Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Laura Sprabery, at 12:08 PM on November 7, 2011, in the Coleman building, Room A101.

Attendance

The following members were present:

Louisa Balazs, MD, PhD, Maggie DeBon, PhD, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, PhD, Bob Foehring, PhD, Scott Jackson, DVM, Stephen King, MD, Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD, William R. Morris, MD, Edwards Park, PhD, Kaushik Parthasarathi, PhD, Larry Reiter, PhD, Renate Rosenthal, PhD, Laura Sprabery, MD, Thad Wilson, PhD

The following guest(s) was (were) present:

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Minutes had previously been distributed by electronic means.

Business

Pres. Sprabery invited Dr. Fitzpatrick to explain a new issue, regarding the new PAMS electronic routing system for grants. There are required fields for percent effort, for principal investigator, co-principal investigators and co-investigators, etc. One fairly new box concerns "percent credit." Upon inquiry, the Office of Research Administration indicated "this is not us," meaning that the ORA was not requiring this box and could not explain just what it means or requires. There was some indication that the box may have some connection with tenure and promotion, but it was not clear just what sort of "credit" is involved. Further discussion among the DFAC revealed that the meaning of "credit" in this setting is entirely unclear. It is not the same as "effort" but beyond that, no one seemed able to lend clarity. Informal inquiry with the Dean's office in the recent past indicated that the Dean, too, is uncertain.

Overall, the PAMS routing system is expected to help investigators keep track of grant status more easily. Nevertheless, a significant lack of clarity regarding this particular term caused concern among the DFAC.

On another matter, it was noted that clinical faculty find it increasingly difficult to participate in campus activities such as the Faculty Senate. The loss of RVUs (relative value units) that occurs when the faculty member attends these meetings (or does anything other than work in the clinical setting) poses an increasingly strong barrier to participation. As a result, clinical faculty tend to be underrepresented in the Senate.
Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on December 5, 2011, at 12:00 Noon in the Coleman building, Room A101.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD
Secretary