

Committee on Research (COR)**Tuesday, April 17, 2018****10:30 am – 12:00 pm, KL 360**

Pursuant to the call, the Committee on Research met at 10:30 am on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 in Room 360 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David C. Noelle presiding.

- I. Chair's Report
 - a. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the April 9 UCORP meeting.
 - i. Nearly the entire meeting was devoted to a discussion of the five-year review of the Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS) MRU. UCORP members continue to raise issues concerning ITS's status as an MRU, rather than a collection of individual ORUs at the participating UC campuses. The review will be concluded next month.
 - ii. UCORP approved the revised Export Control policy. The revised version is accompanied by an online FAQ, and it clarifies that the policy is not intended to be completely proscriptive but rather to constrain and guide campuses on how to implement their own local policies to comply with export control laws. AVC for Research Compliance Debbie Motton confirmed that the systemwide policy will be implemented soon. UCM's Office of Research Compliance will assume the task of formulating Merced's policy. In response to a COR member asking if the policy will be distributed for Senate review, AVC Motton stated that her office will only seek input from certain administrative units on campus, as those units will require training on their responsibilities under the policy. These units will include Procurement. It was claimed that the policy places no direct constraints on research, so faculty input will not be solicited. COR members encouraged AVC Motton to seek faculty input as appropriate.
 - b. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the April 10 Division Council meeting.
 - i. The Provost/EVC will be consulting with CAPRA and FWAF at those committees' meetings this week to discuss the systemwide proposal to modify the faculty salary scales.
 - ii. Division Council's conflict of interest policy will be revised and resubmitted for the Council's approval.
 - iii. The Council discussed the formulation of a resolution in support of undocumented students and the protection of DACA, to be presented at the April 16 Meeting of the Division.
 - iv. Division Council approved the establishment of the minor in Management Analytics and Decision-making (MAD).
 - c. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the April 16 Meeting of the Division.
 - i. The systemwide Senate Chair and Vice Chair announced that a budget decision has been delayed until the next Regents meeting. The systemwide Senate is

- optimistic that state legislators can be convinced to support the proposal to buy out a tuition increase.
- ii. The systemwide Senate is committed to advocating for an adjustment to the faculty salary scales that includes a 6% increase. Systemwide leadership anticipates more developments over the next few months.
 - iii. UCM administration is making plans to assist undocumented students by providing legal support and other resources.
 - iv. The Provost/EVC recently issued his AY 18-19 faculty FTE allocation announcement to the school deans. His hiring plan includes new FTE lines in disciplinary areas, but does not include replacement hires, continuing searches, and a variety of other special allocations.
 - v. The AY 18-19 Merced Division Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Parliamentarian were announced. The membership slate of all Senate committees is nearly complete.
 - vi. As there was quorum, faculty members in attendance approved the proposed revision to the Senate Regulations with regard to Highest Honors.
 - vii. The winners of the annual Senate awards were announced by the Senate Chair.
 - viii. A resolution in support of undocumented students was read by faculty who authored it, and the resolution was subsequently voted on by the faculty in attendance. The resolution was supported by the Chancellor. It calls for her to orchestrate a process for generating an annual report describing how the campus is supporting undocumented students. The Chancellor stated her intention to consult with Senate faculty leadership to begin this process.
- II. Consent Calendar
- a. **Action:** the April 17, 2018 Meeting Agenda and the April 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.
- III. Conflict of Interest Statement
- a. The Senate Chair has encouraged committees to review their current conflict of interest policies, or to draft such a policy if they currently lack one.
 - b. COR members discussed the need to formulate a general policy, but one that also includes specific language concerning the role of committee members in reviewing internal grant proposals and proposals to establish research units.
 - c. **Action:** A COR member volunteered to take the lead in drafting a conflict of interest policy for the committee's review and approval at the May 1 COR meeting.
- IV. Revised PROC Membership
- a. The Committee on Committees (CoC) has requested that the appropriate Senate committees identify a current committee member to serve as liaison to PROC for a two-year term beginning AY 18-19.
 - b. Since the composition of COR membership for AY 18-19 is still undetermined, COR cannot fulfill CoC's request at this time.

