

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2014 MEETING

I. Time, Location and Attendance:

- 3:00PM, Plaza Room at Administrative Center
- RAC members present: Vice Chancellor Lawrence Dreyfus, James Brazeal, Chris Holman, Alex Binder, Jacob Marszalek, Robert Groene, Marilyn Yoder, Reza Derakhshani, Anil Kumar, Anthony Caruso, Virginia Blanton, Mark Johnson, Kathleen Kilway, Lorelei Sells, Maureen Hannoun, and Leslie Burgess. Absent: Provost Gail Hackett, Jenny Lundgren, Richard Arend, Brenda Dingley, Patricia Kelly, John Wang, Chris Winders, Denis Medeiros, and Bob Simmons.

II. Interdisciplinary – Intercampus Grants Program 2014

- Dr. Dreyfus reported that the IDIC funding program launched last year among the four University of Missouri campuses has now been reinstated. A total of up to \$1M in funding will be awarded with each campus receiving up to \$250K. A draft for the call of proposals was handed out to council members and Dr. Dreyfus noted that the scope of eligibility has broadened. The due dates have also changed, with proposals due in May and the award notification given in June. A poster presentation of the results will then be held in September.

III. Medicinal Chemistry Group – Intercampus Grants Program 2014

- A proposal was made by UMSL's Nasser Arshadi to look at ways to increase cross-campus research expertise in a particular area. Dr. Dreyfus explained that UMSL has a terrific Medicinal Chemistry group with excellent synthesis and analysis facilities and each campus would contribute \$20K to support faculty synthetic medicinal chemistry research on their own campus. He said that moving forward the program would look at the cooperative strengths that each campus offers within the system. He noted a few examples for UMKC, such as Computational Services, Bioinformatics Services, etc. He said he will have further information on the group distributed to RAC members by email.

IV. FastTrack Funding Program

- Dr. Dreyfus explained that this is a program where proposals can seek funds up to \$50K toward the development of intellectual properties. Last year UMKC received 3 awards. For 2014, the final awards will be determined by a pitch competition where each entrepreneur investigator will propose his or her idea to a panel of judges. Each campus will submit the 4 or 5 best applications as determined by the pitch competition. Dr. Dreyfus noted that the timeline is critical, and only those applicants with highly developed projects will be able to

participate. The proposals will be formatted in PowerPoint sets as slides of questions for each participant to complete, with the result being the pitch they present to the panel.

V. Annual Report

- Each attending council member received a copy of the Office of Research Service's 2013 Annual Report and it will be distributed on a limited basis on campus. Dr. Dreyfus noted that a PDF of the report, as well as archived copies, can be found on the ORS website's main page of <http://ors.umkc.edu/home> on the lower left side.

VI. Explore Research Brochure

- Dr. Dreyfus reported the publishing of the Explorer research brochure, with the first issue spotlighting 8 or 9 stories of research teams from UMKC. He said the issue covers a variety of disciplines whose investigators were nominated by the Dean of their unit. He noted that this edition features representation from Physics, Psychology, the School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, Biological Sciences, and Computer Science and Electrical Engineering. He said the publication will be published on an annual or biannual basis to highlight UMKC's latest research explorations. There will be a companion web component as well. He stated that the brochures will be distributed to RAC members at the next March meeting.

VII. IP Policy with Industrial Sponsors

- Dr. Dreyfus explained that the policy was introduced to the UM System by Hank Foley to help increase the rate of returns on patents while developing more prosperous relationships with industrial sponsors. He explained that the development of the policy was based on Dr. Foley's research and successful implementation of a similar program at Penn State University. Dr. Dreyfus noted that, historically, the university has sought to retain intellectual property rights during contract negotiations. The proposed policy would waive the Intellectual Property rights back to the industrial partners in hopes of creating greater sponsored research activity.

VIII. Office of Technology Transfer – James Brazeal

- James Brazeal presented the council with information for the Office of Technology Transfer. The presentation offered an overall view of the office functions and processes, as well its background at UMKC. He explained that the department serves to identify new technologies in the University, protect technologies through patents and copyrights, market and license the technologies, and handle agreements that deal with intellectual property. The

PowerPoint presentation will be emailed to RAC members along with the meeting minutes.

- Following the presentation, Reza Derakhshani asked if the University's policies covered crowdfunding sources, such as Kickstarter. James explained that currently these types of resourcing aren't addressed, and Dr. Dreyfus said he planned on bringing it to the agenda of the next Research Officers' meeting. He said that ideally the UM System would develop its own crowd sourcing platform to ensure entity preservation and quality control.
- Anthony Caruso noted the overall lack of knowledge regarding the Office of Technology Transfer on campus and that the RAC could help raise awareness. James said he would be happy to meet with departments and faculty to provide this presentation and answer any questions.

VIII. Graduate Student Representative

- Dr. Dreyfus welcomed Alex Binder as the RAC's newest *Ex Officio* member and Graduate Student Representative. Alex introduced himself, saying he is an I-PhD candidate in Economics and Social Sciences. He is also the Treasurer of the IDSC (Interdisciplinary Doctoral Student Council) and a representative to the SAFC (Student Activity Fee Committee), a wing of the SGA.

X. Faculty Grants Program

- Dr. Dreyfus reported that a subcommittee was formed to address the development of a faculty grants program on campus. The RAC volunteer group members are Dr. Dreyfus, Lorelei Sells, Mark Johnson, Anthony Caruso, Jenny Lundgren, Kathleen Kilway, Virginia Blanton, Anil Kumar, and Marilyn Yoder. He said the group met twice in January to devise the guidelines and elements of the new program. RAC Members received handouts with highlights of the design, called the Funding for Excellence Grant Program. He explained that the new approach would have a high emphasis on deliverables with greater accountability measures. It will also focus on the elevation and enhancement of UMKC's research and reputation, with cross-campus inclusion of units, such as Humanities.
- Dr. Dreyfus noted an increase in funding from \$7K to \$15K per award. The overall funding pool will be \$200K, a combination of equal contributions of F&A (off the top) and (hopefully) State appropriation (or some other centrally funded mechanism). His next step will be to seek approval from the University Budget Committee (UBC) and then the Chancellor. Dr. Dreyfus concluded that the subcommittee is finalizing a draft for the program proposal that will then be sent to the RAC members for input. He will then develop a pitch for the UCB in which he may ask a few RAC members to join.