RESEARCH INCENTIVE POLICY

POLICY OBJECTIVE. The purpose for disbursing some research-related funds to the Principle Investigators, the Academic Departments and the Research Centers is to simulate and enable the funding, conduct and dissemination of research, as well as to encourage center-based research.

FUNDING MECHANISM. For each research contract/grant (i.e., 5-account effort), the amount of incentive funds to be disbursed shall be equal to 10 percent of the generated overhead. Although it is not anticipated, should the total incentive amount to be distributed in each of the 1990/91 and 1991/92 academic years be less than the total incentive amount distributed in the current 1989/90 year (based upon expenditures from 5-accounts), then the Provost’s Office shall underwrite the difference.

FUND RECIPIENTS. There are three categories of recipients: Principle Investigators, Academic Departments (in which the Principal Investigators have tenure track or research faculty appointments) and Research Centers (i.e., those approved to receive incentive returns). The process by which a Research Center is approved to receive incentive returns shall be decentralized – each of the five schools shall have a faculty/administrative committee which reviews and approves Research Center applications for such a status (which must be reapplied for every three years). Centers with faculty in more than one school can be designated a center by any of these schools. The Provost and the Deans shall monitor this process for consistency. All references to “Centers” in the paragraphs, which follow, refer only to the centers, which have been approved by a school for receiving incentive returns.

FUND DISTRIBUTION. For each research contract/grant (i.e., 5-account effort) and based on the most recent 1988-1989 figures, the distribution of incentive funds shall be:

- For Tenure Track or Research Faculty Principal Investigators – the total incentive amount shall be divided 30% to the Principal Investigator(s), 55% to the PI’s department(s), and 15% to the Center(s) that the research is affiliated with, or if there is no center affiliation, to the Provost’s Research Incentive Fund for subsequent distribution.
- For Center’s Staff Principal Investigators – the total incentive amount shall be divided 45% to the Principal Investigator’s Center, 55% to the academic department(s) that the research is affiliated with, or if there is no departmental affiliation, to the Provost’s Research Incentive Fund for subsequent distribution.

If there is more than one Principal Investigator, then the relative proportion of the PI pool of funds assigned to each PI shall be determined by the PI’s and shall be based on such considerations as, each PI’s contribution to the proposal effort, reputation in the research area, anticipated level of participation, anticipated student participation, equipment to be used, etc. Once the PI pool of funds is allocated, then both the Academic Department and the Research Center pools of funds shall be allocated in like manner and in the same proportions. (Thus in an effort with two PIs –say A and B are allocated 60% and 40% of
the PI pool of funds, respectively, then A’s Academic Department shall receive 60% and
B’s Academic Department shall receive 40% of the Academic Department pool of funds,
and, likewise, the designated Research Center(s) shall be allocated the Research Center
pool of funds, 60% of which is controlled by A and 40% by B.) Finally, the incentive
funds allocations shall be specified at the time of proposal development and shall be
approved by the affected Principal Investigators, Chairmen, Center Directors, and Deans
at the time of their approval of the proposal itself.

DISBURSEMENT MECHANISM. For each research contract/grant (i.e., 5-account
effort), the disbursement of incentive funds shall be done on an automated and monthly
basis by research accounting. The Provost’s Research Incentive distributed with the
objective of obtaining an overall result approaching 30% PI, 55% Department and 15%
Center.

POLICY DURATION. Commencing July 1, 1990, for a period of three years, to be
followed by a review of the distribution percentages and the use and impact of the
incentive funds.