

## Research Challenge Committee February 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes

- Attendees:** Jerzy Sawicki, Chair  
Conor M'Lennan, Ex-Officio Member  
Joseph Han, Ex-Officio Member
- Ziona Austrian                      Nigamanth Sridhar  
Jesse Drucker                      Antonie van den Bogert  
Tim Long                              William Wilson  
Barsanjit Mazumder
- Absent/Excused:** Samantha Baskind              Justin Perry  
Anton Komar
- Guests:** Thomas Flannery, Director, Sponsored Programs and Research Services  
Laurie McCombs, Associate Director, Purchasing  
Michael Eames, Purchasing

Dr. Sawicki called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda for the February 10, 2014 Meeting  
Approved and seconded as written.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Meeting  
Approved and seconded as written.
3. Purchasing Presentation
  - Laurie McCombs and Michael Eames from the Purchasing Department provided RCC members with a presentation on purchasing policies and procedures. Policies regarding Short Order Forms, Purchase Requisitions, bidding processes, and quotes, as related to purchasing supplies for research were explained in detail to RCC members.
  - PIs and the Purchasing Department need to work together to ensure that quotes from the vendor include all charges for shipment of research supplies or equipment, including duty charges.
  - Amazon is not currently an authorized vendor because they will not accept Purchase Orders. RCC members questioned why PCards cannot be used for purchases from Amazon. At other universities PCards are given to faculty members as a requirement for all new external grants. Such requests have been denied at CSU. To discuss this issue, RCC members asked that Kathleen Murphy and/or Stephanie McHenry be invited to a future RCC meeting.
  - Online purchasing will be an option in the near future at CSU once the logistics are worked out.
4. Sponsored Programs and Research Services (SPRS) Updates

- The new Director of Sponsored Programs and Research Services, Thomas Flannery, provided RCC members with updates on the changes in SPRS related to the merger of pre- and post-awards.
- SPRS will be a one-stop shop for researchers.
- PIs will benefit from the merger with improved financial reporting, improved customer service, and better communication for pre- and post- awards between staff members and faculty.
- The goals for SPRS for 2014 include Cayuse training for the entire research community, improving the Grants Module in PeopleSoft, improving customer service, and maintaining compliance within the University.

5. Updates

- Effective July 1, 2014, PIs' portion of indirect cost (IDC) return earned on direct expenditures from sponsored research grants and contracts will be increased to 10%.

6. New Business

- Items to be included on the agenda for a future meeting include:
  - a. Kathleen Murphy, Assistant Vice President and Controller, and/or Stephanie McHenry, Vice President for Business Affairs and Finance, will be invited to discuss the possibility of distributing PCards to faculty members receiving external funding.
  - b. Bill Wilson, Chief Information Officer, IS&T, and Tim Long, Associate Vice President, Finance and Technology, may present SaaS (Software as a Service), which is being considered as a possible replacement for PeopleSoft.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.