

Committee on Research (COR)**Tuesday, April 3, 2018****10:30 am – 12:00 pm, KL 362**

Pursuant to the call, the Committee on Research met at 10:30 am on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David C. Noelle presiding.

- I. Consultation with VCORED Sam Traina
 - a. VCORED Traina provided COR members with an update on the efforts of Deloitte, an independent consulting firm that the campus hired to examine UCM's contracts and grants processes.
 - i. Deloitte has produced a draft report providing their recommendations for modifying the campus contracts and grants processes. VCORED Traina is currently reviewing this draft report. The final report will be available publicly.
 - ii. Deloitte will recommend revisions to the contracts and grants workflow, as well as training for staff to better meet faculty needs. They have produced a proposed model they believe will help the campus in scaling staffing needs as more faculty are hired and as the University's grants portfolio grows.
 - iii. At the end of April, VCORED Traina and representatives from Deloitte will meet with the Deans and affected faculty, as well as COR, in order to discuss how to begin the process of implementing the needed changes. VCORED Traina stated that since a full implementation will likely not be complete until two years into the future, he will be soliciting faculty input on a phase-in strategy. Staff training sessions will be conducted in the Summer, and implementation efforts will ramp up in Fall 2018.
- II. Chair's Report
 - a. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the March 20 Division Council meeting.
 - i. The Council discussed the actions of a UC Regent with connections to the CSU system, effectively holding up budget negotiations until the UC makes concessions concerning transfer credit policies.
 - ii. The systemwide Senate is attempting to dissuade UCOP, as well as the Regents, from the assumption that UC campuses can be flexible and absorb the impact of budget cuts without raising tuition. The Senate is making it clear that certain services will not be delivered unless campuses receive sufficient funds. There is support for a proposal that would involve the State buying out a potential tuition increase with ongoing funds, allowing the campuses to continue functioning at their current level of excellence.
 - iii. Division Council was informed by the UCM administration that any accusations of violation of policy surrounding the recent contentious tabling activities of a particular student group are being investigated in a standard and confidential manner. Thus, the lack of public updates on this matter should not be perceived as inaction by the administration.

- iv. The Division Council discussed the guidelines for voting on faculty cases as drafted by the Committee on Rules & Elections (CRE). Based on feedback received from Senate committees, Division Council recommended that the guidelines document be reframed as a list of options, accompanied by an analysis of advantages and disadvantages, rather than a uniform recommendation.
- v. Division Council discussed Senate committees' comments on the Budget Working Group's proposed carry forward policy. This included addressing COR's question on incidental funds that are held by units/departments or deans. Division Council will ask the Budget Working Group that they address the Senate's comments.
- vi. Division Council discussed the Faculty Welfare & Academic Freedom (FWAF) committee's proposed policy on classroom recordings. The Council recommended that FWAF revise the policy to address any recording made in the classroom (not just those by students), office hours, and classroom instruction by teaching assistants.

III. Vice Chair's Report

- a. Vice Chair Marcia updated COR members on the March 19 PROC meeting.
 - i. PROC discussed the reviews that are closed and still pending.
 - ii. PROC discussed the Senate Committee for Diversity & Equity's recommended diversity considerations template to be used in periodic reviews.
 - iii. Particularly relevant for COR, PROC has agreed to manage the review of the Center for the Humanities, and is drafting a procedure for how such a review should be conducted. PROC will submit the draft procedure for COR's input.
 - iv. Chair Noelle stated that he has been in communication with a group of faculty who plan to submit a proposal to establish a core facility. COR will not be able to review and approve the proposal until the May 1 meeting. Thus, it is hoped that the proposal can be reviewed by that time and delivered, together with COR's comments, to Division Council for review at the Council's May 8 meeting. As COR is still in the process of formulating a proposal for modifications to the campus core facility establishment and review policies, Chair Noelle provided the faculty group preparing the current core facility proposal with a draft outline for proposal contents, using the requirements that appear in COR's working documents. Depending on the outcome of COR's proposed changes to policy, COR can either ask the faculty group to modify their proposal or decide that the proposal should not be constrained by the policy, since the proposal was drafted prior to the approval of COR's core facility policy modifications.

IV. Consent Calendar

- a. **Action:** The March 13 meeting minutes were approved as presented. Today's agenda was modified to add a debrief on the recent Budget Working Group meeting.

- V. Budget Working Group Updates
 - a. COR member Scheibner updated committee members on the Budget Working Group efforts.
 - i. The Working Group discussed the comments on the carry forward policy received from Senate committees, including COR's comments, as mentioned above. The Working Group will submit a response to the Senate to clarify this question.
 - ii. The Working Group is nearly ready to distribute its draft instructional budget policy to the campus for review. The consensus among the Working Group is to make it clear that the policy applies foremost at the school level, and that deans will have some flexibility in how the policy is implemented.
 - iii. The Working Group is now discussing revenue-generating programs, using other UC campus programs as guidelines.

- VI. Senate Faculty Research Grants
 - a. At the last meeting, COR members agreed on an initial set of awarded proposals that were sorted based on originating school and time since last award. Prior to this meeting, COR members were asked to review the "borderline" proposals on the criterion involving evidence of need, submitting their ratings on these proposals to committee staff.
 - b. After a lengthy discussion, COR members agreed to fund 26 out of 42 proposals: 7 awarded to SNS, 8 to SOE, and 11 to SSHA.
 - c. **Action:** Committee staff will issue award and decline letters to PIs this week.

- VII. Campus Review Items
 - a. Proposal to establish an honors program in Political Science
 - i. COR members noticed a discrepancy between the Dean's memo and the body of the proposal. There are conflicting statements concerning whether the teaching of a proposed honors course counts towards Senate faculty's teaching load. In addition, the proposal states that one faculty member in the program would teach the honors course, but COR pointed out that it is unclear whether that one faculty member would be expected to direct all of the student research projects, producing a truly burdensome workload for that instructor, or whether the designated faculty member's role will be that of a coordinator, and students would complete their theses in conjunction with the other faculty members in the Political Science program.
 - ii. **Action:** Committee staff will distribute a draft memo for COR's review and approval. A final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by Wednesday, April 4.
 - b. Interim Policy on Expressive Activities and Assembly: Protests, Demonstrations, Non-University Speakers and Posting on Campus and in University Facilities
 - i. **Action:** The Senate Chair will be informed that COR declined to comment.

- c. Proposal to establish a program of graduate studies in Management of Complex Systems
 - i. **Action:** COR members will discuss the proposal via email. COR's comments will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by April 10.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Attest: David C. Noelle, COR Chair