Committee on Research (CoR)
Minutes of Meeting
September 24, 2019

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Research met at 1:30 pm on September 24, 2019 in Room 232 of the Kolligian Library, Vice Chair Kara McCloskey presiding.

I. Division Council Update

CoR member LeVeck attended the September 18 Division Council meeting in Chair Scheibner’s stead. The main item of interest was Division Council’s consultation with VCORED Sam Traina regarding the Sponsored Research Services redesign initiative. LeVeck reported that VCORED Traina asked for input from the Senate on two structural questions:

- Whether to have all sponsored projects staff report to the Office of Research & Economic Development (ORED) or to maintain some version of the current model with some staff reporting to ORED and others to schools/ORUs.
- Whether to have the budget management component of research administration (contract and grants) continue to report to ORED or to have it report to the Division of Finance and Administration.

CoR members discussed the two questions. Some committee members expressed satisfaction with their own Schools’ pre and post award staff and requested that this localized model remain in place. Other CoR members claimed that pre and post-award functions should be placed under a centralized model with Sponsored Research Services in order to create a diffused-knowledge model. All CoR members agreed that any future model must have consistent standards for staff quality and job expectations. A CoR members also suggested that VCORED Traina provide advantages and disadvantages of both models so that CoR could provide additional input if needed.

CoR members did not have a strong opinion on the second question regarding the reporting line of the contracts and grants component of research administration.

Action: Committee analyst will draft a memo based on members’ comments and will circulate for the committee’s review and approval via email. CoR’s comments are due to the Senate Chair by October 2 for discussion at that day’s Division Council meeting.

II. Consent Calendar

A. Today’s agenda
B. September 10, 2019 draft meeting minutes

Action: Consent Calendar was approved as presented.
III. Sponsored Projects Services Redesign initiative

CoR member LeVeck serves as a Subject Matter Expert with the Sponsored Research Services Redesign Initiative Team. The team met on September 10. Member LeVeck shared with CoR that the meeting consisted of high-level, non-specific discussion by the consultants. The consultants are still in the information-gathering phase, such as interviewing faculty and staff stakeholders on their input of the grants process. The consultants are also working with staff to identify redundancies that occur at various stages in the grants process.

IV. Campus Review Items

A. Proposal for M.S. Degree in Cognitive & Information Sciences

CoR members found the proposal to be well-written and thorough. Members were encouraged that the teaching workload will be distributed equitably, given the department’s new faculty hires.

**Action:** CoR’s endorsement memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair.

B. Draft Charge for a Proposed Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology

This advisory committee is being proposed by Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Technology & CIO Ann Kovalchick.

CoR identified a lead reviewer.

**Action:** The lead reviewer’s comments will be discussed at the October 8 CoR meeting. CoR’s comments are due to the Senate Chair by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 22.

V. Systemwide Review Items

A. Proposed Revisions to APM 230

CoR members questioned by the “Visiting” prefix applies to those individuals in the Professional Research, Project Scientist, and Specialist series who hold academic or research positions from institutions other than the University of California. CoR requests clarification on why individuals from UC campuses cannot hold a Visiting title at another UC campus than their UC home campus.

A CoR member also pointed out that the revised policy contradicts established traditions in certain academic fields in which a "stand-alone" visiting position (without appointment elsewhere) is part of the regular professional development. Requiring the UC to name such positions as anything other than the customary visiting positions in certain fields elsewhere may have a negative consequence: advertisement of these positions under the new title may not attract the same caliber of applicants, as applicants may not recognize the position for what it is. Likewise, when appointees under the new title apply for faculty positions, their title may not be fully understood by other institutions that maintain the visiting title.
A CoR member stated that according to the policy, Visiting Assistant Professor Programs in Mathematics remain unchanged. She added that it is important for this program to continue as the Applied Math department benefits from the addition of Visiting Assistant Professors.

**Action:** Committee analyst will draft a memo based on the above comments and circulate to committee members for review and approval via email. CoR’s final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair.

B. **Revised Presidential Policy on Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation**

On August 24, 2018, President Napolitano requested the convening of a workgroup to substantively revise the existing Policy and Procedures on Curation and Repatriation of Human Remains and Cultural Items. The policy pertains to the treatment and repatriation of Native American and Native Hawaiian human remains and cultural items under the University’s stewardship and the University’s compliance with the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

Prior to this meeting, a CoR member submitted his comments to committee members via email.

**Action:** Committee analyst will draft a memo based on the reviewer’s comments and circulate to committee members for review and approval via email. CoR’s final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair.

C. **Proposed Revised Presidential Policy on Copyright Ownership**

The current University of California Policy on Copyright Ownership, the principal policy governing ownership of copyrights at UC, has not been updated since 1992.

CoR identified a lead reviewer.

**Action:** The lead reviewer’s comments will be discussed at the October 22 CoR meeting. CoR’s comments are due to the Senate Chair by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, November 5.

VI. **Consultation with Director of Sponsored Research Services**

Director Jue Sun attended the CoR meeting to introduce herself and update committee members on the SRS redesign initiative. Prior to this meeting, Director Sun distributed a brief slide presentation containing information on the redesign that was originally shared by ORED at the September 17 Deans Council meeting.

While the future model is still being discussed by ORED and the redesign team, Director Sun stated that the ultimate goal is to establish a single point of contact for faculty members. This research administrator would serve as a “concierge” of information for faculty PIs. The redesign initiative consists of four stages: 1) restructure of internal ORED organization (completed), 2) mapping of business processes and
documenting (in progress), 3) development of strategic comprehensive training program (in progress),
and 4) centralization of external research administrative personnel. The final step is still being discussed.

Director Sun ended by inviting CoR members to contact her with any questions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Attest: Kara McCloskey, CoR vice chair