

Arts and Sciences Council

Committee on Faculty Research

June 17, 2014

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 was pleased to fund 63 travel grants and 22 research grants to fully encumber our \$150,000 budget. Although funding for ASC-CFR conference support remains at zero, Divisional Deans Aravamudan, Kiehart 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 on March 25<sup>th</sup> to decide funding for research grants and to discuss the committee’s work in general. We received applications from 37 faculty members. As there were many qualified applications, the committee limited awards to \$5,000, so that we could assist as many as possible. We also decided that we would not consider applications from those who received funding the previous year. I believe we left the meeting confident that we had funded or partially funded every worthy request. Breakdown of awards: Humanities: 8 awards \$33,500, Natural Sciences: 8 awards \$32,100, and Social Sciences: 6 awards \$24,400. The total budget was \$90,000.

Accomplishments:

Other than funding research grants, we provided funding for limited travel support for faculty with no start-up research accounts. Breakdown of awards: Humanities 35, Natural Sciences 14, Social Sciences 11. The total budget was \$60,000. Due to the amount of requests from retired faculty, the committee decided to fund two more emeriti than allowed and according to the 2013-2014 report, there were 8 Emeriti who were funded. Emeriti are not eligible for research grants.

Challenges:

We are receiving requests to support conferences organized at Duke by Duke professors and have been able to fund one request this year. In the future we will likely want to add this mandate to our committee if money were to be available. It is our hope that the committee continues to sponsor faculty research and the forum in which this research could be shared, wherever it takes place.

*Valeria Franco*