

Committee on Research (COR)
Wednesday, February 08, 2017
11:00-12:00 PM KL 360
Documents available at [UCM BOX](#)

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 11:05 AM on February 8, 2017 in Room 360 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David Noelle presiding.

XI. Chair's Report – David Noelle

The Chair reported on the following:

a. Division Council – February 2, 2017

- i.** A systemwide effort is being made for the creation of vision documents for how the UC system is expected to be in 2040.
- ii.** There was a discussion about planning for space growth.
 - 1.** The Provost and Office of Budget & Planning recently held two meetings with faculty members on campus budget and funds allocation:
 - a.** January 31: [link to CatCast](#)
 - b.** February 8: [link to CatCast](#)
- iii.** Workforce planning efforts are underway, with subcommittees meeting often. Some members have expressed concerns that their criteria for evaluation is unclear.
- iv.** Chancellor Leland discussed three proposals on the 2040 assessment, and has asked the Senate to determine which plan should be forwarded for inclusion in the overall UC systemwide plan. She noted that the three plans roughly outlined a campus with 15,000/20,000/25,000 undergraduates by 2040.
- v.** The principles concerning start-up funds and incidental funds that Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom (FWAF) drafted were discussed, focusing on the additions suggested by COR. The Chair of FWAF endorsed the third principle that was recommended by COR, and DivCo approved the resulting document.
- vi.** The Policy on Access to Student Data was discussed, with the comments from COR being the most substantial from among the other committees. DivCo will include COR's response in a final memo sent back to the policy authors.
- vii.** The proposed revisions to the G-28 Travel Regulations was approved.
- viii.** Diversity & Equity requested an endorsement from DivCo on ways to collect data on the sexual orientation of Faculty for the purpose of tracking discrimination between different positions, etc., with DivCo raising concerns about privacy and asking the committee to provide more details.
- ix.** An effort is being made to create a Police Force Advisory Board that does not report to the Police Chief.
- x.** Work is being done to improve the methods for evaluating faculty mentors, with a particular focus on augmenting the evaluation process so that evaluation comments can be received from Unit 18 lecturers.
- xi.** DivCo has requested transparency regarding the procedures for selecting faculty members for positions on Dean search committees. A member of DivCo voiced concern about the criteria for who was selected for the current Natural Sciences Dean Search Committee.

XII. Consent Calendar

- a. The January 25, 2017 Minutes was approved as presented.
- b. The February 8, 2017 Agenda was approved as presented.

XIII. Sierra Nevada Research Institute (SNRI) ORU Review Committee

- a. VC-ORED Traina confirmed that an external reviewer has agreed to participate, and SNRI staff will schedule a site visit. SNRI will also be provided the opportunity to update their self-study to remove any obsolete data, as necessary. VC-ORED Traina will generate a list of questions for the review committee to consider, and COR will have the opportunity to review this list. The actual review process is expected to take no more than two or three days to complete.

XIV. [Survey of Faculty Concerning Staff Support for Extramural Funding Efforts](#)

- a. Member Saha provided a revised summary of the survey data that includes a discussion of post-award support, as previously requested by COR. Member Saha noted substantial variance in the level of service perceived by the faculty from various units. There was a concern raised about having the names of schools appear in the report, but the committee agreed that, as long as personal names were removed from the final report, leaving the school names in place was acceptable. COR unanimously approved the summary and data report, which will be discussed at a future DivCo meeting. DivCo will be asked to endorse transmission of the results to Senate faculty and to the Provost and Chancellor, with a suggestion to promptly distribute this information to the workforce planning groups.

XV. [Center for the Humanities ORU Proposal](#)

- a. Chair Noelle has responded to the lead author, requesting additional information that follows the official UC policy for ORU proposals. Upon receipt of a revised proposal, COR will review it, and comments will be aggregated. VC-ORED Traina noted that COR should request confirmation from the administration regarding the future funding of ORUs. This should take the form of a request through DivCo to the Provost. This subject will be discussed at a future COR meeting.

VC-ORED Traina also referred to a model used at UCOP, where funding for programs is not renewed, but instead re-competed. The funding for multi-campus research units is not growing, introducing a problem in which legacy programs block investments in new programs. In response to this problem, the [Multicampus Research Programs and Initiatives](#) model was introduced. It was suggested that a similarly sustainable model for funding campus units should be pursued.

A member asked if the criteria for ORU establishment would be provided to reviewers, and Chair Noelle responded that criteria would be provided. The campus ORU establishment policy document needs revision in order to provide clarity concerning UC systemwide requirements, information in the Compendium, and the campus ORU establishment policy.

XVI. [Administering the Academic Senate Faculty Research Grants Program](#)

- a. The 2016 Call for Proposals was provided for committee review, and the Chair asked for comments on how to improve the process this year. A member asked about the funding pool that would be available, and the Chair noted that \$175,000 was available, with an explicit statement from the Provost's Office that this amount is locked, despite the request for a proportional increase that tracked the growth of campus faculty.

It was suggested that School Executive Committees be provided with a reviewing guidance template in order to encourage similar evaluation processes across schools. VC-ORED Traina noted that the template would provide good feedback to the funding proposal authors. In many other funding situations, including the limited submission proposal evaluation process, there has been great difficulty in getting reviewing faculty to give substantive feedback to proposal authors. In contrast, the suggested template might provide valuable information to proposal authors. A member noted that providing this template beforehand would help the applicants understand the review process.

VC-ORED Traina suggested providing two "review sheets" that go back to the author: one from the Executive Committee containing the responses from individual panel members, and a composite response from the COR review.

Chair Noelle described a vision for this template in which it primarily describes the review process, noting aspects of the proposal that should be included, the proposal elements that should be critiqued, and requesting an overall rating for use during COR's evaluation process. Other information provided in school reviews could be used for tie-breaking and as feedback for proposal authors.

A member asked about how conflicts of interest would be handled, in particular with regard to a committee member submitting a grant proposal while being on a review committee. Inclusion of the [COI policy](#) in the guidance document would assist in clarifying this issue. This subject would be addressed at future COR meetings.

XVII. Purchasing and Research – Ramen Saha

- a. This item will be added to a future COR agenda.

XVIII. Systemwide Review Items

- a. [Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 630.D](#)
 - i. COR has no comments on this item.
- b. [Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System \(UAS\) Policy](#)
 - i. This will be added to a future agenda.

XIX. Upcoming Business

- a. Identify AY 2016-2017 High Priority Issues for COR
- b. Future Funding of Senate Faculty Grants Program
- c. ORU Proposal - Center for Human Adaptive Systems and Environments (CHASE)
- d. ORU Proposal Initiation Issues
- e. Blum Center reorganization
- f. Monitoring Progress of the 2020 Project

XX. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 PM.

Attest:

David Noelle, COR Chair