COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
November 8, 2006
325 Burruss Hall
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.


Members Absent: C. Gray, M. Kelly, J. Lesko, C. Ragsdale, K.A. Roberto

Invited Guests: T. Pickering

Others: R. Farley

1. **Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made to approve the agenda and seconded. Agenda was approved.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Dr. Grange asked for approval of the minutes of October 11, 2006. A motion was made for an amendment that A. Olsen was present. With the amendment, a motion was made to approve the minutes and it was seconded. The minutes were approved.

3. **Center Review:** Dr. Pickering sent a copy of the final report of the 5-year review of the Center for Human Computer Interaction (HCI) to the entire review committee for their input. The report was accepted. The review committee agreed that the Center was doing a good job. The committee recommended the Center be renewed and the director be reappointed. Dr. Pickering said the Center would be asked to update their charter documents. In response to a question posed on supporting documentations, Dr. Pickering will provide a 1-2 page appendix of the Centers’ awards, expenditures, and publications. A letter will be sent to the provost with the report. Dr. Pickering asked the Commission to accept the report. A motion was made to accept the report with the changes, and the motion was approved.

4. **Research Integrity Procedures and Policies:** Dr. Fenwick provided a series of reviews and handouts as background information. He provided information on some recent negative occurrences at the national level involving research integrity and the problems which occurred. He noted the inadequacy of Virginia Tech’s policies and resources and suggested a subcommittee of the Commission be formed to make recommendations to bring our policy and practices up to federal regulations to include whistle blower protection. Dr. Fenwick stated his office has requested funding for an Office of Research Integrity, which would include a Research Integrity Officer (RIO). He questioned how prepared we are in the event we are investigated. It was determined the only recommendations
we have in place at this time are in the faculty handbook. The Commission agreed to look at the faculty handbook. Discussion will continue at the next COR meeting. Five individuals volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to study this issue and report to the Commission – Robert Grange, Robert Walters, William Huckle, Randy Murch, and John Phillips. A motion was made to accept the development and role of the subcommittee, seconded, and approved.

5. Other Business: Dr. Fenwick informed the commission of a couple of changes in the research area. He mentioned the issue of export control. He stated that a group out of OSP has taken the lead in handling export controls. He also said we are doing this so well others are coming to us for advice. Dr. Fenwick provided background and possible strategies to support this growing area. Dr. Kapania expressed deep reservations regarding the new rules for export controls. As a result of an internal audit, Dr. Fenwick also mentioned the need for additional post-approval monitoring and suggested a plan to support this as well.

Dr. Fenwick discussed the departure of Dave Richardson. He informed the membership of Linda Bucy’s appointment as Interim Assistant Vice President and Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs. Dr. Fenwick said a national search will be initiated in the near future. He also discussed the career ladder within the Office of Sponsored Programs and the stability it provides. Dr. Fenwick shared his plans for making OSP more electronic.

Dr. Fenwick also shared information on the one-time state funding for research, the Commonwealth Research Initiative. He mentioned the university will want to request a continuation of this funding next year. Dr. Fenwick reported we are on target with the university development campaign.

6. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.