

Committee on Research (COR)
Wednesday, March 8, 2017
11:00-12:00 PM KL 362
Documents available at [UCM BOX](#)

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 11:05 AM on March 8, 2017 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David Noelle presiding.

I. Chair's Report – David Noelle

The Chair reported on the following:

a. Division Council – March 2, 2017

- i.** A space allocation committee was populated without Senate consultation, and DivCo is in communication with the administration, explaining that the Senate needs to be included in such decisions.
- ii.** Systemwide, the Senate has approved an increase in tuition.
- iii.** UCOP decided to release redacted descriptions of sexual harassment events over the last three years. Redaction was managed on each campus. The Merced Sun-Star published an article on the reported cases associated with UC Merced. Members of DivCo raised a concern that, despite the fact that some information was redacted, individuals involved in the cases could be identified by cross-referencing the released data with other publicly-available information.
- iv.** The indirect cost rate for financial awards from state agencies will be increased over several years to 40%. Funding from federal agencies is not affected by this decision.
- v.** Academic Council discussed concerns over a potential loss of federal funding for state programs, noting that funding for the UC is discretionary in the state budget and, therefore, easy to cut to compensate for other losses.
- vi.** The Academic Council discussed renaming Lecturers with Security Of Employment (LSOE) to some other title, such as "Professor of Instruction".
- vii.** Systemwide work is being done to provide equity of benefits to domestic partners.
- viii.** UC Berkeley is interested in requiring letters of recommendation for undergraduate applicants. There is resistance to this idea, however, due to the lack of equity across the state with regard to high school resources for the generation of such letters. The result of such a policy might be a bias in the applicant pool in favor of students from high schools that have the resources to afford a staff member for this task.
- ix.** [ANR](#) and the national labs have been allocated endowed chairs from UCOP. There has been some debate in the Academic Senate concerning the responsibilities of these chairs and the criteria for being awarded with a chair. Historically, positions of these kinds require some form of excellence in research, with the evaluation of such excellence informed by members of the Senate. ANR, however, is considering awarding chairs to individuals who do not conduct research, such as agricultural consultants.
- x.** UC Merced has been recognized as understaffed in comparison to other UC's. No solution for this problem has been proposed, but this may be addressed in the 2040 systemwide vision statements.

VI. Purchasing and Research – Ramen Saha

- a. This will be added as a future agenda item.

VII. UCOP Initiative - NASA AMES - VC-ORED Traina

- a. VC-ORED Traina discussed an initiative between UCOP and NASA Ames involving the leasing of approximately 16 acres at Moffett Field, with the intent to develop new opportunities for UC researchers, including creating new space for both research and industrial collaboration. Both he and Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Education Marjorie Zatz are serving on the working group for this initiative. VC-ORED Traina noted that, despite requests for representation by the Academic Senate, no contact with the Academic Senate has been made.

A memo will be submitted to DivCo requesting the delivery of a formal statement to Christine Gulbranson, UC Senior Vice President of Innovation & Entrepreneurship, who is leading this initiative, requesting that consultation with the Academic Senate be sought.

VIII. 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 is to send 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 is to send comments to the Senate Chair by 5:00 PM on Thursday, March 30, 2017.

IX. Upcoming Business

- a. Proposals for Five New Academic Units in the School of Engineering
- b. Center for the Humanities ORU Proposal
- c. Identify AY 2016-2017 High Priority Issues for COR
- d. Future Funding of Senate Faculty Grants Program
- e. ORU Proposal - Center for Human Adaptive Systems and Environments (CHASE)
- f. ORU Proposal Initiation Issues
- g. Blum Center reorganization
- h. Monitoring Progress of the 2020 Project

X. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Attest:

David Noelle, COR Chair