

Boston College  
University Research Council

Meeting Minutes  
January 13, 2010  
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Waul House

Members Present: Office for

Absent:

Christopher Wilson, English

Devin Pendas, History

Catherine Ives, Office for Technology Transfer and Licensing

1. The minutes of the April 15, 2009 and October 14, 2009 URC meetings were approved.
2. First topic for discussion was F&A cost recovery. Kevin Bedell informed the members that the amount of F&A cost recovery (aka overhead return) made available to the departments has been based on a fixed amount since 2007. Funds are made available to the Deans each fiscal year and the Deans decide how the funds should be distributed for research initiatives. In the past, overhead return funds were distributed to the Department Chairs based on a three year average of F&A costs incurred. The change to a fixed amount will have the biggest impact on A&S. The F&A cost recovery funds will be made a permanent part of the University budget each fiscal year. It was suggested that guidelines outlining flexibility in rolling over overhead return funds from one fiscal year to the next would be helpful for planning.
3. Steve Erickson reported that the Intellectual Property Policy has been reviewed by the University General Council. Comments were made and changes are needed. The

changes preserve the principles of the original policy, but update the language. A revised IP policy will be sent to the URC for review soon.

4. Steve Erickson gave a presentation on Export Controls. The presentation was also very informative. Briefly, everyone is subject to Export Controls, fundamental research is excluded from export control requirements and the sanctions for failure to comply are serious.
5. The members continued the discussion of ways to celebrate research and researchers at BC. The discussion included:
  - how to plan an event that would be exciting so that faculty would attend
  - how to make comparisons among schools so that all are included
  - how nominations/selections should