

# Energy Resources Council Meeting

## Minutes

August 22, 2014

Energy Innovation Center

8 a.m. – noon

### CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m. by Chairman Paul Lang.

### ATTENDANCE:

#### ERC Members Present

Paul Lang, Carl Bauer, Tom Botts, Tom Lockhart, Dick McGinity, Dave True, Rob Wallace, Jeane Hull, Indy Burke and David Emery.

#### ERC Members Absent

Jim Anderson and Cindy Crane

#### SER Staff in Attendance

Mark Northam, Mary Byrnes, Diana Hulme, Don Roth, Rob Hurless, Abby Scott, Trish Steger, Catherine Harris, Rachel Ferrell, Pam Henderson, Nadia Kaliszewski and Emma Jane Alexander

#### Others Attending

Richard Horner, Jean Garrison, Mohammad Piri, Brett Befus and Marty Considine

### AGENDA:

- 1) Introduction of Dave True
- 2) Approval of agenda
- 3) Approval of minutes from May 23, 2014
- 4) College of Engineering Tier 1 update
- 5) High Bay Research Facility and Piri Lab updates
- 6) Nielson Energy Fellowships
- 7) Presentation -- Jean Garrison, UW Center for Global Studies
- 8) Division updates
- 9) University Plan IV (UP4) review
- 10) EORI update
- 11) Carbon Management Institute (CMI)
- 12) Financial update
- 13) New business/directions for next meeting

## 14) Adjournment

### MEETING DETAILS BY ITEM:

#### Introduction of Dave True

Chairman Lang introduced Dave True as the new ex-officio board member representing the UW Board of Trustees replacing Dave Palmerlee and welcomed UW President Dick McGinity to the meeting.

#### Approval of Agenda

*Action:* A motion was made by Representative Lockhart to accept the agenda as presented and seconded by Mr. Bauer. Motion passed without objection.

#### Approval of Minutes – May 23, 2014

*Action:* A motion was made by Mr. Bauer to accept the minutes from the May 23, 2014 meeting as presented; action seconded by Representative Lockhart. Motion passed without objection.

#### College of Engineering Tier One Update

*Summary:* Mr. Horner informed the board four clusters have been chosen for funding: Characterization & Enhanced Recovery from Unconventional Reservoirs, Improved Oil & Gas Recovery in Unconventional Reservoirs, Advanced Fuels & Chemicals from Wyoming Coal and Natural Gas Using Locally Sourced Mineral Catalysts, and Wyoming High Performance Computational Science and Engineering. The stage II design concept for the Engineering building has been accepted. Korn Ferry Senior Client Partner David Mead-Fox has been hired to assist with the CEAS dean search, additionally 25 faculty members will need to be hired. Appropriations and expenditures are under discussion with an emphasis on legal reporting and proper accounting structures. The second draft of the institutional marketing plan is in process. Mr. Horner stressed the need to craft a performance dashboard and to hire a performance manager.

*Comments:* Mr. Emery said the taskforce had discussed at length the list of staff needed and concluded temporary staff could potentially be hired to fill the urgent need and retain as needed. Chairman Lang expressed concern for the timeframe for completion of outstanding

issues. Mr. Horner said many of these items would be addressed at the upcoming meeting of the taskforce and rapid advancement should be forthcoming. Mr. Emery advised the board of the importance of hiring the new dean before making significant decisions. Mr. Bauer supported this statement as he felt the dean would be an important stakeholder whose input would be essential.

### **High Bay Research Facility Update**

*Summary:* Dr. Northam provided a presentation to the board outlining the facility's status update, site drawing details and funding requirements. (PowerPoint presentation available upon request.)

*Comments:* Mr. Bauer pointed out that a management reserve was built into the current budget.

### **Piri Lab Update**

*Summary:* Dr. Piri began his presentation by announcing the Hess Digital Rock Physics Lab has been acknowledged by peers worldwide as leading innovators in its research with as much as a 10-year lead in advancement over other universities. He then provided an overview of the current status of the lab and its ongoing research, as well as the future development for the growth of the laboratory. (PowerPoint presentation available upon request.)

*Comments:* Mr. Bauer responded to the strengths of the HDRP lab team and research by acknowledging the benefits to the University of Wyoming beyond research capabilities. He suggested this be integrated into the Tier 1 marketing plan. Mr. True inquired about the role of undergraduates in the lab. Dr. Piri explained students have the opportunity to develop skills via the lab work and receive wonderful exposure to new technology that positions them better to meet future industry needs.

### **Nielson Energy Fellowships**

*Summary:* The second draft of the Nielson Fellowship policy was presented to the board with recommended amendments. The board asked for an opportunity to review the document and postponed action until the November ERC meeting.

*Comments:* Ms. Hull suggested SER develop a document control process.

### **Presentation – Jean Garrison, UW Center for Global Studies**

*Summary:* Dr. Garrison provided a brief overview of the UW Center for Global Studies. The center provides faculty research opportunities, student research and international fieldwork, graduate fellowships and outreach, speakers and symposia at UW and around the state of Wyoming. Its focus is on the evolving international challenges in the following areas: 1) energy, water, and food security, 2) environment and national resources, 3) economics, finance and sustainable development, 4) ethics, human rights and justice and 5) leadership and governance in global policy. Recently, the center partnered with the School of Energy Resources to host the UW Center for Global Studies Conference. Dr. Garrison thanked the board for its support and welcomed it to engage with the center and to attend upcoming events.

