

Committee on Research (COR)**Tuesday, May 1, 2018****10:30 am – 12:00 pm, KL 360**

Pursuant to the call, the Committee on Research met at 10:30 am on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 in Room 360 of the Kolligian Library, Chair David C. Noelle presiding.

- I. Consultation with Director of Policy & Accountability Sheryl Ireland
 - a. Director Ireland updated COR members on the implementation of the UCM Interim Policy on Assurance of Laboratory Safety Compliance.
 - i. Director Ireland reminded COR members that the policy has undergone Senate consultation in Fall 2017. The current, interim policy on today's Committee agenda reflects the various comments from Senate committees. Director Ireland presented the policy to the Deans Council, and members of that Council recommended that she consult with COR before the policy is implemented on an interim basis. The Chancellor has requested the implementation of the interim policy as soon as possible due to the associated escalation procedures.
 - ii. VCORED Sam Traina pointed out that EH&S-related duties will be part of the responsibility of future department chairs. Specifically, department chairs will have the authority to report laboratory safety violations and under certain circumstances, the VCORED has the authority to freeze faculty members' research accounts.
 - iii. Director Ireland stated that part of the implementation process will be the creation of a dashboard to track the length of time for major and minor findings to be rectified. She also pointed out that nearly all findings for the year to date were a result of a lack of laboratory training. A COR member suggested that laboratory staff and PIs be provided with periodic reminders about the deadlines of required laboratory trainings similar to reminders current sent to employees regarding cybersecurity and sexual harassment training. Director Ireland agreed, and stated that reminders will be issued. She also shared that the campus is creating an automatic, required training notification process using the Cat Card system. The system will prevent an employee from accessing a laboratory with his/her Cat Card and will send the employee a notification to complete the required training.
 - iv. A COR member questioned the language in the interim policy that implies that the decommissioning a laboratory is temporary. Director Ireland will clarify the language.
 - v. COR members requested that the interim policy be revised to clarify safety violations in multi-occupancy laboratories and the implications for the PI who has not committed the violation.
 - vi. The COR chair encouraged Director Ireland to consult with the Senate should the administration have any questions about the interim policy.

II. Chair's Report

- a. Chair Noelle updated COR members on the April 24 Division Council meeting.
 - i. Division Council continued to discuss the systemwide effort to raise the faculty salary sales.
 - ii. While the budget situation will be not settled until July, systemwide leadership are optimistic about a tuition buyout.
 - iii. Division Council approved the political science honors program proposal.
 - iv. The Senate Chair will transmit the Senate comments to Associate Chancellor Putney on the Interim Policy on Expressive Activities and Assembly. The cover letter will recommend reconsideration of the posting section of the policy, as it seems quite restrictive.
 - v. The Senate Chair transmitted the Senate comments on the academic reorganization working group report to the working group co-chairs. Senate committees had numerous critical comments and suggestions for revisions.
 - vi. Division Council approved UCM Extension's proposal to establish a non-degree program.
 - vii. Division Council and School Executive Committees reviewed a proposal from SSHA to create an endowed chair in Sikh and Punjabi Studies. The Senate Chair will transmit the SSHA Executive Committee's comments to the SSHA dean.
 - viii. Several campus constituencies are advocating for the Governor to appoint a representative from the Central Valley to the Board of Regents.
 - ix. Debate on the implementation of the General Education program continues, specifically with regard to the number of units associated with Spark seminars.
 - x. Division Council approved its conflict of interest policy.

III. Vice Chair's Report

- a. Vice Chair Marcia updated COR members on the April 23 PROC meeting.
 - i. PROC discussed the external review team reports on two programs that recently underwent periodic review.
 - ii. PROC discussed the composition of the external review teams for the upcoming reviews.
 - iii. PROC discussed the academic reorganization working group report and was concerned over the potential deemphasizing of the FAO role.

IV. Budget Working Group Update

- a. COR member Scheibner updated COR members on the April 19 Budget Working Group meeting.
 - i. The Working Group continues to discuss the proposed instructional budget model and TA allocation model. The Working Group is questioning if the algorithm they used to calculate TA allocation is appropriate, given that the TA levels in one school were reduced while levels in the other two schools remained neutral under the algorithm. The model will be implemented as a test phase, to allow for additional analysis and modifications.

