

**MTU Research Advisory Council**  
**November 11, 2002 - 11:00 am**  
**Room 305 Admin**  
**Minutes**

***Present:***

Bruce Rafert, Dean, Graduate School  
Neil Hutzler, Assoc Dean, College of Engineering  
Dave Karnosky, Forest Resources & Envir Sci  
Pat Martin, Sciences & Arts  
Soner Onder, Sciences & Arts  
Anita Quinn, Research & Sponsored Programs  
Julie Seppala, Research Accounting  
Joanne Polzien, Vice Pres. for Research Office

1. Approval of October 14 Minutes

The minutes were approved. Neil said he has sent out a message regarding a replacement representative (replacing Klaus Weinmann) but has not heard back yet.

2. GACS Update

Bruce sent a request to Don Beck, Soner Onder, Anita Quinn, Marilyn Urion, Walt Milligan and Kurt Pregitzer asking them to serve on a committee to look at GACS. He has not heard back from everyone yet. One of the charges he will give to the committee is to explore whether GACS is getting the job done. What should be done - modify, renew, replace, eliminate? Neil said he could foresee a real problem if the program was eliminated. Part of the problem seems to be that there is no funding formula for GACS - right now the university gives dollars without any type of formula. Funds are not given in advance and some years the deficit accumulates. Bruce said a PI needs to determine if he/she would have difficulty recruiting a student - if a student is not found the commitment stays and the department is responsible. The recruiting structure was not good in the past but is getting better. Right now anyone who asks gets a GAC - may get to a point where not all will be able to get a GAC. If the pool is regulated, GACs may end up going to young, untenured faculty. There is no link between research overhead and a funding formula. Bruce is asking the RAC to recommend approval to fully fund GACS - possible to link the GACS pool to overhead or tuition. It would be very beneficial if the RAC could make some progress in streamlining how GACS is funded.

One suggestion was that PI's should monitor starting dates so that it works when students are available.

3. Other

The Guidelines for Expenditure of MTU Research Incentive Funds was reviewed. One note - not all incentive accounts are research generated.

Neil talked about the College of Engineering mentoring program. He said each new faculty has a mentor identified. He felt this was working well in the college. Soner said that he felt better mentoring needed to be implemented. There should be better ways available that new faculty can find help.