March 5, 2015

Memorandum To: Robert Kyr, UO Senate President

From: Moira Kiltie, Senior Assistant Vice President for Research

Re: Report for University Senate on the 2015 Faculty Research Award Committee

The members of the Faculty Research Award committee met with Brad Shelton, Interim Vice President for Research & Innovation, and Moira Kiltie, Senior Assistant Vice President for Research, the week of October 6, 2014, to review their charge and elect a chair.

Active committee membership consisted of the following seven individuals (in alpha order):

Jennifer Ablow, Psychology
Martha Bayless, English
Nancy Cheng, Architecture
Mark Fonstad, Geography
Regina Psaki, Romance Languages
Elizabeth Tippett, Law
Cynthia Vakareliyska, Linguistics (elected by the committee as chair)

Ex-Officio Facilitator
Moira Kiltie, Senior Assistant Vice President for Research

***Please note the following individuals, initially appointed to the committee, asked to be released from committee work (they were asked to formally notify the Senate President directly): Steven Van Enk, Physics, Eric Pederson, Linguistics, and Lynn Steph.

Forty four proposals for the 2015 Faculty Research Award were received and reviewed for adherence to the program guidelines. These proposals, a copy of the guidelines, and an evaluation tool were distributed to the committee via Blackboard in December, 2014, prior to the end of the fall quarter.

The committee met on January 29, 2015 to discuss the proposals and their individual evaluations of the applications. The committee’s recommendations and written comments were then provided to the Interim Vice President for Research & Innovation for final determination of awards. The Vice President approved twenty awards for FY2015-2016 (provided on the next page in alphabetical order).
Nathanael Andrade, Assistant Professor, History, “From the Roman Mediterranean to India: the Early Movement of Christianity through the Afro-Eurasian World System”

Kirby Brown, Assistant Professor, English, “Stoking the Fire: Nationhood in Early Twentieth Century Cherokee Writing”

Kathie Carpenter, Associate Professor, International Studies, “Assessing the English Proficiency of Children in Cambodian Orphanages”

Li-Shan Chou, Professor, Human Physiology, “Quantifying Cognitive, Neurological, and Movement Disorders in Veterans with Chronic mTBI”

Mark Eischeid, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture, “Sublime Landscapes: Modernist American Landscape Architecture and the Artificial Infinite”

Sangita Gopal, Associate Professor, English, “Between State and Capital: Women Makes Movies”

Gina Herrmann, Associate Professor, Romance Languages, “Spain and the Holocaust”


Colin Ives, Associate Professor, Art, “The Sinuous Index”

Santiago Jaramillo, Assistant Professor, Biology, “Automated Alignment of Mouse Brain Slices to Brain Atlases”

Ronald Mitchell, Professor, Political Science, “Improving our Understanding of the Effects of Environmental Treaties with New Theory and New Data”

Jenifer Presto, Associate Professor, Comparative Literature, “Flowers among the Ruins: Southern Italy and the Russian Modernist Imagination”


Stephen Shoemaker, Professor, Religious Studies, “The Apocalypse of Empire: Imperial Eschatology in Late Antiquity and Early Islam”

Jolinda Smith, Senior Research Associate, Lewis Center for Neuroimaging, “In Vivo Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy of Low Level Brain Metabolites”

David Sutherland, Assistant Professor, Geological Sciences, “Chasing Icebergs: Developing Capability to Use Icebergs as Natural Ocean Drifters”
Roxi Thoren, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture, “Out of the Woods: Trees, Forestry, and Landscape Architecture”

Arafaat Valiani, Associate Professor, History, “Architectures of Consumption: Commerce and Urban Planning in Postcolonial Western India”

David Vazquez, Associate Professor, English, “Latina/o Literature and the Cross-Currents of U.S. Environmentalism”

Frances White, Professor, Anthropology, “The Evolution of the Peaceful Bonobo: Seed Funding for NSF Proposal”

Individuals were notified of their status as of February 16, 2015. An announcement listing the recipients was made to the Deans, Directors and Department Heads email list on February 18th. Additional announcements were made on the Research Development Services website and in the Oregon Research newsletter. The list of recipients was also sent to “Around the O.”

As the Committee on Committees considers appointing next year’s members, we respectfully request that they designate only one faculty member per academic department and give consideration to the divisional make-up of the committee. Having the broadest possible representation of academic disciplines benefits the review process immeasurably.

cc: Scott Coltrane, Interim President
    Brad Shelton, Interim Vice President, Research & Innovation
    Lynn Stearney, Director, Research Development Services