## **Division Updates:**

### **Academics**

*Summary:* Dr. Roth reported enrollments have increased significantly. Currently, 95 students are enrolled. Graduates continue to be placed in well-paying positions upon graduation due in part to the excellent relationships developed through their internships with various companies. Dr. Northam acknowledged the strong effort and success of SER student coordinator, Pam Henderson. Dr. Roth informed the board of his assignment as associate director of the Consortium Agreement for the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) with Idaho Falls National Lab (INL) and provided the board with a copy of the initial agreement with INL.

*Comments:* Ms. Hull suggested a continued effort to grow the internship program would be extremely beneficial. Ms. Henderson said increased field trips for students hopefully will increase the potential for developing internships.

### **Research**

*Summary:* Ms. Hulme referred to the sample copy of the memorandum of agreement for the centers of excellence provided in the ERC notebook. She informed the board the two-year timeframe commitment was consistent with the biennium budget and formalizes SER's agreement with the centers. The agreements were initiated July 1, 2014. The Center for Economics and Public Policy has had a change of leadership. Dr. Robert Godby is the new director. Seven proposals were received for the recent request for proposals. Three two-year projects have been funded. Ms. Hulme introduced Emma Jane Alexander as the new manager for the Shell 3-D Visualization Lab. Ms. Alexander updated the board on the new initiatives for the 3-D Visualization Lab, which include a new tour-booking procedure, user feedback process, and development of an advisory team for management and technical support. Ms. Alexander would like to see the lab focus on more teaching and research components. She invited the board to visit the CAVE and view the current campus-modeling project. The project is currently under construction with the assistance of three interns.

*Comments:* None

## **Outreach**

*Summary:* Ms. Byrnes distributed a copy of the initial draft of the SER Annual Report 2014 for the board to review and make comments. Ms. Kaliszewski presented the upcoming outreach events to the board and emphasized the Distinguished Speaker series. The Clean Coal Conference 2015 is being planned for the first week in October 2015 and will be held at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, Wyoming. She also advised the board SER marketing materials are being updated and will become available within the next few months.

*Comments:* Chairman Lang inquired about attendance at the outreach events. Ms. Kaliszewski informed the board of the growing interest in the events and the outstanding participation at the Distinguished Speakers programs. Chairman Lang recommended the board review the SER annual report and provide its feedback to Ms. Byrnes by September 9, 2014. The report is due for submission by September 30, 2014.

## **University Plan IV (UP4) Review**

*Summary:* Dr. Northam advised the board the University Plan IV (UP4) is under review and provided a status update of the project. The UP4 is a strategic plan for the entire university. SER will provide a history of its goals and strategic plans with an emphasis on tactical applications for accomplishing them. It is being updated to incorporate the Tier I initiative. The UP4 should be complete and ready to present to the board at the November ERC meeting.

*Comments:* Chairman Lang recommended the plan should stay the course on the goals set forth by the ERC. Representative Lockhart indicated his concern in regard to workload and the need to balance the SER priorities without overburdening the staff. It was suggested that it was necessary to identify new staff early and provide resources as well as mentoring.

## **EORI Update**

*Summary:* Mr. Hurlless informed the board of the current status of the Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute. The institute is not currently meeting its legislative mandates in his assessment. This matter is under review by the Enhanced Oil commission. There is a need to refocus the vision statement going forward. Staff has decreased from 17 employees to 11 employees. The loss has been mostly senior staff. There are no budgetary concerns or issues. The search for a new director is in process, and a meeting has been planned with the commissioners to strategize a way forward.

*Comments:* Dr. Northam agreed EORI needed to refocus to meet the needs of the state of Wyoming. He also stated the commissioners were working hard to re-establish the mission and improve communication with SER.

### **Carbon Management Institute**

*Summary:* Mr. Bauer advised the board CERC Phase I is coming to a close at the end of the calendar year, and it has been proposed that CERC Phase II be authorized. A decision will be made in early Fall 2014. This will allow further funding for the Carbon Management Institute (CMI). CMI continues its plan to move its mission beyond carbon capture and into carbon separation and capture technology. The CERC partnership has proven beneficial to the University of Wyoming by providing excellent recognition and technical insights, which are directly transferable to the geology of the state of Wyoming. Mr. Bauer provided a copy of his report, **Meeting Global Carbon Reduction Goals**, for the board to review. It is his hope this report will launch a meaningful dialogue regarding future actions to address new and upcoming EPA regulations. He concluded his update by providing feedback on the Clean Coal Symposium 2014. Mr. Bauer was a moderator for this event. In his assessment, he felt there was great improvement in the quality of the presentations and excellent engagement by participants in the Clean Coal Symposium.

*Comments:* Dr. Northam suggested the report be withheld from further circulation while it was still in its draft form.

### **Financial Update**

*Summary:* Dr. Northam reported the SER FY13/14 operating budget has been well expended. Changes to the SER FY15/16 operating budget will reflect \$1 million in reserve and increase in payroll. An audit was completed in FY14 and another one may be conducted for FY15.

*Comments:* Representative Lockhart suggested that an internal audit be performed in preparation for the external audit.

### **New Business/Directions for Next Meeting**

*Summary:* The board was provided with a proposed schedule for the meeting dates for FY15 and FY16. Chairman Lang requested the members review the dates for any conflicts and directed Ms. Steger to poll the board via email to ascertain the best dates for future meetings.

## Adjournment

The board adjourned the regular meeting to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters at approximately 11:37 a.m.; the board concluded the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Paul Lang  
Chairman

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Tom Lockhart  
Vice-Chairman