

University Enrichment Committee  
September 15, 2004  
Minutes

Present: Rob Beezer, Derek Buescher, Michael Casey, George Erving, John Finney, Lauren Hayslett, Diane Kelley, John McCuiston, Mark Reinitz, Amy Ryken, Eric Scharrer, David Smith, Ted Taranovski, Jeff Tepper.

Finney called the meeting to order shortly after 8:00 AM and presided over the selection of Ryken as Chair. Ryken then chaired the meeting. Beezer was selected as Secretary and subcommittee assignments were made as follows.

Faculty Research: Beezer, Casey, Erving, Finney, McCuiston, Reinitz

Undergraduate Student Research: Allured, Finney, Hayslett, Kelley, Scharrer, Smith

Graduate Student Research: Buescher, Finney, Ryken, Taranovski, Tepper, Yonkman

Finney presented an overview of the year's tasks. In addition to distributing travel and research monies, we will select a recipient of the Dirk Andrew Phibbs Award and select the Register Lecturer for Fall 2006. Doug Edwards will give the 2004 Register Lecture on November 9, while Mott Greene is the lecturer in 2005.

Ryken then solicited other topics the committee members would like to address this year.

Taranovski mentioned modifications to the research award guidelines, and Finney and Ryken replied that the outstanding issues had been resolved in the previous spring.

McCuiston asked about the propriety of a faculty member receiving a release unit for a semester when they knew they would not be employed at UPS in the subsequent year.

Beezer made an appeal for increased allocations to departments' travel funds. Finney felt this might be outside the scope of the committee's charges.

Buescher suggested that the committee might streamline some of its review procedures.

Taranovski would like to see the committee take a more thorough approach to the selection of the Register Lecturer.

Wish lists completed, Finney then reported on the state of the travel funds available for the committee to fund faculty travel. In the academic years 2001-02 and 2002-03 the fund had a surplus at the end of the year, which allowed all approved travel requests to be funded during the 2003-04 year, but left no surplus to carryover into this year. Requests for travel submitted during the summer have been approved at a higher rate than in previous years. Finney expects to be able to fund all requests for first trips, but is pessimistic about funding any second trips this year. There is also the possibility of allocating research funds for travel.

Extensive discussion about second trips followed, principally between Ryken, Tarnowski, Reinitz and Finney. Finney reminded the committee that no second trips were funded in the 1999-2000 academic year.

**ACTION** Taranovski moved, Kelly seconded, passed by acclamation: Ryken and Finney will study the status of travel funds for possible proposals to the Budget Task Force.

Finney approves most travel requests administratively. However, if he is unsure about how the committee might interpret the guidelines he will bring a travel request before the full committee. Such a request was submitted this summer -- at issue was the interpretation of whether reading separate chapters of a novel on four different occasions constituted "substantially the same paper or performance." There ensued some discussion, both for and against.

**ACTION** Reinitz moved, McCuiston seconded, passed with 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions: Reading a new chapter of a novel qualifies as a new presentation when applying for Conference Participation awards.

Meeting adjourned just before 9:00 AM.

Next meeting is October 20, 2004. Location to be announced.

Rob Beezer  
Secretary