

Committee on Research (COR)
Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 11:08 AM on September 21, 2016 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David Noelle presiding.

I. Chair's Report

- a. Division Council Meeting – September 8, 2016 (Member Saha representing COR)
Chair Amussen met with Chancellor Leland and Provost Peterson on August 29th, and they agreed that the Deans will be asked for 5 Year Teaching Plans, intended to help identify where faculty lines are needed. The Provost wanted to create a committee that would link faculty growth to cluster hires, but DivCo stated that the Committee on Academic Planning & Resource Allocation (CAPRA) serves this function. One of the Chancellor's priorities for Project 2020 is to have a policy for space allocation that is transparent, and a two-day retreat is planned to work on this and other policies with DivCo, Deans, and others. There was some discussion about realignment of schools, and it was indicated that the Chancellor will be asking the task force to identify pros and cons of changing the existing structure. The Provost wants the restructuring to be based on a dialogue between Deans and faculty members. DivCo requested that there be consultation, not briefings, on the Deans' workforce plans. DivCo discussed the SAFI survey from the last academic year. It was pointed out that the survey showed that the majority of faculty were against SAFI (only 14% responded positively), but the Provost had moved forward with the SAFI program despite the negative response. Regarding the proposed Research Data Storage policy by IT, DivCo received four responses, all negative, and DivCo agreed that the policy was poorly drafted.

The COR membership talked further about the SAFI survey results. It was noted that DivCo would be looking to CAPRA to lead the discussion on behalf of the Senate. Chair Noelle stated that CAPRA is the appropriate committee to play this role, but the hiring of faculty, bringing different areas of expertise and qualifications to campus, has a profound impact on the research mission of the campus. Thus, COR should attend to this process. The COR Analyst was requested to provide the survey results, in detail, to COR members, for their review.

II. Consent Calendar

- a. The September 7, 2016 Minutes were approved as presented.
- b. The September 21, 2016 Agenda was approved as presented.

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

- a. Chair Noelle indicated that he has contacted COC Chair Dale regarding the recruitment of the review committee, as well as the external reviewer. Chair Dale has been made aware that COR members are looking within their schools for interested volunteers. It was recommended that COC be asked to contact the school Executive Committees to assist with this search. VC-ORED Traina reported that he had identified an external reviewer from UC Berkeley, [John Battles](#), to assist with the SNRI review. COR members were encouraged to continue looking internally while COC also works to form the search committee. VC-ORED Traina suggested that review occur before the end of the

semester.

IV. Survey of Faculty Concerning Staff Support for Extramural Funding Efforts

- a. With regard to the recent changes in staff support from Research Development Services (RDS), along with school staff being given more substantial roles in supporting faculty in the pursuit and use of extramural research funding, a survey will be sent out to the campus Senate faculty concerning the support that they have received on topics such as grant preparation. The committee agreed that a proper survey tool (Qualtrics) should be used, rather than a survey distributed via email, allowing for anonymous responses. VC-ORED Traina stated that any such survey needs to be conducted soon if it is to have an effect on the current workforce planning efforts. Many suggested questions and categories were offered by COR members. During the discussion of conducting post-grant debriefings to gauge faculty satisfaction, VC-ORED Traina added that everyone in his office will soon be placed on a “360 review”, with a poll being sent to faculty to ask questions about their experiences with support staff.

It was decided that Chair Noelle will put together an initial draft of questions organized by category and granularity, to be reviewed by the committee. Senate staff will work with IRDS and Chair Noelle to generate the survey and have it distributed out to Senate faculty.

V. Identify AY 2016-2017 High Priority Issues for COR

- a. Chair Noelle described a planned meeting with Academic Senate leadership on Sept. 22 to discuss COR priorities this year. In addition to the topics discussed at the last meeting, COR members further identified the following priority areas of interest:
 - i. compensation for doing service,
 - ii. help with GSR support,
 - iii. 2020 lab infrastructure and how it will be used.

VI. Campus Review Items

- a. **Proposal for a Heritage Studies Minor**
 - i. By unanimous vote, there were no comments to be submitted by COR on this proposal.

VII. Systemwide Review Items

- a. **Technical revisions to APM Section 190 Appendix G**
 - i. With comments requested by October 3rd, COR agreed to wait for Faculty Welfare & Academic Freedom (FWAF) to respond, then base their response on FWAF’s comments.
- b. **Presidential Policy on International Activities**
 - i. This issue came up in AY 15-16, and concerns had been raised. Comments are due on October 27th, and member Gopinathan (then COR Chair) recommended that everyone read the proposal and discuss it at a future meeting. The membership agreed to this plan of action.

VIII. Upcoming Business

IX. Other Business

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

Attest:

David Noelle, COR Chair