

**Research Alliance of Missouri
Minutes for September 8, 2009**

The Research Alliance of Missouri (RAM) met in regular session by on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 beginning at 3:04 p.m. The meeting was held by teleconference.

The following members and staff were in attendance:

RAM Members Attending:

Dr. Krishna Krishnamurthy (Chair)	Missouri University of Science and Technology-Rolla
Dr. Nasser Arshadi	University of Missouri-St. Louis
Dr. Maria DiStefano	Truman State University
Dr. Rob Hall	University of Missouri-Columbia (alternate for Dr. Rob Duncan)
Ms. Cindy Kiel	Washington University
Mr. Allen Kunkel	Missouri State University
Dr. Mike Nichols	University of Missouri
Dr. Victoria Steel	University of Central Missouri
Dr. Raymond Tait	St. Louis University
Mr. Frank Veeman	Northwest Missouri State University/SBDC

Staff Attending:

Mr. Bill Anderson	Missouri Technology Corporation
Ms. Stacey Hirst	Missouri Technology Corporation/DED

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Krishnamurthy called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. A quorum was established with ten members or alternates participating in the meeting including Dr. Arshadi, Ms. DiStefano, Dr. Hall, Ms. Kiel, Chair Krishnamurthy, Mr. Kunkel, Dr. Nichols, Dr. Steel, Dr. Tait and Mr. Veeman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair Krishnamurthy entertained a motion for approval of the minutes from the June 9, 2009 meeting, which were distributed to the members prior to the meeting. The following resolution was moved by Ms. Kiel, seconded by Dr. Steel and unanimously approved:

RESOLVED, the RAM hereby approves the minutes from the June 9, 2009 meeting as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chair Krishnamurthy moved to the next agenda item and asked Dr. Arshadi to give the Treasurer's Report, which was distributed to the members prior to the meeting. Dr. Arshadi reviewed the balance sheet and profit and loss statement. Hearing no questions the following resolution was moved by Dr. Tait, seconded by Ms. Kiel and unanimously approved.

RESOLVED, the RAM hereby approves the Treasurer's Report for the RAM as submitted.

Dr. Arshadi asked about the possibility of a new appropriation or grant from the MTC to the RAM. Chair Krishnamurthy deferred this issue to the discussion of future RAM projects later on the agenda.

PRESENTATION ON TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION PROGRAM:

Chair Krishnamurthy then asked Dr. Michael Walsh from the U.S. Department of Commerce to make his presentation regarding the Technology Innovation Program. Dr. Walsh presented information regarding the changes to the Technology Innovation Program and upcoming requests for white papers.

UPDATE ON MTC STRATEGIC PLAN:

After thanking Dr. Walsh for presenting, Chair Krishnamurthy moved to the next agenda item and asked Mr. Anderson to provide a status report of the MTC strategic plan. Mr. Anderson stated it is an on-going process and the MTC appointed a small working group to review the draft and provide input. The next step is present the draft plan to the MTC Board at the October 26th MTC Board meeting. After this meeting the MTC staff will send the draft report to the RAM for comments.

UPDATE ON THE FY2010 LIFE SCIENCES RESEARCH GRANTS:

Chair Krishnamurthy then moved to the next agenda item and asked Mr. Anderson to provide an update on the FY2010 Life Sciences Research grant process. Mr. Anderson stated the Letter of Intent process was closed last month with a total of 168 proposals submitted. The Life Science Research Board (LSRB) invited 66 to submit a full proposal, which are due on September 14, 2009. The full proposals will be sent for peer review and also to the Centers for Excellence for further review by the screening committees. The LSRB will make the final decision on December 4, 2009.

UPDATE ON RAM PROJECTS:

Chair Krishnamurthy asked Mr. Anderson to provide a status report on the RAM newsletter. Mr. Anderson stated the conversations with the MU School of Journalism are on-going. The goal is for the inaugural issue to be published during the spring semester to focus on life science research to coincide with the University's Life Science Summit. He further stated the RAM will need to negotiate the terms and cost and he should have more information at the next RAM meeting.

Chair Krishnamurthy stated he reviewed the RAM strategic plan from 2005 and many of the goals are still relevant today. He suggested the RAM should invite key state agencies and staff from the Governor's Office to attend the December RAM meeting in order to provide an overview of the purpose of the RAM. Chair Krishnamurthy stated he would put together an outline of the program. He also stated he would send a copy of the last RAM strategic plan to Vice Chair Kiel and Treasurer Arshadi for their review and comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business the following resolution was moved by Ms. Kiel, seconded by Dr. Tait and unanimously approved:

RESOLVED, the RAM hereby adjourns the meeting.

Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

The next RAM meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2009 by teleconference.