

WEST VIRGINIA SCIENCE AND RESEARCH COUNCIL

July 15, 2021

A meeting of the West Virginia Science and Research Council was held on July 15, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the headquarters of the Higher Education Policy Commission in Charleston WV. Attendance was as follows:

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Sarah Tucker
Dr. J. Ulises Toledo
Dr. Fred King
Dr. Juliana Serafin
Anne Barth
Dr. Maura McLaughlin
Dr. Uma Sundaram
Kelsey Staggers for Ed Gaunch
Dr. Jack Dever
Dr. Laura Gibson
Dr. Mike Norton

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. W. Clayton Burch
Dr. Colleen Nolan
Rachel Roberts
Dr. John Maher

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Annette Carpenter (HEPC)
Angela Sundstrom (HEPC)
Dr. Suzanne Strait (HEPC)
Ryan Quinn (press)
Dr. Sally Hodder (WVU)

CALL TO ORDER

After declaring a quorum was present, Dr. Tucker called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. Introductions were made. Dr. Gibson is at the end of her term and will be leaving the Council; Dr. Hodder will be serving as the WVU Medical School representative. Rachel Roberts is being reappointed to another 4-year term by the Governor. Other members remain the same.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes from the prior meeting held on April 29, 2021, was made by Anne Barth and seconded by Fred King; the motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

After reviewing the bylaws of the Council, it was determined that the Chair can designate a Council member to preside in her absence. Anne Barth was appointed by the Chair as Vice Chair to preside in meetings that the Chair cannot attend.

NSF EPSCoR RII TRACK-1 UPDATES (Juliana Serafin/Suzanne Strait)

New RII Track-1 Proposal-

The letter of intent was submitted to the National Science Foundation (NSF) on July 12, 2021. The purpose of the letter of intent is to help NSF choose appropriate proposal reviewers. A draft of the proposal has been reviewed by external reviewers and the writing team will continue to work on the proposal which is due on August 16, 2021.

FY '22 SPENDING PLAN (Juliana Serafin/Annette Carpenter)

The spending plan for the State Research Challenge Plan was presented to the Council for approval. Dr. Gibson inquired about the STEM Fellows program at WVU. Dr. Serafin explained that due to COVID, both WVU and MU requested a 1-year extension; WVU also requested a 1-time funding supplement for their program. A new request for proposals will be issued in September 2021 with a new award cycle slated to begin in September 2022.

A motion to approve the spending plan was requested; the motion carried (Ulises Toledo/Fred King).

OTHER (staff)

Angela Sundstrom presented the new logo for the Division of Science and Research with new color schemes and logo for HEPC. The spring *Neuron* featuring Sally Hodder and Judith Feinberg will be mailed to members soon.

Dr. Strait announced the next STEM speaker series featuring Drs. Maura McLaughlin and Michael Strager. The event will be held outdoors in Charleston on July 22. Angela Sundstrom will share the announcement with the Council members. Dr. Strait also provide a brief update on the summer science camps with the National Youth Science Foundation that are currently underway.

Dr. Serafin indicated that the First2 program is wrapping up their 3rd year of the NSF grant. The Summer Immersive Experiences for incoming STEM college freshman are in progress.

NEXT MEETING

A date for the next meeting has not been chosen yet.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.