**Board of Trustees**

**Committee on Research and Economic Development**

**September 16, 2020**

**7:30 - 9:30 A.M.**

***Minutes***

1. ***Science Initiative Building (SIB) Research & Occupancy Upda*te** (*Jay Gatlin*)

*Vision for the SIB:* To promote synergistic activities within the thematic areas of Organismal, Cell, and Earth Systems Biology; Generate cost-savings in space and instrumentation, reducing operational expenses and start-up costs for new faculty; enable UW to attract new world-class faculty, and lastly create a culture of exceptional research.

*Building Tour:* The SIB is an open nature research space housing (A) Center for Advanced Scientific Instrumentation (CASI) which is designed to house instrumentation sensitive to vibration and will be utilized campus-wide and (B) Model Organism Research Facility (MORF).

Occupancy criteria (used to select current SIB invitees)

* Align with thematic research interests
* Potential for Research Synergy
* Justification/Benefit for on-campus PI’s to move
* Record of collaborative/interdisciplinary research
* Record of commitment to undergrad research
* Maintain “balance” within the SIB research themes

Funding needs discussion:

* CASI – no current budgeted funding for instrumentation. To fund the common 15 pieces needed for this type of lab would cost just over nine million dollars.
* MORF – current budget does not allow for completion. It will cost approximately $3 million to complete.
* Currently no budget for building staff/personnel, maintenance contracts for instrumentation

1. ***Attain Consulting Group for Electronic Research Administration project*** *(Diana Hulme)*

Electronic Research Administration (ERA) is an electronic portal that contains various modules to assist researchers on campus with proposal development and research compliance. Some benefits are:

* Human subject protocols online
* Declarations of conflicts of interest online
* Proposal and compliance data in one system allowing us to compile research metrics and keep databases

We are working with the consulting group, Attain. They will:

* Complete an assessment of current practices
* Development a set of requirements and goals to meet our needs to present to vendors
* Help evaluate vendors

The RFP process – cost about $90,000 and will take approximately 7 weeks.

1. ***UW Regulation 9-1 (Patents and Copyrights)***  *(Evans)*

Charges and respective recommendations:

Charge 1: Protection of Inventions (Patentable Intellectual Property): *Majority Recommendation. Clarify existing policy that establishes University ownership of patentable intellectual property that is created with the “use of University Resources” by defining University Resources. Add further specification that inventions created “within the scope of the employee’s duties” are also University owned.*

*Minority Opinion. Do not establish University ownership over patentable intellectual property that is created “within the scope of the employee’s duties.”*

Charge 2: Ownership of Academic Course Materials: *Unanimous Recommendation. Modify policy to provide ownership of academic course materials to their creators, and reserve a perpetual license for the institution to utilize such materials for teaching, education and accreditation.*

Charge 3: Ownership of Scholarship (Works of Authorship): *Unanimous Recommendation. Clarify existing policy that academic personnel shall be the owners of Works of Authorship they have created. Additionally, the regulation should clarify that the University shall own Works of Authorship created by non-academic personnel and within the scope of their employment. Finally, a non-exhaustive list of examples of “Works of Authorship” should be included in the regulation to provide clarity to all employees.*

Charge 4: Distribution of Income from Patents: *Unanimous Recommendation. Maintain the current distribution of income from patents; 60% to the inventor/author and 40% to the University.*

Next Steps: If the committee agrees, will next be presented to the Regulation Committee.

Trustee LaCroix made a motion to accept and proceed to the Regulation Committee. Trustee Bonner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. ***Council on Competitiveness (CoC)*** *(Sprott)*

The council started in 1986. The CoC works to develop policy initiatives and programs to make the United States more competitive. Wyoming joined the CoC this summer. President Seidel serves as a Commissioner and Dr. Sprott is an Advisor with the group.

UW has assembled the University Council on Economic Development to support the CoC’s working group structure. The CoC’s working groups are:

* Developing and Deploying at Scale Disruptive Technologies
* Exploring the Future of Sustainable Production and Consumption, and Work
* Optimizing the Environment for the National Innovation System

Next steps include:

* Kickoff meeting – End of September
* Identify participants of CoC working group members
* Begin fleshing out UW’s economic development plan

Discussion on how this differs from the Wyoming Business Council (WBC). Activities will align. The goal is not to create a new structure but to partner with and be a resource for the WBC.

1. ***ORED Optimization plan*** (*Synakowski/Hulme*)

We are a service organization serving the state and the University.

ORED’s Five Goals:

* Breaking through in Sponsored Research
* Breaking through to the Marketplace
* Breaking through to New Research Horizons
* Breaking through to New Research Talent
* Breaking through with Excellence in Research Administration.

These goals map out well with the President’s four pillars: Digital, Interdisciplinary, Inclusive, and Entrepreneurial.

Review of current staff and open positions.

Discussion of what would constitute a fully staffed and highly functioning ORED office. Additions would include 19 new positions with an approximate total cost (salary and fringe) of $2.1 million dollars. This would be a significant investment, but would eventually result in creating an environment that allows the office to help PI’s apply for and receive more grants generating more revenue for the University.

Request for prioritization of needs. These will be prepared and presented at later date.