

FAUS/COE Research Committee
Monday, January 14, 2008
3:15 – 4:30 p.m.
FAUS Media Center

Minutes

Present: Ira Bogotch, Lorraine Cross, Jenny O’Sullivan, John Hardman, Tammy Bresnahan, Marla Brady, Nancy Brown, Susannah Brown, Glenn Thomas

Apologies: Gail Burnaford, Susan Toth, Cynthia Core, Charles Duke

1. Approval of Minutes (November 19, 2007)

The minutes were amended to reflect the date of the Research Mixer, which had been agreed for February 29, 2008. Motion to approve: Susannah Brown; Second: Lorraine Cross.

2. Committee Bylaws: Further Discussion

The bylaws were amended to differentiate the Pine Jog Elementary School (John Hardman will verify that this is the correct name) and the Pine Jog Environmental Education Center. Tradition K-8 School was added (name also to be confirmed). Nancy Brown informed the committee that the Toppel Center should be considered for inclusion once it is in operation. The date of the groundbreaking is still TBD. Total funding for the project is six million dollars, three from private donation and three from a matching grant.

3. Karen Slattery ERCCD: Research Process and Collaboration

Nancy Brown distributed copies of the research process for the ERCCD. She indicated that the process had been especially designed to be simple to follow. It expects prospective researchers to work with the center before they seek IRB approval. It was indicated that at least one item (COE Associate Dean for Research) needed to be updated.

4. Research Collaborative meeting (Thursday, Jan 17)

Glenn Thomas reported that the Research Collaborative meeting had been convened to bring together members of the school community and IRB staff, in order to expand the opportunities for research at the schools, and to clarify and facilitate the role of IRB and the schools in the coordination and approval process for research initiatives. This should serve to allay any concerns regarding the schools’ accessibility to researchers.

5. Research Mixer

The mixer will be held in the Cafeteria at A.D. Henderson University School on February 29, 2008; from 1:00 – 3:30 PM. Invitations to participants, estimated at approx. 75, will include an RSVP. Glenn Thomas will investigate availability of funds to cover the cost of lunch.

An organizing committee will be convened by the Research Committee Co-chairs to oversee the event logistics and program.

Draft Objective

The Research Mixer is envisioned as an opportunity for the FAUS community to:

- disseminate on-going research,
- induct new members,
- foster common research initiatives
- promote increased research interest by faculty throughout the university

Draft Program

- Introduction
- Presentation of the schools and key personnel (Slattery, Henderson, Pine Jog, Tradition)
- Summary of research projects
- Roundtables and poster sessions
- Opportunity for networking

6. New research proposals:

- a. Cognitive Performance in Low and High Fit Children: Is Physical Fitness Related to Decision Making in Children? Dr. Michael Whitehurst, Exercise Science & Health Promotion.

Discussion: The committee enthusiastically supported the study. There has been no similar research in Physical Education for some years, and the particular focus linking physical fitness with academic performance appeared as a particularly worthy theme.

Action items:

1. Question to be posed to researcher: Age of sample; and
2. Concern regarding the potential risks in the use of cotton balls in the children's mouths, how this will be monitored.

Action item: John Hardman to clarify questions and coordinate activities with Mike Thomas, Athletics Director.

- b. Technological/Multimedia Methods of Instruction: Best Practices for ESOL Instruction: Patricia Youmans, Florida A & M (K-12)

Discussion: This is the second time this amended proposal has come before the committee. It was agreed that Henderson does not offer a sample of the size or profile required by the study. The study was thereby declined unanimously.

Action item: John Hardman to communicate decision to researcher.

- c. Creativity and well-being in children that practice mindfulness meditation:
Dayana Sanchez, Dept. of Psychology.

Discussion: The study was very well received. Some considerations were raised regarding:

1. The integrity of the procedure, and the control for external variables that may affect the outcomes.
2. The preparation of the in-house trainer(s), with particular emphasis on the issue of bias. It was suggested that they could undergo the CITI for research on human subjects.

Action item: John Hardman to communicate with the researcher and coordinate the study process.

- 7. Adjourn 4:55 pm.

Minutes prepared by John Hardman, Co-chair