

**Committee on Research (CoR)**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**January 16, 2019**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 2:30 pm on January 16, 2019 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Michael Scheibner presiding.

I. Chair's Report

Chair Scheibner welcomed new member Xuecai (Susan) Ge from the School of Natural Sciences.

Chair Scheibner then updated members on the January 10 UCORP meeting. The major topics of discussion were:

- Review of MRUs, one of which is the Institute for Nuclear & Particle Astrophysics & Cosmology (INPAC). The INPAC director joined the UCORP meeting to provide an overview of the institute and answered questions from UCORP members. Discussion of the second MRU under review, the UC Humanities Research Institute, was tabled for the next meeting.
- UCORP discussed two policies currently under review, the Two policies under review: 1) proposed revisions to Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-46 (Vehicle Use and Driver Selection) and 2) Policy on open access for theses and dissertations.
- The federal government is imposing restrictions on fetal tissue research and terminated a contract with one of the suppliers of tissue utilized by a UCSF researcher via the NIH. The systemwide Senate chair has asked UCORP to voice its support of the UCSF researcher and the committee is currently drafting its statement.
- The deadline in the negotiations between the UC and Elsevier was extended by one month (end of January 2019).
- Composite benefit rates. UCSB has implemented them and has concerns which were shared at the UCORP meeting.

II. Consent Calendar

**Action:** due to lack of quorum, this item was tabled for the next meeting.

III. ORU Policy

Chair Scheibner stated that he and member Moran have produced a new revision of the ORU policy draft. However, clarification is needed on a few points in the draft: 1) whether the review committee is appointed by CoR or the Senate/Division Council, 2) if language can be added regarding whether an ORU can be transformed into a new entity instead of disassembled, and 3) clarification that the authority to appoint of ORU directors can be delegated by the Chancellor to the VCORED.

**Action:** the ORU policy draft will be revised to take into account the aforementioned issues, and will be added to the next CoR meeting agenda for review by the committee.

#### IV. Consultation with VCORED Traina

VCORED Traina provided CoR with updates on implications of the federal government shut down:

- Federal agencies are closed with the exception of the DoE, DoE, and the NIH. The review of faculty grant proposals are being delayed at the NSF. At the NSF, the only individuals who are considered essential are those on IPAs, as they are from universities, and not NSF employees.
- Students on DACA status cannot be renewed due to the closure of the State Department.
- Students whose parents are federal employees are unable to pay their tuition.
- Visas are on hold.
- UCOP is trying to tabulate the costs of the shut down in order to lobby Congress for a resolution. VCORED Traina is asking faculty to contact him if their research program is being impacted so that he can add to the UCOP data.
- Early next week, VCORED Traina's office will post a federal shut down FAQ on their website for faculty.

Prior to this meeting, VCORED Traina and CoR member Subramaniam revised the Office of Research's limited submission procedures.

**Action:** Due to a lack of quorum, this item was tabled for the next CoR meeting.

#### V. Campus Review Items

- Proposal from SSHA to change name of academic unit Social Sciences and Management to Economics and Business Management.  
CoR members supported the name change, as it provides clarity on the curriculum and mission, and in turn, should attract a higher quality graduate student pool which will benefit the campus research mission.

**Action:** Analyst will distribute a draft memo via email. The memo will be reviewed and approved by the committee at the next meeting.

- Working title change to L(P)SOE series to Teaching Professor  
CoR supports the working title change. However, the committee has the same question is posed in a previous academic year when this proposal from systemwide was first distributed for review, which is, perhaps the systemwide Senate should consider further changes to the APM to reestablish the former "Research Professor" title series. The committee continues to prefer the "Research Professor" title over

the current “Professional Research” series under APM 310. In light of the introduction of the Teaching Professor titles, the (re-)introduction of the Research Professor titles would reflect a more balanced representation of the University’s fundamental missions: teaching, research and public service. Furthermore, to recognize research faculty as “Research Professors” is common practice and may positively impact the ability of these colleagues to attract research funding.

**Action:** Analyst will distribute a draft memo via email. The memo will be reviewed and approved by the committee at the next meeting.

**VI.** Other Business

Chair Scheibner updated CoR members on composite benefit rates. Faculty members now have to apply for mitigation of costs; the mitigation process no longer begins automatically. Eligibility for mitigation is tied to the particular person who was hired on a grant, e.g. a post doc. That individual must still be employed by the campus and has to be currently working on the PI’s grant. This is problematic because in order to mitigate the higher costs, the PI has to re-budget the entire project, not just the specific category of personnel costs.

CoR members pointed out that UC Merced faculty need to be reminded of the mitigation policy. VCORED Traina recommended that CoR contact Interim VC of Business & Administrative Services Michael Riley to send a communication to the faculty regarding the mitigation policy for composite benefits.

Chair Scheibner also brought up the discussion that CoR began in fall semester regarding a potential change to the Senate faculty grants program. In the likely absence of increased funding from the administration to the Senate for the grants program, CoR is considering converting to an incentive program.

VCORED Traina suggested submitting a request to the Chancellor and EVC/Provost, stating that CoR wants to conduct a pilot that will require a temporary increase in funding for the faculty grants program, as the pilot may yield additional grants in the future. CoR would then gather the necessary data and submit to the Chancellor if the pilot is successful.

**Action:** Analyst will send old memos from previous academic years to CoR members that were written by previous CoR memberships requesting that the former Provost authorize additional funding for the Senate faculty grants program.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Attest: Michael Scheibner, CoR Chair