

**Arts & Sciences Council
Committee on Faculty Research
Report: 2012-2013**

Committee Charge:

“The Committee on Faculty Research has two responsibilities: a) it shall administer the awarding of grants for research and for conference travel made available each year by the Dean of Arts and Sciences, and b) it shall address larger issues of research that are important for Arts and Sciences faculty.”

Introduction:

This past year the committee has been pleased to fund 64 travel grants and 25 research grants to fully encumber our \$150,000 budget. Although funding for ASC CFR conference support remains at zero, Divisional Deans Burian, Calderbank and O’Rand have stepped in with their discretionary funds and assisted, on a limited basis, faculty organizing conferences on campus.

Meetings:

The committee met in April 24 to decide funding for research grants and discuss the committee’s work in general. We received applications from 43 faculty members. As there were many quality applications, the committee limited awards to \$4500 so that we could assist as many as possible. We also decided that we would not consider applications from those receiving funding the previous year (four). I believe we left the meeting confident that we have funded or partially funded every worthy request. Breakdown of awards: Humanities: 11 awards-\$37,400. Natural Sciences: 6 awards-\$23,000. Social Sciences: 8 awards-\$29,600. Total budget: \$90,000

Accomplishments:

Other than funding research grants, we provided funding for limited travel support for faculty with no startup/research accounts. Breakdown of awards: Humanities: 32, Natural Sciences: 14, Social Sciences: 18. Total Budget: \$60,000. We funded a total of 12 emeriti faculty. After much discussion, the committee decided to limit travel funds for our retired faculty to a total of 6 for the Academic Year 2013-2014. Emeriti are not eligible for research grants.

Challenges:

Our main challenge is our budget. Staff Support Kathy Peterson ran out of travel funds at the beginning of March 2013 turning down at least 6 requests before we posted a “out of funds” note on our web page. We have no monies for conference support and could only fund \$90K of a total of more than \$190K in research funding requests. As a committee, we hope to meet with Dean Patton early in September to request additional travel and research funding support for the 2013-2014 Academic Year.

Committee Members:

Valeria Finucci, Chair, Romance Studies: 2012-2015
Steven Asher, Psychology & Neuroscience

Michelle Connolly, Economics
Tommy DeFrantz, Dance
Ken Glander, Evolutionary Anthropology
Mark Goodacre, Religion
Richard Kay, Evolutionary Anthropology
Tom Robisheaux (ECASC Liaison), ex officio
Kathy Peterson (Staff)
Shawn MacDuff (Staff)