Minutes
Meeting of Council on Sponsored Activities
November 2, 2010
Location: 204 Parkhurst Conference Room
2:00 – 3:00 pm

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Martin Wybourne at 2:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Martin Wybourne, Elsa Garmire, Todd Heatherton, Jill Mortali, Leslie Henderson, David Kotz, Robert Donin, Jon Kull, Steven Kadish, Carol Folt

Members Absent: Robert Hansen, Tillman Gerngross, Paul Guyre

Guests: Elizabeth Bankert

Meeting was called to order at 2:05pm by Martin Wybourne.

Purpose of the meeting was to have Provost Carol Folt and Vice President Steven Kadish discuss how they would like to increase faculty engagement as the administration closes the $100M budget gap. They would like the CSA to assess proposed procedures and policies that impact research and sponsored awards.

The main points made include:

Any new procedures/policies should not make it harder to submit or process grants.
The College should guard faculty time as one of its top priorities.
The College could have better mechanisms for multidisciplinary initiatives between schools.
Provost Folt encouraged the CSA to consider ways to enhance the research collaboration between the A&S and the three professional schools.
The Financial Centers are being put in place to make things more efficient and prepare Dartmouth for growth. They should not become an additional layer of administration and should use people already in place.

Signature Authority Policy: Currently the College doesn’t have a comprehensive policy covering who can sign contracts and agreements for purchasing. Bob Donin distributed a draft and encouraged comments and suggestions. One of the key points of feedback was that PIs should be able to delegate purchasing authority, up to some reasonable threshold, to their graduate students and lab staff, because in many labs they are responsible for frequent purchases of routine supplies.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.