

Minutes  
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH  
President's Board Room  
March 11, 1987  
3:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** E. N. Boyd, J. Broderick, P. K. Edwards, W. L. Flowers (for M. R. Geasler), F. M. Asche (for G. M. Graham), D. B. Hodge, D. G. I. Kingston, T. W. Bonham (for J. E. Littlefield), G. W. Norton, A. W. Steiss, F. W. Stephenson, R. A. Teekell, and J. A. Wolfe

**Members Absent:** J. Cairns, Jr., R. A. Comparin, W. J. McAuley, R. E. Nance, M. D. Pierson, and G. G. Schurig

**Invited Guests:** Spencer Hall

1. Announcements

Clarification has been sought on sole source justification procedures in an effort to accelerate the equipment acquisition process for sponsored research.

2. Minutes of February 11, 1987 Meeting

The Minutes of the February 11, 1987 meeting of the Commission were approved as distributed.

3. Committee Reports

a. CFA Resolution 86-87D

A special category of study-research leave, called research assignment, has been proposed by the Commission on Faculty Affairs. After considerable discussion, it was decided to table this item until the next meeting to give Commission members time to study the document and CFA time to provide clarification and respond to questions raised.

b. Research Scientist

Some excellent candidates, both from outside and within the University, have been advanced for appointment as Research Scientists.

c. Computing Expenditures

Some Colleges are nearly out of 230-01 SMARTDOLLARS, and therefore, a re-distributions will probably be necessary.

d. ad hoc Building Committee

The Building Committee met March 11 to outline broad specifications for the Experimental Research Building. The request for architectural bids will go out shortly.

e. Committee on Goals and Objectives

Dr. Edwards reported that this Committee will have a list of goals for review by Commission in a few weeks.

4. Budget Reports

Some new directions seem to be forthcoming from Richmond with regards to the biennium budget submission process. Detailed justifications, required in the past under the program budget format, apparently are being relaxed. On the other hand, the major emphasis will remain in a more structured Addendum process.

- a. 1987-88 Core Research Budget. General Funds available for next fiscal year are nearly identical to the current fiscal year. Estimated salary adjustments and central fund adjustments (regrades and proficiency increases related to classified positions) are added to the base. After restricted funds are deducted, a balance of \$24,544,658 is left for Core Research. Nongeneral Funds are still uncertain for the coming year. A preliminary estimate would place this funding at approximately \$7.15 million.

On the expenditure side, total commitments for personal services, at full staffing, have been estimated at \$25,847,513. The bottom line is that about \$3.62 million will be available for operations in 1987-88. The impact will be felt primarily in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and other components of the Experiment Station which receive much of their budget from 230-01.

5. Space Renovation Procedures - Spencer Hall

There are three main branches of the Physical Plant Department:

- **Work Management** handles estimating, work scheduling, accounting, planning, and materials expediting, and is relatively new to Physical Plant.
- **Maintenance** handles everything inside the buildings--custodial and janitorial, carpentry, painting, mechanical, electrical and grounds maintenance.
- **Utilities** is responsible for the outside utilities--power generation and utility distribution.

Keeping the University running costs approximately \$250,000 per month. The Department is allocated less than half of that amount and expects to run out of money again this year by the middle of April.

By charter, Physical Plant is responsible for the maintenance of all academic and administrative space. Research space work is done mainly on a reimbursable basis. Efforts are under way to redefine this scope of responsibilities to include the maintenance of University facilities, whether on campus or off.

The renovation sequence and some of the problems encountered were discussed in some detail. Copies of the Department's organizational chart, complete with names, will be distributed to Deans and Department Heads as an aid to know who to contact with questions.

It was suggested that someone from University Planning be invited to a future Commission meeting.

Dr. Hodge complimented Physical Plant by stating that his department had eight significant projects done in the last year and virtually all of them had come in under Physical Plant estimates.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Commission will be held on April 8, 1987.

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