

Committee on Research (COR)
Wednesday, April 5, 2017
11:00-12:00 PM KL 362

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 11:10 AM on April 5, 2017 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David Noelle presiding.

I. Chair's Report – David Noelle

As there was no Division Council meeting or UCORP meeting since the last COR meeting. Thus, Chair Noelle had no updates to provide. However, he did solicit volunteers to attend the Monday, April 10 UCORP meeting in his stead, since he would not be able to attend, himself. He indicated that he would send a follow-up email to committee members in hopes of identifying a volunteer.

II. Consent Calendar

- a. **Action:** the March 22, 2017 minutes were approved as presented.
- b. **Action:** the April 5, 2017 agenda was approved as presented.

III. Library and Scholarly Communications (LASC) Committee Updates

- a. Professor Scheibner, COR's representative on LASC, provided the following updates from the March 15 meeting:
 - i. The major topic of discussion was the potential signing of the "Expression of Interest in the Large-scale Implementation of Open Access to Scholarly Journals by 2020" commonly known as the OA 2020 initiative. Originally discussed at the December 2015 Berlin 12 Conference, the details of this initiative is based on a [white paper](#) prepared by the Max Planck Digital Library. This international effort was initiated in response to the rising costs of subscription journals, and the need for reduced barriers in accessing information. If implemented, resources currently spent on journal subscriptions would be converted into funds that support Open Access business models. LASC members agreed that a key benefit of signing the associated Expression of Interest (Eoi) – besides the elimination of costly journal subscriptions – is the greater ability for UC scholars to conduct research through greater access to information and reducing re-use barriers (e.g. copyright/licensing restrictions). This is particularly beneficial for early career researchers, who often need to be able to publish initial results in order to obtain the funding necessary to maintain their research programs and advance up the career ladder. However, a minority of the LASC membership pointed out that the major downside of open access is that such a model may hinder some institutions from participating, particularly those known as the "global south" institutions where budgets are minimal and, therefore, cannot absorb the article processing charges necessitated by OA 2020 Model.

LASC voted to recommend that UCM sign the Eoi and transmitted its endorsement to the Senate Chair. In that transmittal, LASC asked the Senate Chair to decide whether this issue should undergo Senate review before UCM

declares itself a signatory. (After the LASC meeting, the Senate Chair agreed that the Senate should review, and the call for review is forthcoming.)

- ii. The University Librarian announced that he was added to the membership of the Provost/EVC's Space Planning and Allocation (SPA) board. Comprised of senior administrative and academic leadership - including the Senate chair and CAPRA chair - the SPA board was empaneled as a first step in a collaborative, campuswide space management framework. The first meeting was held on March 29, 2017.
- iii. LASC previously endorsed the Library's white paper on the use of space in the Kolligian Library and informed the Senate Chair of its support. (After the LASC meeting, Division Council opined on the Library's space plan and transmitted a memo to the Provost/EVC on March 28. The memo stated that, while Division Council agreed with the overall vision proposed by the Library, the implementation of this vision will require fully integrating the library into the campus' emerging integrative planning processes, including for space, budget, and FTE.)

IV. Campus Review Items

- a. Proposal to create a minor in Management Analytics and Decision-Making.
 - i. **Action:** COR members unanimously voted to decline to comment. The Senate Chair will be notified of this fact.
- b. Proposal to create a general education program.
 - i. COR members continued their discussion from the March 22 meeting. While the proposal contains some positive elements, COR is concerned with the negative impact on faculty's research productivity through the additional instructional demands associated with offering Spark seminars and the integrative culminating experience. The proposal indicates that graduate students and post-docs would assume some of the teaching responsibilities, but this suggestion is also problematic, given that these two groups would be diverted from their research projects. Another issue that was raised involved the fact that additional students working in laboratories will require faculty to conduct significantly more safety training concerning policies and procedures that, if not followed, will place faculty PIs at risk. This introduces an additional cost that does not appear to be addressed by the proposal. COR members agreed that, if resources and/or other solutions are not forthcoming, the undergraduate research element of the proposal must be made optional for degree programs, allowing such options to be offered only by those programs that have the capacity to offer such an opportunity to undergraduate students within their resource constraints.
 - ii. **Action:** By close of business on April 5, 2017, COR will send a memo to the Senate Chair articulating the above concerns.

V. Purchasing and Research

- a. Professor Ramendra Saha updated COR members on issues related to the purchasing process at UC Merced.
 - i. COR members discussed the systematic problems related to the workflow governing purchasing, grant accounting, and central budgeting. VC-ORED Traina

pointed out that these issues are currently under discussion in the meetings of one of the workforce planning groups. Future campus planning may include a centralized, streamlined, purchasing system.

- ii. COR members agreed that the workforce planning group may benefit from input by COR on identifying faculty pain points surrounding purchasing and grant accounting and from general Senate consultation on how a future workflow system would interface with systems currently in place by schools and central offices.
- iii. **Action:** This item will be added to the April 19 agenda for further discussion on COR's role, if any, in this issue.

VI. Systemwide Review Items

- a. Proposed Presidential Policy on Export Controls. This new policy provides the core parameters for compliance with the federal export control regulations. COR and GC are lead committees on this review.
 - i. **Action:** Due to time constraints, this item was tabled until the April 19 meeting.
- b. Proposed revisions to APM 285, 133, 210, and 740. The revisions would change the name of the L(P)SOE series to Assistant Teaching Professor (LPSOE), Associate Teaching Professor (LSOE), and Teaching Professor (Senior LSOE). CAP is the lead committee on this review.
 - i. **Action:** Due to time constraints, this item was tabled until the April 19 meeting.
- c. Proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 336. These are the second-round revisions that address procedures and timelines for Privilege and Tenure proceedings in discipline cases. The amendments are intended to align Bylaw 336 with recent revisions to APMs 015 and 016, approved by the Regents earlier this month, and to implement policy revisions recommended by the Administration-Senate Joint Committee on Investigation and Adjudication Processes for Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence cases involving faculty, described in the Joint Committee's Report of April 4, 2016. P&T, D&E, and FWAF are lead committees on this review.
 - i. **Action:** Due to time constraints, this item was tabled until the April 19 meeting.

VII. Upcoming Business

- a. Composite Benefit Rates presentation by Controller & AVC Michael Riley (April 19)
- b. Purchasing discussion with Chief Procurement Officer Joshua Dubroff (May 17)
- c. Center for the Humanities ORU Proposal
- d. Identify AY 2016-2017 High Priority Issues for COR
- e. Future Funding of Senate Faculty Grants Program
- f. ORU Proposal - Center for Human Adaptive Systems and Environments (CHASE)
- g. ORU Proposal Initiation Issues
- h. Blum Center reorganization
- i. Monitoring Progress of the 2020 Project

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Attest:

David Noelle, COR Chair