

MINUTES
Grants Advisory Council
September 22, 2009
8:00 am
Janice Wyatt Conference Room
Kent Wyatt Hall

Present: Ann Lotven, John J. Green, Shelby Polk, Sarah Deason, Beverly Moon, Myrtis Tabb, Robin Boyles, Kendra Johnson-Whitehead

Sarah Deason, Director of Development for DSU Alumni – Foundation, was introduced as the newest Council member. Minutes from the last meeting held on April 7, 2009, were reviewed.

Grant award update was provided:

- 2008-2009 grant awards increased by 30%. Dr. Tabb commended everyone for their efforts on pushing the culture and importance of grants to secure funding.
- Overview of grant awards for 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Robin presented recommendations for revisions to the University policy on Grants and Contracts. Suggestions included:

- Including the University's federally negotiated indirect cost rate to the policy.
- Initiating a policy to ensure that all grant funded projects obtain IRB approval at the time of award notification to ensure IRB compliance of grant-funded projects.
- Adding graduate assistant and student worker compensation to the policy.
- Clarification on salaries and benefits paid from grants and ensuring compliance with federal regulations.

After discussion, it was determined that the best course of action would be for Robin to make suggested revisions and email to all advisory council members for their review and suggestions prior to submission to Cabinet for approval.

Interdisciplinary Travel was the focus topic for the brown bag lunch for the month of September which was co-facilitated by Continuing Studies. Several faculty members have expressed interest in taking students to domestic and foreign locations. An option to submit a proposal to the DOE for a Fulbright Small Groups Abroad project is being explored with Continuing Education.

Robin provided calendar updates including Grants Management Workshops to be held this week for all project directors of grant-funded projects; Dr. Alice Clark, Vice-Chancellor of Research and Sponsored Programs at the University of Mississippi will present to faculty and staff on securing grant funds for research and other projects.

Dr. Green announced the Center for Community & Economic Development has developed the Delta Evaluation & Support Institute that will provide evaluation services to any university or community-based project.

The council had a lengthy discussion on several areas of compliance. Robin is reviewing regulations and addressing compliance related to grant-funded projects. Council members agreed this is a growing area of concern and that we needed to ensure compliance in all areas.

A suggestion was also made to create research organizational flowchart.

Advisory Council agreed to meet bi-monthly. Next meeting will be scheduled to take place during the month November.