

Committee on Research (CoR)
Minutes of Meeting
November 28, 2018

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 2:00 pm on November 28, 2018 in Room 397 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Michael Scheibner presiding.

I. Chair's Report

Chair Scheibner reported on the following:

- November 19 UCORP meeting. The major items of discussion included:
 - Items currently under review at the campuses, including the revised policy on sexual violence and sexual harassment, and the policy on vehicle use
 - Kim Budil, Vice President for National Laboratories at UCOP, discussed with UCORP members the potential ways the Lab Fee Research Program (LFRP) can enhance the relationship between the national labs and the UC campuses. For example, one idea is to broaden the LFRP with a wider range of topics that brings together national labs and the campuses. Additional ideas included arranging for national lab scientists to travel to UC campuses and conduct seminars, meet students, and generally build networks for the labs and campuses.
 - Two multicampus research units (MRUs) are undergoing review
 - Updates on the impending regulations regarding collaborations with China. If implemented, these regulations will have a major impact on faculty collaborations, research, student visas, and visiting scholars.
 - A policy is being developed on the protection of the academic freedom of university librarians. UC librarians are unionized and do not have the same manner of academic freedom that exists for faculty. This policy will be distributed for campus review in the future.
 - Updates on UCHHealth leadership
 - UC negotiations with the publisher Elsevier are ongoing and no major updates were reported.
 - A taskforce will be empaneled to examine the use of standardized testing such as the GRE and SAT.
 - Discussion on ways to recruit graduate students that would support diversity.
 - Discussion about each campus's Senate faculty grants program and the various levels of funding. Each campus's program and funding vary widely.
 - Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Arthur Ellis informed UCORP about an impending Request for Proposals (RFP) for a project on Valley Fever. The RFP will be issued on December 5. (UC Merced has faculty currently working on this topic.)

- November 27 Division Council meeting. The major items of discussion included:
 - The campus is developing a set of policies for emergency management. A consultant will be retained by the campus to assist in writing the emergency plan protocols. Support for having a campus emergency plan increased given the confusion in communication surrounding the recent campus closure.
 - Interim Provost/EVC Camfield reported that President Napolitano will begin holding two budget meetings instead of just one. One of the topics will be student success. A discussion was held about using the strength of our campus with regard to undergraduate student research to use as a pipeline to encourage students to progress to graduate school and careers in academia. This can also be used as a pipeline to increase the diversity of the future faculty body.
 - VCORED Traina provided Division Council members with an update on the impending regulations with regard to collaborations with China. In addition to having an impact on faculty collaborations, student visas, and visiting scholars, the federal funding agencies will become much more strict about requiring PIs to provide information about international consulting work. The federal government is scrutinizing the UC system in particular, as 10% of the federal funding agencies' budget goes to the UC.

II. Consent Calendar

Action: the November 7 meeting minutes were approved as presented. Today's agenda was approved with one change: the ORU policy revisions will be tabled for the next meeting.

III. Campus Budget Work Group Update

CoR member Subramaniam updated the committee on the November 20 Budget Work Group meeting. Major topics of discussion included:

- Proposed model for indirect cost return distribution. The proposed model for distribution is 1) 80% to central office to allocate for campus operations and other central commitments such as debt service, and 2) 20% to the "Opportunity Funds" broken down as follows: 5% to PI(s) (allocated by the Deans) based on IDCR generated by PI; 5% to Deans based on the IDCR generated by their respective school; 5% to VC Research based on total IDCR generated and to ORU Directors based total; 5% to Provost based on total IDCR generated. There was also a discussion on grants that are not fully burdened and therefore do not pay full indirect costs. Work Group members considered whether faculty should be encouraged to apply for grants that pay full indirect costs.
- Potential ways to recover faculty salary that is generated from course buyouts.

IV. PROC Draft Charge to Center for Humanities External Review Team

PROC invited CoR to review the draft charge to the Center for Humanities external review team. PROC intends to finalize the charge at their December 12 meeting.

CoR members briefly discussed the charge and judged it to be sufficient

Action: PROC will be notified that CoR approves of the charge as presented and has no further comments.

V. Revisions to ORU Policy

Action: due to time constraints, this item was tabled for the next meeting

VI. Consultation with VCORED Traina

- Revisions to limited submission procedures.

Action: due to time constraints, this item was tabled for the next meeting

VII. Consultation with IT

CIO Ann Kovalchick and Deputy CIO Nick Dugan attended today's meeting at the request of CoR to clarify a few components of the two-factor authentication policy.

Deputy CIO Dugan provided the rationale for the campus choosing to implement two-factor authentication, including data breaches of some retired faculty members' At Your Service accounts that caused disruption to their direct deposit checks. UC Path policies are another catalyst for the campus adopting two-factor authentication. CIO Kovalchick stated that out of approximately 11,000 accounts, over 8,000 are enrolled in two-factor authentication.

A CoR member inquired about faculty consultation. CIO Kovalchick responded that the main impetus came from the systemwide Senate and that UCFW issued a communication about the issue in a previous academic year. In response to a faculty member stating that the date of implementation is inconvenient as it is close to the end of the semester, Deputy CIO Dugan replied that no time of year is ideal, and the November date was debated and carefully considered. A summer implementation was deemed inappropriate as many faculty are away from campus, nor would finals week have been a good time for implementation.

Faculty are encouraged to review the FAQ and other information on the <https://it.ucmerced.edu/2FA> website. Faculty are also welcome to call the IT helpdesk for any questions on the logistics of Duo Security.

VIII. Systemwide Review Item

- UC ANR Advisory Committee draft report and recommendations.

CoR members discussed the report and viewed it positively overall. However, committee members suggested the following revisions:

- 1) ANR headquarters should be located more centrally within the State of California. For example, the Fresno area may be a potential option due its agricultural relevance;
- 2) Increase awareness among the UC campuses about ANR's mission. Specifically, highlight ANR's capability to support or enhance faculty outreach and research activities; for example, this could lead to contributions to the development of grant proposals and potential, additional revenue for UC ANR.

Action: CoR's memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by 5:00 pm today.

IX. Campus Review Items

- Policy to establish new Schools and Colleges. A CoR member volunteered to lead the review.

Action: CoR to discuss the lead reviewer's comments at the December 12 meeting. CoR's comments are due to the Senate Chair by December 21.

- Campus space planning principles. A CoR member volunteered to lead the review.

Action: CoR to discuss the lead reviewer's comments at the December 12 meeting. CoR's comments are due to the Senate Chair by December 21.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Attest: Michael Scheibner, CoR Chair