

**Council for Outreach**  
**Minutes**  
**February 28, 2001**  
**8:30pm Library, Conference Room B**

TO: J. Trubatch, H. Bibb, J. Boulmetis, W. Bowers, K. Castro, A. Colt, G. Delodzia, T. Dougan, M. Feld, D. Grossman-Garber, S. Hickox, P. Logan, R. Lundgren, K. Mallon, M. McCarthy, T. Mitchell, A. Morrissey, M. Morreria, J. Pittle, K. Quina, T. Watson, P. Witham

The meeting was called to order at 8:45AM.

- I. The minutes of the December 12, 2000 meeting were approved.
- II. Janett Trubatch stated that she sits on the promotion and tenure advisory committee to the Provost and assures the Council that Outreach does count, very much, in the decision process. All the requisite areas, research, teaching and service, are considered by the committees, and considered seriously.
- III. Melissa McCarthy discussed the criteria package for the Outstanding Research and Outreach Luncheon. The Council decided that Melissa would come up with the criteria from the package and forward that to the Council with the nomination form. Marcia Morreria suggested that information should also be sent to the University community to increase the recognition of "Outreach". Janett stated that the Council for Research would take care of the Research nominations, that the application process would be completely separate but the luncheon would be together. This year the award will be a plaque and pen. George Delodzia suggested a monetary award. Janett suggested that Chuck and Melissa try to find sponsorship to pay for the awards. Sara discussed that the Foundation awards for Research, Teaching and Administrative, but they don't have an Outreach award. Janett said that Chuck would discuss with Bob Coleman of the Foundation to add Outreach to their awards. **\*Action Item.**
- IV. Janett discussed the lobbying firm working for URI in Washington and the State House. A general "URI Wish List" of the Deans was distributed to the Council. The firm is working for URI until June 30<sup>th</sup>. The URI agenda for this year is set, but Janett would like the Council to think about meaningful criteria for selecting what the univeristy will champion in the future.
- V. Janett discussed "Conflict of Interest" an article in the Wall Street Journal, and the series of articles from the Journal of the American Medical Association where it stated that faculty should not be involved in research that brings them personal gain, especially if they're working with human subjects. Also she was at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting where one member was aghast that a researcher from the university had controlling interest in a for-profit company that had potential in making money from their research. However the Bayh-Dole Act was passed to encourage commercialization of the results of research on the campus. In one sense, faculty that do research always have a personal gain from their research through publishing. Janett is concerned and how to manage this issue at our University. Chuck is in charge of Intellectual Property Development and brings in millions of dollars a year by taking the research that's happening and getting it into products and services that are useful to people. Chuck stated that it's entirely possible to follow Bayh-Dole without having this

conflict of interest. Bayh-Dole says that if there's an invention made at the university using federal funds that the university keeps title. Before Bayh-Dole that was not the case, the title went back to the federal government. But now we have title of an invention and here we have a patent that we can commercialize and it can be done through a completely independent company. The problem is if a faculty member's company, or one they are involved in, does the commercialization. The Council stated that this issue is more related to Research than Outreach. Chuck suggested that economic development of the state might be included in outreach. The Council further discussed examples from their areas of expertise regarding this issue, including consulting time and extra compensation.

- VI. Chuck Turtle discussed a recent Manufacturing Technologies Seminar that was organized and run by Melissa McCarthy and himself. He asked the Council for suggestions for future seminars and offered support and help in organizing seminars for Council members.
- VII. Melissa announced that the Providence Business Expo is April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. She discussed the plans for URI's involvement in the Expo and encouraged the Council and their students to attend.
- VIII. Janett briefed the Council on the Strategic Planning Committees progress.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00AM.