

Report of the GU8 Joint Research Committee to the Council of Presidents September 2008

The fourth JRC meeting was held on June 26-27, 2008 in Le Havre, France. The committee agreed to the following items:

First, the JRC reviewed and revised the GU8 Five-Year Research Roadmap to enhance further the linkages between JRC collaborative research initiatives with regional, federal government, and non-governmental organization strategic research and economic development goals.

Second, in order to better address critical issues that bear on international collaborative research such as continuity, sustainability, and revenue generation and allocation, the JRC voted to approve the JRC Joint Task Force Initiative for presentation at the Fifth Meeting of the GU8 Council of Presidents for their approval. The Joint Task Force Initiative is proposed as a means to identify broad research themes that are supported by high levels of GU8 expertise, have potential to become sustainable, and have commercial value. The Initiative provides a uniform process for evaluation and selection of research proposals that seek support from the GU8.

Third, a proposal to establish the JRC Joint Task Force on Future Supply Chains: Issues, Design, Configurations was approved by the JRC for presentation at the Fifth Meeting of the GU8 Council of Presidents for their approval. The proposal stems from the JRC workshop on Best Practices in Global Logistics held in Hawaii on March, 2008 with representation from the following member universities: Inha, RMIT, Hull, Le Harve, URI, and Hawaii attending.

Fourth, as directed by the COP 2007 Declaration, the JRC voted to approve the GU8 Intellectual Property Policy and to present the Policy at the Fifth Meeting of the GU8 Council of Presidents for their approval. The GU8 IP Policy aims to take advantage of collective GU8 intellectual property (IP) for the purpose of generating revenue in support of JRC Joint Task Force research and researchers, undergraduate and graduate student initiatives, and to sustain future research collaborations. Among the goals of the GU8 IP Policy is to create portfolios of technologies that would lead to GU8 attainment of preferred vendor status, and to target government, corporations, and non-governmental organizations.

Fifth, as directed by the COP 2008 Declaration, the JRC voted to approve the GU8 Foundation Policy and to present the Policy at the Fifth Meeting of the GU8 Council of Presidents for their approval. . The basic goal of the GU8 Foundation is to receive, obtain, hold, and distribute funds.

Sixth, in the spring of 2009, the JRC will sponsor a workshop entitled “Marine Affairs – A Bridge for Peace” to be held in Haifa, Israel. The lead organizers of the upcoming Haifa workshop are Dr. Uri Schattner (Haifa) and Dr. Mark Miller (U. Washington). The workshop stems from initial collaborative efforts that began during the April 2008 Marine Affairs workshop held at URI with representation from the following member universities: Inha, Xiamen, Haifa, Le Havre, Hull, Washington, and URI in addition to industry and government representatives. The URI workshop drew over 35 participants. The final session was open to the general public and drew over 60 attendees from the local community.

Seventh, the JRC voted unanimously to accept the nomination of Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Research and Enterprise Barry Winn (Hull) to serve as Vice Chair of the JRC through June 2009. Dr. Winn will replace Dr. Peter Alfonso, Vice President for Research and Economic Development (URI), as the JRC chair in June, 2009.