- V. Consultation with VCORED Traina
- a. VCORED Traina attended today's COR meeting to continue the discussion on the challenges faced by faculty and researchers that are caused by dairy cattle grazing practices on the vernal pools grassland reserve. Prior to this meeting, VCORED Traina responded to COR's September 2017 memo, recommending he take specific measures to address these challenges.
 - i. Following COR's input from Fall 2017, VCORED elicited advice from several individuals with expertise in this matter. All parties agreed with the report submitted by a group of UCM faculty in Fall 2017 that replacing dairy cattle with beef cattle on the reserve is preferred.
 - ii. Chief Facilities and Campus Operations Officer Michael McLeod is working with the rancher who leases the area from the campus on modifying the lease to address conservation goals and specific issues faculty are facing. Debate and uncertainty continue with regard to the automatic renewal of the lease and the rights of the campus should the proposed modifications to the lease not be honored.
 - iii. Officer McLeod, VCORED Traina, and Chancellor Leland will continue to communicate with the rancher about the lease.
- VI. Consent Calendar
- a. **Action:** The May 1 Meeting Agenda and the April 17 Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.
- VII. Establishment and Review of Research Units
- a. The COR chair presented his modifications to the working document on the establishment, disestablishment, and review of Core Facilities originally drafted by a subcommittee of COR members.
 - i. The COR chair's main edit distributes the authority for the establishment and disestablishment of Core Facilities in different ways, depending on where the Core Facility is housed. The review of a Core Facility that is housed in a department or school is orchestrated by PROC; the review of a Core Facility that is independent is initiated by the VCORED with input from COR. Only the Provost/EVC has the authority to approve the disestablishment of a Core Facility regardless of where it is housed.
 - ii. COR members unanimously approved the revised Core Facilities policy. Members agreed that next year's Committee should undertake the task of revising the Senate policy with regard to ORUs, specifically, to work with VCORED Traina on integrating his policy on the review of ORUs.
 - iii. **Action:** Committee staff to transmit the final Core Facilities policy by close of business on Wednesday, May 2 to the Senate Chair for inclusion in the May 8 Division Council meeting. If Division Council endorses the policy, Chair Noelle will communicate with the faculty groups who previously indicated their interest in submitting proposals to establish research units.

- VIII. Systemwide Review Item
- a. Presidential Policy on Disclosure of Financial Interests and Management of COI in Private Sponsors of Research and Revised APM – 028.
 - i. In the previous COR meeting, members reviewed this policy and agreed on a set of general comments to include in a draft memo. COR members unanimously approved the draft memo.
 - ii. **Action:** Committee staff will transmit the approved memo to the Senate Chair by close of business on Wednesday, May 2.
- IX. Campus Review Items
- a. Creation of a Computer Science and Engineering Academic Bylaw 55 Unit/Department
 - i. COR members unanimously endorsed the proposal.
 - ii. **Action:** Committee staff will transmit COR's endorsement to the Senate Chair by close of business on Wednesday, May 2.
 - b. Proposed Revisions to MAPP 4011: Academic Student Employees
 - i. COR members suggested that the proposed language specify if faculty members would have access to the previous teaching evaluations of prospective Teaching Assistants in order to evaluate their past performance. Members also recommended that the policy should clarify how the selection of Teaching Assistants will occur at the level of the newly-created departments and should also articulate the role of graduate group chairs in the selection process.
 - ii. **Action:** Committee staff will distribute a draft memo to COR members for review and approval after today's meeting. A final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by close of business on Wednesday, May 2.
 - c. Overview of Senate Consultation document
 - i. **Action:** Committee staff will inform the Senate Chair that COR declines to comment.
 - d. Proposal to Reconstitute the Humanities & World Cultures Bylaw 55 unit
 - i. COR members unanimously approved the proposal to divide the current bylaw unit into four new departments.
 - ii. **Action:** Committee staff will transmit COR's endorsement to the Senate Chair by close of business on Wednesday, May 2.
- X. COR Conflict of Interest Policy
- a. Prior to this meeting, COR members reviewed a draft conflict of interest policy as generated by a COR member.
 - i. COR members suggested the following revisions: strike the reference to "apparent" conflict, remove the reference to serving as representative of the Senate on a non-Senate committee as that has no relevance to COR, and clarify the situation in which faculty serve on multiple committees and that they can vote only once. In addition, COR members questioned the draft policy's

requirement that COR members sign a document indicating their awareness of the conflict of interest policy and their intention to abide by it.

- ii. **Action:** The COR member who generated the draft policy will make necessary modifications and resubmit to COR members for review and approval via electronic mail. At the request of a COR member, committee staff will provide examples of proposals that come to COR for consideration that may represent a conflict of interest.

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

Attest: David C. Noelle, COR Chair