

**Committee on Research (COR)**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**December 3, 2014**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 3:00 pm on December 3, 2014 in Room 324 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David C. Noelle presiding.

I. AVC for Research and Economic Development

AVC Peter Schuerman provided an overview of his services to COR members. By way of introduction, Chair Noelle first summarized the situation at the systemwide level where President Napolitano is interested in innovation and the commercialization of research. She has formed a committee to this effect and has delayed appointing a new Vice President of Research and Graduate Studies. UCORP has discussed these concerns at previous meetings and asked members to provide an overview of tech transfer from each of their campuses.

AVC Shuerman announced he closed the UCM tech transfer office and the office is now known as the Office of Business Development. AVC Shuerman related that the tech transfer business model at many institutions is problematic and no longer sustainable. The National Council of University Research Administrators formed a subcommittee to administer intellectual property at universities after consensus was reached that the tech transfer business model needed to be addressed.

AVC Shuerman has staff working on projects related to start-up companies. He emphasized that the university is a research institution, not a research and development entity. However, his office is attempting to introduce the development element by seeking partnerships, shared opportunities, and return on investment. While it is important to continue communicating with government agencies, the university also has to work with industry and encourage co-investment. The university has many resources from which companies can benefit so companies are encouraged to work with our campus by hiring our students. In return, our faculty members offer their research to be developed. Put another way, faculty researchers deserve an

“agent” to help them with business opportunities and partnerships. Industry is looking for investments, not simply research projects to fund.

VCR Traina mentioned that AVC Shuerman successfully negotiated a contract with HP (previously, faculty could not engage in research agreements with HP).

AVC Shuerman mentioned that the campus has acquired space downtown to begin building teams in support of business partnerships. He asked COR’s assistance in imparting to the faculty that the tech transfer model is not sustainable and that business partnerships is the more effective path.

A COR member expressed concern that the business model contains a development component that could be emphasized over the university research enterprise. AVC Shuerman and VCR Traina reiterated the importance of partnerships and pointed out that the business model provides for support for faculty members with their research and inventions.

## II. Chair’s Report

Chair Noelle updated COR members on the discussion items from the Division Council meeting held earlier today.

--Provost/EVC expects that the strategic academic focusing thematic areas will be ready to implement in January or February 2015.

--the Governor is advocating for three-year undergraduate degree programs.

--the systemwide Senate has discussed the total remuneration study which found that UC faculty are receiving about 12% less pay than the “Comparison 8” institutions. Each campus Provost/EVC has been asked to work with his or her Senate division to provide recommendations on closing this salary gap.

--Vice Chancellor for Planning and Budget Dan Feitelberg delivered a Project 2020 presentation that focused on transferring risk to private entities. One of the proposals for new buildings is a “mortgage” model whereby the campus pays a fee for the financing, building, and maintenance of new buildings and

if after a certain number of years the buildings are well maintained, then ownership of the buildings is transferred to the campus.

--The systemwide emeriti society is a resource that campuses can use to fill slots on Senate committees.

--the medical education task force has been formed.

--the search committee for the new dean of SSHA is nearly filled.

--Division Council discussed COR's memo requesting the empaneling of a standing Senate committee on library and scholarly communication. The Council has requested that COR formulate a charge and membership.

COR members discussed the possible membership and agreed that the new library committee should include members from COR, CAPRA, UGC, and GC.

**ACTION:** COR Chair will review the COR bylaws and last year's Library Working Group's report in which the Group listed the charges and membership of library committees on other UC campuses. COR Chair will draft a proposed charge and membership and circulate to COR members for review. COR to send Division Council the proposed charge prior to the first Council meeting in January 2015.

### III. Consent Calendar

**ACTION:** The minutes from the November 19 meeting were approved as presented.

### IV. Senate Faculty Grants Program

Pursuant to the action item from the November 19 meeting, the committee analyst collected the award winners and budgets from AY 2008-2009 through AY 2013-2014 as well as total number of campus faculty during that timeframe. A COR member has begun crafting a graph to illustrate the low funding trend. COR members agreed that an email should be sent to all previous award winners, explaining that COR is attempting to make a compelling case to the Provost/EVC on the need for increased funding for the Senate faculty grants program. COR will ask the awardees to list their project

titles, amount funded, co-PIs, and write one paragraph that explains how their Senate award positively impacted their research output. Examples can include publications, other competitive grants, travel awards, student support, new collaborations, presentations at professional meetings, etc. Deadline for response should be December 19.

**ACTION:** Committee analyst will send the draft language to the Chair who will circulate to the committee for review and input. The next steps include refining the graph based on funding comparisons with other UC campuses and reviewing the responses from the previous award winners. Then, COR will send the memo to the Provost/EVC. Lastly, in January, COR will focus on drafting the spring 2015 call for proposals.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Attest: David C. Noelle, COR Chair

Minutes prepared by: Simrin Takhar, Senate Analyst