Board of Trustees
Health Sciences & Research Workgroup

Minutes

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
October 15, 2009
University of South Florida
USF Marshall Student Center, Room 3700

Present:

Trustees:            John Ramil, Chair; Sonia Garcia; Kiran Patel; Rhea Law (Ex-officio)
Community Liaison:  Hal Mullis
Faculty Liaisons:    David Diamond; Patricia Emmanuel; Mario Hernandez
Vice Presidents:     Karen Holbrook; James Hyatt
Staff Liaisons:      Pat Haynie, Lead; Rhonda Hendrix

Chair’s Remarks
Chair John Ramil opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He stated that this is
an incredible time for USF, particularly with regard to research and athletics, and wished the
Bulls good luck in the game tonight. Chair Ramil noted that the Executive News Summary
received from President Judy Genshaft was predominantly stories about USF research and
offered congratulations to Vice President Karen Holbrook. He welcomed, in absentia, the new
Community Liaison, Dr. Ronald Swinfard, from Lehigh Valley Hospital and referenced a new
affiliation with Lehigh.

Chair Law remarked that USF is building a tremendous legacy with the creation of the USF
Academy of Inventors, with its 131 charter members and the new international journal,
Technology & Innovation. The Academy had its inaugural luncheon last week during
ResearchOne and the response was tremendous. She commended the leadership for such
forward thinking—something for which USF is known. She noted that football has spurred
rallies and a palpable excitement in downtown Tampa. She noted that USF is making a
difference on campus and in the community, as well as on state, national, and international
stages. As an example, Chair Law cited President Genshaft, Senior Vice President Steve Klasko,
and Provost Ralph Wilcox’s trip to Korea this week, noting that a full-page interview with them
appeared in a Korean newspaper.
Chair Ramil noted a recent column by Steve Otto in *The Tampa Tribune*, in which Mr. Otto asserted that USF is already a “beast of the east” in many areas other than sports.

**Approval of August 20, 2009, Meeting Minutes**
The August 20, 2008, meeting minutes were approved.

**Community Engagement Update**
Dr. Linda Whiteford provided a brief update, noting that she will make a full presentation at a spring UBOT Workgroup meeting. The Office of Sustainability has a great deal going on, including the two-day Campus and Community Sustainability Conference & Expo in the Sun Dome today and tomorrow, which has been underwritten by USF and the Florida Campus Compact. Dr. Whiteford noted that President Genshaft had presented the opening remarks at the conference. USF was receiving good press coverage, and exciting student interactions were taking place. She expressed gratitude to the Workgroup for their support. On October 30, 2009, the Florida Campus Compact is holding a daylong Institute on Engaged Scholarship and Community Redevelopment at the Alumni Center (contact person: Judi Jetson). Dr. Whiteford also reported that a School of Global Sustainability is being discussed with the Faculty Senate.

**Office of Research & Innovation (OR&I) Update**
Dr. Karen Holbrook presented an update on research activities (see above link). Chair Ramil asked about the technology transfer process at USF and how new knowledge is moved from the research laboratory, to inventions, to patents. Vice President Holbrook asked Ms. Valerie McDevitt, Assistant Vice President for Patents & Licensing, and Dr. Rod Casto, Associate Vice President for Technology Development, to respond. Ms. McDevitt noted the need for gap funding and that USF had been working with Senator Jeremy Ring and the State Legislature to provide seed funding. She noted that USF is working on a program with serial entrepreneurs to help new businesses move forward. Dr. Casto discussed business incubation, moving technology from the University to commercial businesses like Draper, and networking incubators. The nature of USF’s interest in IRX Therapeutics and Targacept was discussed. Chair Ramil pointed out that, because of recent economic retrenchment, there may be potential venture capital waiting on the sidelines.

Ms. Cheryl Byers, Director of Research Integrity & Compliance, spoke briefly on USF’s human subjects protection accreditation, which has a quality assurance program to enhance the awareness of researchers. She stated that a similar post-award monitoring program is needed for the animal care program. Dr. Patty Emmanuel spoke briefly about the high volume of clinical trials and the impact of compliance on the transfer of new drugs to the marketplace. Vice President Holbrook noted that an administrator was recently transferred from Research Integrity & Compliance to the Office of University Audit & Compliance to assist the University’s Chief Compliance Officer with various initiatives, including institutional conflict of interest. She also noted that Ms. Byers had also worked with affiliated institutions to ensure our agreements were mutually beneficial and current. Chair Ramil noted that the University Board of Trustees and other leadership should most certainly set the tone for compliance.
Chair Ramil asked when the name of the new research vessel would be changed from Weatherbird to WeatherBull, prompting discussion about a renaming ceremony versus a rechristening. Chair Ramil concluded the meeting with a reminder that the next meeting is scheduled for November 19 and noted that a CAMLS (Center for Advance Medical Learning and Simulation) update may be presented at that meeting.

Chair Ramil adjourned the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

Submitted by:
Judy Lowry and Rhonda Hendrix
October 26, 2009