendations and send to President Cruzado by April 29, 2011
 - i) Dr. McCoy presented draft of RC recommendations letter that will be sent to President Cruzado and asked that the members review and critique.
 - ii) Suggestions and discussion regarding providing the letter as an executive summary, along with background documents reflecting supporting data.
 - iii) Data suggestions:
 - a. Include current GRA/GTA stipend data
 - b. Include data comparisons with national/peer institutions, specifically UofMT
 - c. Include what impact recommendations will have on retention and quality of students
 - iv) Revisions suggestions:
 - a. Include suggestion to improve intellectual climate on campus by bringing in top-notch scientists as speakers for students to hear/experience.
 - b. Define issues, then offer solutions/recommendations
 - c. Include or not?: information about professional masters programs/professional doctorate programs (MSU has Accountancy, Nursing, Engineering that have professional masters programs)

- d. Include what impact recommendations will have on retention and quality of students
- e. Include expected accomplishments from recommendations
- f. Include recommendation that every college have an Associate Dean for Research Enhancement that would be responsible for enhancing graduate education/production
- g. Include recommendation that Deans include in their annual assessment of department heads that department's PhD production/graduate education
- h. Bridge funding will help address retention
- v) Discussion:
 - a. The Graduate School goal is to track students who did not complete program
 - a. For any enhancement/incentive funds, requirement for proposals from department heads detailing use
 - b. Recommendations focus all on students, but need to consider faculty, improve quality of faculty
 - c. MSU has many small departments that may have smaller PhD production numbers and may not have matching funds to write proposals for enhancement/incentive funds
- vi) Plan:
 - a. Review/critique McCoy/Fox draft of letter and Fox document, Doctoral Degree Enhancement Proposal, then using track change, email comments/revisions/suggestions to McCoy/Fox
 - b. Target: Provide Executive Summary and Background Data to President Cruzado by early week of May 2

V. Discussion Topics for June 2nd meeting

- Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research
- Setting targets for OSP expenditures
- Social Sciences Initiative

VI. Discussion Topics for Fall Semester meetings

- Research Council Membership: selection processes, membership structure, etc.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 2, 2011, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in 214 Hamilton Hall