I. Information

A. Core Facilities proposals – Due April 1 – See Tech Today 3/17
   http://www.mtu.edu/research/administration/vpr-office/core-facilities/
   WHICH DEPARTMENTS IN CSA ARE LIKELY TO PROPOSE?

B. Howard Hughes Medical Institute/NAS summer institutes:
   Applications due April 18
   “Although NANSI focuses predominantly on biology, we also welcome teams that are
   interested in interdisciplinary topics, such as the intersection of biology with math,
   chemistry and physics.”

C. Research areas defined for VPR website (see attached email at end of agenda)

D. CS chair conversations

E. Homeland Defense/ORAU Core Analysis Tasks (Reed email 3/10)

F. Maintenance work online address:
   Or go to Facilities Management website at http://www.mtu.edu/facilities/maintenance/requests/

II. Student Laptop Initiative (Dan DeBeaubien)   (10:00- 11:00)
    Terry Sharik will join us

Ongoing:
1. Faculty Distinguished Service Award nominations sought (Waters email 1/28)
2. CSA Strategic Plan update, with department revisions during AY 2013-14
3. On-line training for NSF PIs – preparation for upcoming audit
   (Labissoniere email 10/11/13)
Hi Jim, Wayne, and Bruce:

Here is the final draft of the list of research areas for the new marketing-minded Research webpage. We met regarding the old list about six weeks ago. I used your feedback to arrive at this new list. I met with Dave Reed yesterday, and he has approved the following breakdown:

1. Atmospheric and Space Sciences
2. Computation, Data, Electronics, and Sensing
3. Ecology, Ecosystems, and Environmental Policy
4. Education and Outreach
5. Energy and Sustainability
6. Health
7. Human Factors and Psychology
8. Life Sciences
9. Macro-, Micro-, and Nano-Sciences
10. Robotics and Mechanics
11. Transportation and Infrastructure

Each section will get its own short (100-to-200-word) write up, a list of current research projects within the area, applicable departments, news, and centers/institutes (all to be compiled by UMC). It's a one-stop shop for information regarding each of our most robust research areas.

Please let me know if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions about the final list of research areas.

Thank you,

Danny Messinger
Web Editor and Content Specialist
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Updates from the Graduate School
Jackie Huntoon, 2/20/2014

1) For accelerated master's students - The idea behind these is that students begin the MS immediately after completion of the BS. The way these programs are all set up is that as soon as students complete the BS they are considered to be enrolled in the MS and they therefore must adhere to the graduate level continuously enrollment policy - like all other graduate students. If they don't remain continuously enrolled they will be dropped from the program and have to reapply - and if they reapply they can't be in the "accelerated program" since the Senate policy requires that students apply prior to graduation with the BS. This could have financial implications for students (loss of ability to double count credits) so it is important that they understand this. Kristi Isaacson (kris@mtu.edu) is the point person for the accelerated master's programs so if you have a question - feel free to contact her.

2) Dean's Fellowships - I want to remind everyone of the Dean's Fellowship program (see http://www.mtu.edu/gradschool/administration/academics/awards-fellowships/dean-fellowships/application.html ) because it is a way to get additional funding to make more competitive stipend offers to domestic students. We are accepting nominations now - so please consider this opportunity to help you attract great students. If you have any feedback on the nomination process or other aspects of the program please send them to Heather Suokas (hlsuokas@mtu.edu) who will compile the information and share it with me.

Deb Charlesworth (ddc@mtu.edu) can help with the preparation of nominations and can also provide more information about this program.

3) We have a limited amount of travel funding for PhD candidates to visit our campus. Campus visits are one of our most effective recruiting tools. If you are interested in this funding opportunity and best practices for campus visits, please contact Jacque Smith (jacque@mtu.edu).

4) More on the domestic student recruiting front - we are continuing with the Graduate Tuition Grant program this year (this provides up to $2000 to defray tuition costs for otherwise unsupported domestic incoming students who have financial need). The students have been notified of their eligibility and the application process is easier than last year. If you have questions about this program, contact Jacque Smith (jacque@mtu.edu).

5) Funds available through the Michigan King-Chavez-Parks initiative and the National GEM Consortium. Contact Deb Charlesworth (ddc@mtu.edu) if you want to know more about these programs. Additionally if you want help recruiting a student who may qualify, Jacque Smith or Kristi Isaacson are willing to help out with campus visits, general information, etc. (jacque@mtu.edu; kris@mtu.edu). You can learn more about the KCP program at: http://www.mtu.edu/gradschool/administration/academics/awards-fellowships/kcp/ .

6) Don't forget to encourage promising undergraduate students to pursue graduate school (including Michigan Tech of course). Jacque Smith (jacque@mtu.edu) and Kristi Isaacson (kris@mtu.edu) are both willing to help out by hosting information sessions for students. One thing we have found out is that some of our own students don't know how to apply to graduate school, and some don't think they are qualified
(even though they are). An encouraging word from a faculty member can be all that it takes to make a promising student aware that they "have what it takes". Jacque and Kristi can also help by providing a step-by-step guide on what to do and when to do it.

7) For international students who need just a little help getting into the swing of things on a US college campus we will be offering GOAL this year. GOAL (Graduate Orientation with Applied Language) is designed to help ease the transition into graduate school. It is not an ESL program but it will involve English-language practice - in formal classroom and informal settings. More information about GOAL is available at: http://www.mtu.edu/gradschool/programs/degrees/goal/

8) The Graduate Faculty Council has approved some changes to the thesis and dissertation submission process - Deb Charlesworth can provide you with a now versus future document that explains what is changing. A copy of this document has also been sent to the University Senate as an information item that may be shared at an upcoming Senate meeting. Deb can be reached at ddc@mtu.edu if you'd like to get a copy of the document and/or like to ask any questions.