

Notes from the Research Task Force Recommendations Review Meeting May 12, 2009

A meeting was held on May 12, 2009 to review the Research Task Force recommendations. Participants included the Dean, the Dean's direct reports, all five department chairs, Dan Flannery (moderator – SPC) and Iris Harvey (Advisor – SPC).

The meeting began with a review and discussion of the following College of Business Strategic Planning Committee guiding principles:

1. Raise the quality bar
2. Extend our reach into the business community
3. Invest in competitively distinctive programs

All Research Task Force recommendations were then reviewed in the meeting. Following the discussion, the meeting participants agreed that each of the action steps outlined below will be taken.

1. INVEST \$100,000 PER YEAR IN FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FOR GRANT PROPOSALS FOR 2 YEARS

During the discussion of several of the Research Task Force recommendations to increase external funding, it was noted that clear action is required to promote a College of Business culture that inspires and motivates grant activity. In response, the meeting participants agreed that a program will be developed and implemented to encourage College of Business faculty activity in grants. Key features of the proposed program include the following:

- The College of Business will arrange grant training sessions that will be open to all faculty members. The sessions will be held early in the fall semester, and will be led by other Kent State departments (RAGS, ISPV and the Ohio Employee Ownership Center) with experience, expertise and a successful track record in obtaining grant funds. College of Business faculty who are interested in learning about grants and / or pursuing grant work can elect to participate in the grant training sessions that will be offered.
- Faculty members who are interested in working on grants will be asked to submit a one page proposal by **October 1, 2009** that
 - a) explains why they are interested in doing grant work and
 - b) defines the areas in which they would like to seek grants.
- All submitted requests will be evaluated and one request will be selected from the faculty in each of the five College of Business academic departments (Accounting, Economics, Finance, Marketing and M&IS). *(Note: The evaluation criteria and process to be used will be developed over the coming weeks and explained in late August.)*
- The faculty member for the selected request from each department will be paid for the equivalent of 2 courses (1/6th of their 9 month salary) for summer 2010, during which they must complete and submit the grant proposal.

More details about this proposed program will be developed over the summer and shared with faculty at a meeting to be scheduled **the week of August 24, 2009**.

2. ASK RAGS TO RECONSIDER CURRENT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS CONTRACT WORK

Discussions will be initiated with RAGS to evaluate whether contract work currently done by College of Business faculty can be processed through the RAGS organization at a lower indirect cost rate than the standard 46% rate that is typically assessed. The objective is to allow the contract work currently being done to be recognized through the RAGS process, and to incent additional contract work by College of Business departments.

3. PUBLISH RESEARCH IN A+ OR A JOURNALS

Three of the Research Task Force recommendations on indicators and measures were refined as follows:

- The original Research Task Force recommendation to “obtain 30 new A+ publications / acceptances in the next 5 years” was modified to “obtain 30 new **A+ or A** publications / acceptances in **the next year**”.
- The original Research Task Force recommendation to “have grant-writing expert available to COB by Fall 2009” was modified to “**develop grant-writing expertise in College of Business faculty**”, through the proposed program outlined in 1 above.
- The original Research Task Force recommendation to “obtain \$300,000 in external funding over the next 5 years” was modified to “obtain **\$100,000** in external funding over **the next year**”.

The meeting participants agreed that these revised indicators and measures would be included in the set of indicators and measures that will be used to evaluate the College of Business’ future progress in achieving the objectives identified in the strategic planning process.

Notes taken by Maureen Kennedy