- c. **Action:** COR to submit a response to CoC, stating that COR will identify a PROC liaison when its membership for AY 18-19 is confirmed.
- V. Establishment and Review of Research Units
- a. COR members discussed the current working document on the establishment of Core Facilities. The draft is nearly finalized, but it still needs to address an ambiguity over who has the authority over the establishment and disestablishment of research units. Other elements of the working document that still need attention are: a request for information for budget sustainability, and whether COR will review proposals for the establishment of core facilities that do not serve faculty from more than one school.
 - b. **Action:** Committee staff will distribute the working document to COR members via email and request additional revisions. The policy will be finalized at the May 1 COR meeting.
- VI. PROC Proposed Procedures for the Review of Centers
- a. PROC submitted a request to COR to review PROC's proposed procedures for the review of centers. The first part of the request asked for COR to promptly review one particular section of the procedures pertaining to the composition of the external review team. The second part of the request asked for COR to comment on the remainder of the procedures, providing feedback by next week.
 - b. COR members made two suggestions for the revision of the section on the composition of the external review team: 1) clarify what is intended by "capacity to act as chair" in describing the qualifications of the candidates for the external review team, and 2) the first sentence should be more specific about the desired number of candidates for the slate of potential external review team members, proposed by the center leadership and relevant dean(s). COR recommends that the slate should be specified to consist of at least two names, but preferably three, for each of the three positions.
 - c. Per PROC's request, COR will provide comments on the remaining sections of the procedures at a later time. However, COR members in attendance at today's meeting suggested the following revisions: 1) the section related to the self-study is too vague with regard to the reference to "operations"; the self-study should speak to the financial sustainability of the center; 2) part 4 (list of groups with whom the external review team meets) needs to include members from the relevant school executive committee.
 - d. **Action:** Committee staff will distribute a draft memo for COR members' approval, containing the committee's comments on the composition of the external review team. The final memo will be transmitted to PROC by their deadline of April 19. A second memo containing the committee's comments on the remaining sections of PROC's procedures will be distributed for committee members' review and approval, and transmittal to PROC by their deadline of April 27.
- VII. Systemwide Review Items
- a. UC Policy Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment.
 - i. **Action:** The Senate Chair will be informed that COR declines to opine.

- b. Presidential Policy on Disclosure of Financial Interests and Management of COI in Private Sponsors of Research and Revised APM – 028.
 - i. The policy includes new language on how campuses can augment their own forms for faculty to report conflicts of interests in addition to existing 700-U forms. APM 028 is being revised to remove procedural elements of this process and to make the APM section more of a policy statement.
 - ii. COR members approved the policy but recommends that the systemwide Academic Senate clearly communicate to faculty the impact that these procedures will have if a faculty member makes a positive disclosure of financial interests.
 - iii. **Action:** Committee staff will distribute a draft memo to COR members for review and approval. A final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by her deadline of May 3.

VIII. Campus Review Items

- a. Academic Reorganization Working Group report.
 - i. COR members viewed the report favorably and endorsed the plan for bylaw units to formally reconstitute into departments. However, committee members were concerned that the implementation of the plan will occur before adequate staff support and other resources are available.
 - ii. COR members also expressed concern that faculty members with large research programs may not be willing to serve as department chairs. It was asserted that the administration should incentivize the position of department chair with sufficient compensation to attract even faculty with large research programs.
 - iii. **Action:** Committee staff will distribute a memo for the review and approval of COR members before transmitting a final memo to the Senate Chair by her deadline of April 20.
- b. Creation of a Computer Science and Engineering Academic Bylaw 55 Unit/Department
 - i. **Action:** tabled for the May 1 COR meeting
- c. Proposed Revisions to MAPP 4011: Academic Student Employees
 - i. **Action:** tabled for the May 1 COR meeting
- e. Overview of Senate Consultation document
 - i. **Action:** tabled for the May 1 COR meeting
- f. Reconstitution of Humanities & World Cultures Bylaw 55 Unit
 - i. **Action:** tabled for the May 1 COR meeting

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

Attest: David C. Noelle, COR Chair