

Research, Development, & Equipment Committee (RD&E)

Indiana University School of Education

Year End Report, 2000-01

In the 2000-01 school year, the SOE Research, Development, & Equipment committee met five times as a full committee as well as in several issue-specific subcommittees. In addition to coordinating the Proffitt Endowment grant competitions, we completed the following: a) generated alternatives to the current Proffitt competitions; b) summarized the research goals for the strategic planning document; c) created ways to support faculty and students involved in the human subjects research approval process; and d) made recommendations for the purchase of research equipment for the faculty and students in the school of education. In addition, we worked to form recommendations to the dean regarding supports and incentives for faculty seeking and obtaining external funding. Each of these activities is summarized here.

Proffitt Endowment Grant Awards

As a committee, we held the internal grant competitions associated with the Proffitt Endowment and awarded a total of \$193,530 (See attached summary of awards). Proposals were reviewed individually by each committee member, ranked based on the competition criteria, and then discussed as a committee. Final decisions to fund were made by committee vote.

Alternatives to The Current Proffitt Research Grant Competition

The RD&E Proffitt subcommittee met to review the Proffitt endowment and the related research grant competitions. We found that historically, the money has been used to fund annually approximately 10 year long studies (150,000 with additional SOE support through student stipends), summer stipends for 2 faculty (19,500), and the associate dean's discretionary fund (6,000). Concerns were expressed about the endowment as well, and included the following: a) We are underspending from the endowment each year. For instance, under the traditional pattern of funding, approximately \$124,500 of the available funds will not be spent this year; b) Current Proffitt funding limits the type of research that is being conducted and does not reach all

possible researchers (i.e. doctoral students) or meet the needs of the faculty; c) reports from Restrictions in the Proffitt competition go beyond the donor intent and; d) faculty are discouraged from applying either because they feel they will not be able to receive a grant after they have already been funded once by the Proffitt or they receive enough specific feedback for changes on a grant that is rejected. In addition, if changes to a proposal are made according to committee guidelines, there is no assurance of funding. Given the concerns expressed, the following recommendations for possible changes in how the endowment is distributed were provided to Cathy Brown:

- Changing the funding cycle – suggestions were made both to have only one competition a year, to funding up to two years of a study.
- Create opportunity to apply for continuation or “bridge” grants when funding ends on externally funded projects.
- Allow funding for other than full time GA, like equipment and conference travel.
- Use money to support a continual postdoctoral position.
- Allow funding for a GA appointment to a research center.
- Create a pre-tenure course relief (particularly important for IUPUI professors).
- Allow direct application from doc students.
- Remove restrictive language from the Proffitt that do not fit the endowment intent, including the requirement that it leads to outside funding.
- Build it into a recruiting tool to support new faculty research.
- Encourage more doc students to collaborate on research at IUPUI.
- Examine the associate dean’s discretionary fund and whether that meets donor intent.
- Use money to bring in external faculty for collaborative grant writing.

Research Goals For The Strategic Planning Document

Committee members worked with Cathy Brown to summarize the SOE research goals for the long range planning committee. This summary was informed by deliberations by the SOE RD&E committee and other multiple sources, including the following: a) facilitator notes and other notes compiled from the 2000 SOE Annual Retreat; b) minutes from three focus group meetings held by Cathy Brown during 1999-2000; c) RD&E committee report to Policy Council, Spring 2000; d) Results of survey of IUB faculty regarding the services of

the RD& E office in Bloomington (conducted by IST graduate students); and d) reports from subcommittees of the RD&E Committee.

Briefly, based on this information the following goals were established:

- Enhance the climate for scholarly and creative activity in the SOE.
- Devise ways to encourage the integration of research, service and teaching (including activities such as service-learning projects, action research, scholarship of teaching)
- Create better supports and incentive structures for those seeking and getting external funding for R&D activities
- Improve the IU SOE Research Reputation

Developed Means in which to Support Faculty And Students Involved the Human Subjects Research Approval Process

The RD & E subcommittee on Human Subjects (HS), which is chaired by Sam Odom, surveyed the School of Education faculty and graduate students to identify the problems they were having with the Human Subjects Review process, and create ways that the SOE could assist them. In addition, they also met with Christy Borders to discuss the content of the in-services she provided the school. They also formulated and recommended a policy by which all HS applications would have to be approved by Christy before being forwarded to the central office. Also, we met with two researchers about problems they were having with the human subjects review process. In late April, they are going to meet to discuss a proposal for HS applications to go through a subcommittee composed of reviewers from the School of Education (and possibly others) rather than the larger committee process.

Recommendations For The Purchase Research Equipment For The Faculty And Students In The School Of Education

The equipment subcommittee, led by Joanne Peng, solicited and summarized faculty research equipment needs. The subcommittee consisted of Gary Ingersoll, Deborah Faye Carter, Scott Higgins, and Mary King. They also received input from the ETS staff, faculty interacting with Media Services office, the R/D office, and the RD&E committee members. They created first through third tier priorities and attached

approximate costs to each. They also recommended that a long-rang planning committee be constituted that would consider and prioritize the SOE's equipment needs for both the short and long terms. The SOE faculty in general were then asked to contribute their suggestions, and a final recommendation was made to Cathy Brown.

Support and Incentives for Seeking and Obtaining External Funding

A small group, led by Donald Cunningham, met to discuss how the SOE might provide better support and incentives for faculty and staff seeking and obtaining external funding. Suggestions included providing additional support post-award and returning some percent of salary savings and indirect cost monies to faculty and/or units such as departments or centers. These discussions are ongoing and recommendations will be made over the summer.

McCarty, Maria	"Teachers and the Law"	\$15,192
Olson, Thomas	"Empirical Evaluation of the Efficacy of A Multicultural Special Education Case CD RDM for Teaching Pre-Service Teachers About the Referral to Special Education Process for Hispanic Students Who Are Limited in English Proficiency"	\$15,077
Thompson, Charles	"Buttering the Lives of All Children: A Case Study of Social Action and Racial Awakening"	\$15,154
Whisen, Susan	"The Development of the School Counseling Program Evaluation Survey (SCoPES)-High Form"	\$15,153