

**Committee on Research (COR)**  
**Wednesday, March 22, 2017**  
**11:00-12:00 PM KL 362**  
Documents available at [UCM BOX](#)

- I. **Chair’s Report – David Noelle**
  - a. Division Council – March 16, 2017
  - b. UCORP Meetings – February 13, 2017 and March 13, 2017
  
- II. **Consent Calendar**
  - a. Approval of the March 8, 2017 Minutes pg. 4
  - b. Approval of the March 22, 2017 Agenda
  
- III. **[Senate Awards - Distinguished Early Career Research and Distinction in Research](#)**
  - a. **Background:** COR is responsible for the “[Distinguished Early Career Research](#)” and the “[Distinction in Research](#)” awards, with two review committees having been formed.
  - b. **Action:** COR members will discuss the status of the awards and any issues that may have been discovered.
  
- IV. **[Administering the Academic Senate Faculty Research Grants Program](#)**
  - a. **Background:** A revised call for applications was distributed on March 9, with a deadline for submissions, to be received by the Senate Office, by April 12. School EC’s will receive the applications for ranking by April 13, and those rankings are due back to the Senate Office on May 2. COR will review the rankings and determine awards on May 3.
  - b. **Action:** COR members will discuss the status of the grant program and any issues that may have been discovered.
  
- V. **Purchasing and Research – Ramen Saha**
  - a. Discussion of issues related to the purchasing process at UC Merced.
  
- VI. **[Campus Policy for the Return of Unencumbered Research Funds](#)**
  - a. **Background:** COR has received a request from a faculty member to review the campus policy for the return of research funds which have not been encumbered at the closing date of the corresponding grant. There is concern over a lack of consultation with PIs prior to the return of funds.
  - b. **Action:** COR members will discuss the possibility of communicating with ORED to pursue appropriate changes in policy.
  
- VII. **Systemwide Review Items**
  - a. **[Guide to Senate Committee Membership & Executive Session](#)**
    - i. **Background:** Senate Chair Amussen has requested review and comment on a draft *Guide to Senate Committee Membership and the Purpose and Practice of Executive Session*, to establish a common reference regarding fundamental aspects of Senate committee membership and function.
    - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to the Senate Chair by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 24, 2017.

- b. **Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy**
  - i. **Background:** This policy establishes minimum standards for the safe use and operation of UAS and Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (SUAS), including drones and model aircraft, at any University location or at any authorized University activity. COR and GC are lead committees for this review.
  - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to the Senate Chair by 5:00 PM on Thursday, March 30, 2017.

#### VIII. Campus Review Items

- a. **Proposals for Five New Academic Units in the School of Engineering**
  - i. **Background:** The School of Engineering is proposing five new academic units and has provided a cover letter and revised Bylaws that will take effect when the School splits into the proposed set of academic units. CRE, CAP, CAPRA, GC, and UGC are lead committees on this review.
  - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to Senate Chair by 5:00 PM on Monday, April 3, 2017.
  
- b. **Proposal for a Major in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies**
  - i. **Background:** Senate Chair Amussen has requested review and comments on a Proposal for a Major in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies. UGC and CAPRA are lead committees for this review. The UGC *Policy for the Review and Approval of Undergraduate Degree Programs* is available [here](#) to assist discussion.
  - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to [senatechair@ucmerced.edu](mailto:senatechair@ucmerced.edu) by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.
  
- c. **Proposal for an English Honors Program**
  - i. **Background:** Senate Chair Amussen has requested review and comments on a *Proposal for English Honors Program*. UGC is the lead committee for this review.
  - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to [senatechair@ucmerced.edu](mailto:senatechair@ucmerced.edu) by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.
  
- d. **Proposal for UCM GE Program**
  - i. **Background:** UGC Chair Zanzucchi has requested comments on a Proposal for a UC Merced General Education Program. This proposal addresses the elements typically expected in a proposal for a new undergraduate program. Per UGC, the assessment plan (page 18) is currently being more fully developed, and a revised plan will be submitted to UGC by April 5. UGC, CAPRA, and GC are lead committees on this review.
  - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to [ge@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ge@ucmerced.edu) by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.
  
- e. **Proposal for a Minor in Management Analytics and Decision-Making**
  - i. **Background:** Senate Chair Amussen has requested review and comments on a Proposal for a Minor in Management Analytics and Decision-Making. UGC and CAPRA are lead committees on this review.
  - ii. **Action:** COR sends comments to Senate Chair by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 19, 2017.

**IX. Upcoming Business**

- a. Presentation on Composite Benefit Rates (CBRs)
- b. Center for the Humanities ORU Proposal
- c. Future Funding of Senate Faculty Grants Program
- d. ORU Proposal - Center for Human Adaptive Systems and Environments (CHASE)
- e. ORU Proposal Initiation Issues
- f. Blum Center reorganization
- g. Monitoring Progress of the 2020 Project

**X. Other Business**