

**Committee on Research (CoR)**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**May 1, 2024**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 1:00 pm on May 1, 2024, in the Administration Building Room 345. Chair Tao Ye presiding.

- I. Chair's Report – *Chair Ye*
- A. April 29 Divisional Council meeting
- It is expected that the Regents will likely approve the UC Regents Policy on Public and Discretionary Statements by Academic Units.
  - SSHA is voting on the school's restructuring proposal.
  - Divisional Council endorsed UGC's approvals of degree programs and endorsed proposed amendments to Senate Regulations.
  - CoR's memo on core facilities was endorsed by Divisional Council and transmitted to the Chancellor, EVC/Provost, and VCR.

- II. Consent Calendar
- A. Today's agenda
- B. Draft April 17 meeting minutes

**Action:** The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

- III. Campus Review Item
- A. Five-Year Planning Perspectives 2024 - 2029

CoR reviewed the Perspectives at the April 17 meeting and via email. Committee members had no comments.

**Action:** The committee analyst will be informed that CoR declines to comment.

- IV. Planning for EVC/Provost Consultation at the May 15 Meeting
- EVC/Provost Dumont is scheduled to attend the May 15 CoR meeting. CoR members discussed what questions to ask her. These questions will be submitted to EVC/Provost Dumont and her staff prior to the May 15 meeting.

CoR members agreed on the following questions/topics:

- With regard to CoR's memo of recommendations on core facilities, what is the budget priority for instrumentation?
- What are the short term and long term goals and solutions for graduate student funding?

- The importance of department level staffing.
- With regard to medical education, how does research benefit from UC Merced's partnership with UCSF?
- How will UC Merced remain at R1 status once this milestone is achieved?

**Action:** The committee analyst will forward the aforementioned topics to CoR members for final approval before sending to the EVC/Provost and her staff in advance of the May 15 meeting.

V. Consultation with VCR Wilson and AVC Jackson

A. Core facilities

VCR Wilson and AVC Jackson expressed their appreciation for CoR's work on developing the recent memo on core facilities. It is a useful document on which to form the basis of a partnership with ORED to address issues with core facilities.

AVC Jackson asked for more input on disruptions caused by staff vacancies. CoR members acknowledged that they have heard positive feedback now that a key position has been filled. Many concerns have been alleviated. A CoR member pointed out the importance of investing in good core facility staff so they can be self-sustaining. AVC Jackson stated that ORED has divided the oversight role of core facilities. VCR Wilson added that the job position is posted for another vacancy and CoR members may be asked to participate in the search. Candidates for the EAL position will be interviewed on May 10.

B. Executive Session – voting members and VCR Wilson

No minutes were recorded.

VI. Other Business

A. Proposed establishment of a Center for Africana Studies

The proposal was recently submitted to the Senate and CoR members received it via email. CoR identified two lead reviewers.

**Action:** The lead reviewers' comments, when available, will be reviewed by CoR over email and at the May 15 committee meeting.

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

Attest: Tao Ye, CoR Chair