

Committee on Research (COR)
Wednesday, December 13, 2017
1:30 – 2:30 pm KL 362

Pursuant to the call, the Committee on Research met at 1:30 PM on December 13, 2017 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David C. Noelle presiding.

- I. Chair's Report
 - a. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the December 11, 2017 Division Council meeting:
 - i. The Moreno report on the audit of UCOP is posted on the Regents' website. Controversy occurred over UCOP personnel allegedly attempting to influence the responses on surveys that were sent from a state auditor to specific administrators on the individual UC campuses. The Moreno report was the result of an independent investigation into this matter, initiated by UCOP. The report includes evidence that UCOP personnel did, indeed, attempt to bias the survey responses from the campuses. The report is seen, by some, as a reason to question President Napolitano's leadership of UC. President Napolitano has indicated that she does not wish to leave office. She has begun efforts to include campus leaders into processes of UC-wide decision making. In particular, she has assembled Chancellor groups to consult on a more regular basis. One issue of immediate concern involves how UC should engage the Legislature.
 - ii. A Request for Proposals to bid on a contract to manage Los Alamos National Laboratory was issued. The UC will submit a bid, but the contents of this bid is not yet known.
 - iii. University Extension, currently operating under the auspices of Student Affairs, will likely be moved under Academic Affairs, with the goal of ensuring more academic oversight. (This is also true of Summer Session.) Such a move may not occur until 2019 or 2020, however. A preliminary proposal was assembled that would allow students to complete a bachelor's degree through Extension. This document, as well as the process of its development, highlights a need to align Extension with academic bodies. A final proposal will go through the Academic Senate, which has authority over curricular matters.
 - iv. The Chancellor informed the Division Council members that the five-year review of the Provost/EVC was completed in Spring 2017. The contents of the review are confidential, but the Provost/EVC is aware of the major issues that were raised. The Chancellor explained that the review of the Provost/EVC differs from that of Deans. While the review of a Dean is intended to help determine the suitability of continuing the Dean's appointment, the Provost/EVC review is seen as a professional development exercise.
 - v. Division Council is sending the Deans' Council a memo on the use of executive session in Academic Senate meetings.

- vi. Division Council approved two memos: 1) revised, joint memo from FWAF and D&E on diversity in faculty hiring and 2) COR's recommendation to renew SNRI as an ORU.
 - b. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the December 11, 2017 UCORP meeting:
 - i. UCORP discussed the UC bid for the oversight of Los Alamos National Laboratory.
 - ii. Two fellowships were awarded this year from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, both to UCM students.
 - iii. UCORP has requested that UCOP's Office of Research and Graduate Studies conduct a workshop on scientific reproducibility, focusing on the biological sciences and the authentication of resources. UCORP is divided on whether a central catalog of reagents, strains, and other experimental resources should be created, with a mandate to use catalog identifiers in scientific publications, and there is particular contention over the potential of a private company overseeing the cataloging process, as has been proposed. The workshop requested by UCORP would bring experts together to deliberate on these matters and related issues surrounding the reproducibility of scientific findings.
 - iv. Some members of the systemwide Academic Senate have raised the possibility of issuing a Memorial to the Regents regarding the conduct of President Napolitano during the UCOP audit process. Such an action would require a vote of all UC Academic Senate faculty across the system. Some members of the systemwide Academic Senate have suggested caution in this matter, arguing that it is critical to maintain consistent leadership at this time, given the budget negotiations that are occurring with the state legislature.
 - v. UCORP will conduct a five-year MRU review of the Institute of Transportation Studies.
- II. Budget Working Group Update
- a. COR member Scheibner, a member of the Budget Working Group, updated COR members on the December 4 Working Group meeting:
 - i. The Working Group continued its work on a proposal for a carry-forward policy for faculty members' incidental funds. The main component of the draft proposal is that faculty would be allowed to accumulate incidental funds up to \$9,000 per individual for three years. The draft proposal will be distributed for faculty review. The next Working Group meeting will be held on January 8, 2018.
- III. Consent Calendar
- a. **Action:** The December 13, 2017 Agenda and the November 29, 2017 Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Research Computing Support
- a. At the last COR meeting, a committee member requested that the committee discuss the lack of resources devoted to research computing.
 - b. **Action:** This discussion was tabled until the first COR meeting of the Spring semester.

- V. Revisions to Evaluation Criteria for Senate Faculty Grants
- a. COR members continued their discussion of possible revisions to the evaluation criteria for the Academic Senate Faculty Research Grants program. Specifically, the Committee considered the suggestions made by two members who had agreed to lead this discussion.
 - i. After a lengthy discussion, COR members agreed that the following three revisions will be made to the evaluation criteria and included in the Call for Proposals: 1) the number of awards made to each School will be approximately in proportion to the number of proposals received from each school; 2) the review process will no longer include input from the School Executive Committees, and 3) an effort will be made to award at least one collaborative grant to each School.
 - ii. **Action:** The draft Call for Proposals will be edited by a COR member to include the aforementioned revisions/additions and then distributed to the committee membership for approval.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Attest: David C. Noelle, COR Chair