

Energy Resources Council Meeting

Draft Minutes

November 14, 2014

Energy Innovation Center

8 a.m. – noon

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 8:08 a.m. by Chairman Paul Lang.

ATTENDANCE:

ERC Members Present

Paul Lang, Jim Anderson, Carl Bauer, Tom Botts, Cindy Crane, Tom Lockhart, and Jeane Hull

ERC Members Absent

Dick McGinity, Dave True, David Emery, Indie Burke and Rob Wallace

SER Staff in Attendance

Mark Northam, Mary Byrnes, Diana Hulme, Don Roth, Rob Hurless, Abby Scott, Trish Steger, Catherine Harris, Sarah Ramsey-Walter and Rachel Ferrell

Others Attending

Richard Horner, Ben Blalock, Brett Befus, Al Rodi, and Krista Laursen

AGENDA:

- 1) **Approval of Agenda**
- 2) **Approval of August 22, 2014 Minutes**
- 3) **College of Engineering Tier One Update**
- 4) **High Bay Research Facility Update**
- 5) **Board of Trustee Feedback Discussion**
- 6) **UW Joins Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Details**
- 7) **Fundraising & State Match**
- 8) **Nielson Energy Fellowships Final Review & Action**
- 9) **Division Updates**
 - A) **Academic**
 - B) **Research**
 - C) **Outreach**
- 10) **Recruitment**

- **Recruiting College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS) Dean**
 - **Petroleum & Engineering Department Head**
 - **Faculty**
 - **Institute of Carbon Management Director**
 - **Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Director**
 - **SER Assistant Director**
- 11) **EORI**
- 12) **FY 15-16 Financial Update**
- 13) **Strategies for the Future**
- **New Research Directions**
 - **FY17-18 Budget Preparation**
- 14) **New Business/Directions for Next Meeting**
- 15) **Adjournment**

MEETING DETAILS BY ITEM:

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes – August 22, 2014

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

College of Engineering Tier One Update

Summary: Dr. Rodi provided a presentation to the board outlining faculty recruitment needs, collaboration with the School of Energy Resources and strategic goals. (PowerPoint presentation available upon request.)

Comments: None

High Bay Research Facility Update

Summary: Ms. Laursen provided a presentation to the board outlining the facility’s status update especially in regard to funding. (PowerPoint presentation available upon request.)

Comments: Rep. Lockhart requested that documentation be sent to both Sen. Anderson and him for follow up.

Board of Trustee Meeting

Summary: Members of the ERC and SER staff met with the UW Board of Trustees on Thursday, November 13, 2014. Dr. Northam provided an overview of SER's history, current status and goals for the future. The meeting was followed by a tour of the Energy Innovation Center and dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Comments: None

UW Joins Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Details

Summary: Dr. Roth informed the board the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) relationship continues to develop with the identification of three goals aligned with UW. These goals include: industrial impact, workforce development and carbon capture research.

Comments: Mr. Bauer asked Dr. Roth to be very proactive with federal membership and to develop a strategic procedure for UW's involvement with CAES. Sen. Anderson concurred with Mr. Bauer's request.

Fundraising & State Match

Summary: Mr. Blalock lauded the success of the SER fundraising model and suggested SER should lend strong support to the Engineering College to assist in raising the required funds necessary for the High Bay Research Facility. He emphasized the need to engage more private company support by developing a strategy and perhaps the need to provide training in how to accomplish the request-for-giving.

Comments: Chairman Lang commented on the need to recruit the best and the brightest students by improving our ability to target specific potential and recruit by offering full scholarships.

Nielson Energy Fellowships Final Review & Action

Summary: The second draft of the Nielson Fellowship policy was presented to the board with recommended amendments for approval. Mr. Bauer made a motion to approve the policy as presented; motion was seconded by Ms. Hull. Motion to approve passed without objection.

Comments: None.

Division Updates:

Academics

Summary: Dr. Roth introduced Sarah Ramsey-Walters, SER assistant lecturer. He reported to the board his concern that many students are struggling to pass math classes. SER has started several tutoring groups as a solution to this challenge. More groups are planned for next

semester. Extra professional development trips have been planned to provide additional exposure to the students.

Comments: Ms. Crane suggested internships should be developed for students in their junior year to assist with job placement by graduation. Sen. Anderson suggested middle school students should be targeted for recruitment by the time they are high school juniors. He strongly supports the summer institute as a development and recruitment tool.

Research

Summary: Ms. Hulme informed the board that SER is developing a seminar specifically to address the issue of commercialization. The uranium conference will be held April 21, 2015 in Laramie. The date for final projects is March 30, 2015. The solar project has been delayed due to as yet unresolved issues with getting the panels into place. The Center for Economics and Public Policy has had a change of leadership: Dr. Robert Godby is the new director. The centers for excellence have engaged with approximately fifty faculty members. The basic view of the centers is perceived by most to be applied research, which does not necessarily carry the same prestige for most departments.

Comments: None

Outreach

Summary: Ms. Byrnes distributed a copy of the Speakers Series list. There have been 12 speakers since September. Ms. Hull was the most recent speaker. Approximately 400 participants took place at this year's Rocky Mountain Rendezvous job fair. There was also excellent participation in the Anne Piccard seminar; she was very well received and was a wonderful addition to the Women's Global Leadership Forum.

Comments: None

Recruitment

Summary: Dr. Northam relayed to the board interviews for the CEAS dean have been arranged, recruitment for the Petroleum & Engineering department head have restarted with the assistance of Korn Ferry International. There are three SER sponsored faculty positions; recruitment has not commenced. Nine initial candidates have applied for the ICM director. A short list should be developed within a week. One application has been received for the EORI director and recruitment continues. Nothing has been decided on the SER assistant director. There has been discussion that it may be possible to roll this position into the ICM director position.

Comments: None

Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute

Summary: Mr. Hurlless informed the board of the commission's decision to shut down the lab by the end of 2014. This shutdown will affect four employees. SER will assist with job transfers. It was also decided the EORI director will continue to report to the SER director. Several listening sessions have been conducted with stakeholders in Gillette, Casper and Cody, which have been very productive in assisting to develop a new vision for EORI's future.

Comments: None

FY 15-16 Financial Update

Summary: SER is currently on track for budget expenditures. After the second quarter of the year, SER will look at re-allocation of funds as necessary. All funds in the Gift Account are growing. A new gift from Loenbro, Inc. will be directed to discretionary funding. The Nielson scholarship fund has generated interest that may be applied toward to new opportunities.

Comments: None

Strategies for the Future

Summary: Dr. Northam reported the Hess Digital Rock lab was continuing successfully. Dr. Maohong Fan's clean coal project has had some setbacks, but continues to move forward. Future focus will be on developing the new niche and discovering new research talent. SER staff will begin preparation for budget fiscal year 17-18 in March 2015.

Comments: None

New Business/Directions for Next Meeting

Summary: The board agreed the March ERC meeting should focus on the upcoming budget challenges and securing solutions for the future. The next meeting of the ERC is set for March 26-27, 2015.

Adjournment

The board adjourned the regular meeting to go into executive session to discuss personnel at 11:55 a.m.; the board resumed regular session at 12:30 p.m. Ms. Hull made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Sen. Anderson. Motion passed without objection and the meeting concluded at 12:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paul Lang
Chairman

Tom Lockhart
Vice-Chairman