

Report of the Faculty Research Committee, 2004-05

The Faculty Research Committee is a College committee composed of twelve members, three from each of the Areas in Arts & Sciences and one from each of the professional schools -- Law, Business Administration, and Education. The vice provost for research is a non-voting member ex officio. Members this year were: Joanne Braxton (English), Beatrice Guenther (Modern Languages), Tolly Taylor (English), Virginia Torczon (Computer Science), Margaret Saha (Biology), Hugo Woerdeman (Physics, fall 2004), Keith Griffioen (Physics, spring 2005), Lisa Anderson (Economics), Dale Hoak (History, chair), Christopher Howard (Government), Lynn Pelco (Education), Davison Douglas (Law), William Stewart (Business Administration), and Dennis Manos (Vice Provost for Research, ex officio).

The FRC administers three faculty programs: Summer Research Grants (SRGs), Faculty Research Assignments (FRAs), and requests for book subventions. In each case, the Committee reports its recommendations directly to the Provost. All final decisions rest with the Provost. Recommendations for changes in the policies governing these programs are made to the Faculty Assembly.

Following a mandate of April 2004 from the Faculty Assembly, the Committee this year gave budgetary priority to funding for the FRA program. On 6 December 2004 the Committee reported to the Provost its recommendations for FRAs and SRGs for 2005-06. A summary of that report is as follows:

- (1) FRAs: the Committee received 56 applications and recommended the award of 45 FRAs. Of those that could not be funded, one was incomplete and could not be considered.
- (2) SRGs: There were 53 applications for SRGs. From monies remaining in the budget after the award of FRAs, the Committee recommended funding 19 awards at \$4363 each. However, thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Suzanne Matthews, the Freeman Foundation, and the Christopher Wren Association, twelve additional awards could be made from private funds: three Matthews Grants in the amount of \$5000 each – The Committee designated the best application in each of the three Areas as a Matthews Grant -- five Freeman Grants in Asian Studies in the amount of \$5000 each, and four Christopher Wren Association Grants in the amount of \$5000 each.
- (3) Book Subventions: there were two applications, each for less than \$2000, and the Committee recommended that both be awarded.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Hoak, chair