



Dartmouth College

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Annual Report of the Council on Sponsored Activities Fiscal Year 2009

The Council on Sponsored Activities (CSA) is responsible for proposing and endorsing internal policies regulating activities sponsored by agencies outside the College. In addition, the CSA proposes and endorses institutional positions in response to policies of external sponsoring agencies as they affect the College. On a periodic basis, the CSA reviews the scope and impact of sponsored activities in the relation to institutional purpose. The membership of the committee shall consist of the Provost, the Treasurer, the General Counsel (OGC), the Director of Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP), the Deans of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Dartmouth Medical School (DMS), Thayer School of Engineering, Tuck Business School, two faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee of the General Faculty (SCGF) and two members from the Faculty of Arts & Sciences delegated from the voting membership of the Committee on the Faculty (COF).

The CSA met four times during the year: October 13, 2008; February 2, 2009; April 20, 2009; and June 1, 2009. The members were: Robert Donin (OGC); Tillman Gerngross (SCGF); Robert Hansen (representing the Tuck School Dean); Leslie Henderson (representing the Medical School Dean); Adam Keller (Executive Vice-President); Lee Lynd (representing the Thayer School Dean); Robertson McClung (representing the Dean of the Faculty); Jeffrey Taube (COF); Antonio Gómez (COF); Jill Mortali (OSP); and Martin Wybourne (Vice Provost for Research), chair. The second SCGF membership was unfilled.

The main issues addressed by the Council were:

Research Conflict of Interest (COI)

The CSA discussed the research COI policy and procedures, how they may be strengthened and moved towards a web based format. The CSA also discussed the ongoing challenge of getting A&S faculty representation on the Conflict of Interest sub-committee of the Council. Chair Wybourne met with the COP and it was agreed that in future years the DOF will designate a faculty member to serve on the sub-committee.

The Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) recently reviewed the College's research COI policy and noted three items for correction. The Provost's office, OSP and the General Counsel proposed revisions to the policy that were endorsed by the CSA. DHHS acknowledged that the revisions satisfactorily addressed the issues.

Unexpended Funds Policy

The CSA reviewed and endorsed changes to the unexpended funds policy for fixed price contracts. The revisions clarify the procedure for review of unexpended funds and the disposition of those funds.

New NSF Requirements

The Council provided advice about raising awareness of NSF requirements that took effect in April 2009 for mentoring post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students. OSP and the Provost's office will provide guidance on the NSF requirements.

The Council also discussed a proposed NSF requirement for Responsible Conduct in Research education for students and post-docs that will go into effect in January 2010. The CSA recommended an on-line training module be developed to meet the requirement.

Sponsored Awards and Proposals for FY 2009

The summary of the Annual Sponsored Awards and Proposals for FY2009 is attached to this report and the complete report will be located at the Sponsored Projects website (<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~osp/>).

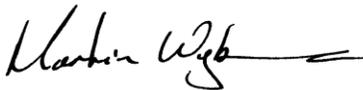
The Council also considered one sponsored agreement in which contract clauses limited the Principal Investigator and the College from releasing or publishing any information about the project or its outcomes. The Council supported the recommendation by the Chair not to accept the award unless the clauses were amended to meet the College's open publication policy.

During the year the CSA had an update from Bill Ploog, Associate Director of OSP, about export control and the lessons learned from a recent well-publicized incident at another institution. The Council was also informed about a new software tool the College has licensed to help with export control compliance.

Jill Mortali, Director of OSP, regularly updated the Council on a review of business practices and workflow in OSP that was sponsored by the Provost's office. A report and recommendations will be submitted to the Provost's office in the fall 2009.

I hope this information provides a helpful summary of the CSA activities during the year, please contact me if more information or clarification is needed.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin Wybourne
Chair, Council on Sponsored Activities

9 September 2009