



**Annual Report of the Council on Sponsored Activities
Fiscal Year 2014**

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 relation to institutional purpose. The membership of the committee consists of the Provost; the Executive Vice President for Finance; the General Counsel (OGC); the Director of Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP); the Deans of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Geisel School of Medicine, Thayer School of Engineering, and Tuck School of Business; 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 4 times during the year: October 1, 2013; December 3, 2013; February 4, 2014; and April 1, 2014.

The members were: Leslie Henderson, Chair (Geisel Dean representative); Roger Sloboda (Provost Representative); Michael Wagner (CFO); Jill Mortali (OSP); Robert Donin (OGC); David Kotz (Dean of Faculty representative); Tillman Gerngross (Thayer Dean representative); Robert Hansen (Tuck Dean representative); Duane Compton (SCGF); Elsa Garmire (SCGF); Jim Haxby (COF); and John Thorstensen (COF).

The main issues addressed by the Council were:

Discussion of salary equity for postdocs/research associates: Salary data from Geisel and A&S departments were presented to the CSA to assess whether there is a need for standardization of these. There was general consensus that based on the data, there does not appear to be an equity problem. The Council agreed that data should also be collected for postdocs and long-term research associates in Thayer and Tuck, and these data, along with the data from A&S and Geisel, should be used to provide guidance, but not set minima or maxima, to deans/faculty members in setting salaries for their employees. As many former research associates have now migrated to the **new non-faculty titles of Research Scientist**, there should be better definition for these two groups, and the data should be reassessed once this migration has settled in.

Discussion of how Dartmouth oversees Fee for Service agreements: The College does not have a uniform policy or practices for routing, reviewing and accepting fee for service agreements. Some arrangements are managed at a local department level or Dean's Office, while others are reviewed and negotiated by the Office of the General Counsel or the Office of Sponsored Projects. There is not a clear definition of what "fee for service" is, how it is distinguished from sponsored projects, or how it should be overseen. The CSA suggested gathering more information on the scope of fee for service activities happening at Dartmouth and discussed forming a task force to make recommendations. A group of administration officials

met several times during the year to see if a recommendation could be generated, but came to the conclusion that these issues, and others dealing with oversight not directly related to sponsored programs, needed to come back to a larger more representative policy body.

Discussion on Policies Governing Start-up Activities: It was discussed that efforts are ongoing (through Tammy Hickox, the Conflict of Interest Officer) and OETT to create documents that will provide information to faculty, students and staff on how to establish and operate entrepreneurial activities within the Dartmouth community. These policies will be brought to the CSA for its input once in draft form.

Piloting Annual-only COI Disclosure: The COI Committee discussed piloting a switch from project-specific disclosures to annual-only disclosures. The pilot will commence with the Thayer School of Engineering in the Fall of 2014, with the intention of moving to annual-only disclosures campus-wide in Spring/Summer 2015 (hopefully concurrent with the move to a new vendor-supported COI disclosure system in connection with the RAPPORT project).

Exemptions from Non-disclosure Policies: Pursuant to a new policy adapted in 2014, the CSA considered two requests for exemptions from policies governing acceptance of awards with non-disclosure restrictions.

Discussion of students engaged in both MS and PhD programs: John Kull requested CSA input on whether students who are enrolled full-time in a PhD program can simultaneously enroll in a master's program. The CSA discussed potential issues around tuition and effort if PhD student is grant-funded. Jill Mortali will gather more information and provide guidance on enrolling in graduate programs while working on grants.

Program Updates: Were also provided for SYNERGY, RAPPORT and OSP

I trust this information provides a helpful summary of the CSA activities during the past year.

Sponsored Awards and Proposals for Fiscal Year 2014

The summary of the Annual Sponsored Awards and Proposals for FY2014 is attached to this report, and the complete report will be located at the Sponsored Projects website: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~osp/resources/reports/>.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Henderson
Chair, Council on Sponsored Activities