ANNUAL REPORT

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

**University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama**

Dr. Mark Greer   **8/13/2025**
Committee Chair   Date submitted

Submitted to: Dr. Becky Smith
Chair, Shared Governance Executive Committee

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

ANNUAL REPORT
2024-2025

I.   Executive Summary

The University Research Committee released the 2024-2025 grant application in January 2025, completed applications were due in February 2025. The committee met on March 6th, 2025 to review grant proposals and vote on funding awards. 19 projects with a total budget of $31,810 were eventually funded.

II.   The Committee's Charge (from the Shared Governance Document)
1. To serve as an advisory committee on the university's research function and related issues
2. To serve as a screening board, recommending action for university-released time and non-released time research grants (not including those grants given through individual college research committees)
3. To gather information on the University's research efforts and related issues, and assess university performance in these areas in light of the information obtained
4. To propose changes in university policies, procedures, and practices on research and related issues
5. To handle any proposals the committee may make affecting university policy according to section C.2 "Shared Governance Procedures for Policy Change Recommendations"
6. To submit a final written report electronically by the first day of the fall semester to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs with a copy sent to the Chair of the SGEC

III.   The Committee met on the following dates:

11/11/2024 (E-bus iness) – Election of the vice chair & starting revision of the application document.
03/6/2025 (Teams) – Grant application evaluation meeting.
03/7/2025 (E-business/recurring) – Met with provost office for funding requests and clarification on certain proposals.

IV.   What were the Committee's actions and accomplishments this year relative to each of the items of the charge?

This year, 19 project proposals from 13 departments and three colleges were funded through the University Research Committee with a total fund of $31,810. One additional project was initially funded but withdrawn by the PI.

V.   What were the Committee's formal recommendations?

After careful evaluation, the committee recommended partially or fully funding 20 projects out of 25 submitted proposals for various activities such as research projects and creative artworks.

VI.   What does the Committee plan to accomplish

      A.   In the coming year?
      The committee continually updates the application form, clarifying certain funding restrictions and updated policies. One main issue is dealing with faculty requests for software and hardware that is not provided by IT.

      B.   In future years?
      The committee tries to make the grant application process as smooth and easy as much as possible.

VII.   What are the Committee's weaknesses?

The application process and review period could be shortened and clarified. Scheduling difficulties usually holds back the review process. Several applications were denied for inappropriate requests or incorrect applications.

      A. What can the Shared Governance Committee help you do to address the weaknesses?
      N/A

VIII. Comments

N/A