

MINUTES
Committee on Research
November 19, 2013

Present: Judith Habicht Mauche (chair), Pranav Anand, Yat Li, Jason Nielsen, Paul Roth, Matt Wagers, Steve Whittaker, Fitnat Yildiz, Matt Robinson (Committee Analyst)

Absent with notice: Sharon Daniel

Committee Business

Chair Habicht Mauche provided a brief overview of the campus' impending move to composite benefit rates. Currently, the university charges benefit rates that are specific to the person hired on a particular grant. As a part of the systemwide adoption of UC Path, UCSC will begin to charge benefit rates that are a composite of all employees in certain categories. The committee will consult with a representative from UCSC Planning & Budget to better understand the current composite benefit rate proposal and its implications for faculty research.

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) would like to create a committee to solicit and review cluster hire proposals from faculty members. This would allow faculty to think creatively about collaborative hiring. Member Whittaker volunteered to be the COR representative on this cluster hiring committee.

Outstanding Dissertation Award Proposal

The committee reviewed a draft of the proposal to create Outstanding Dissertation Awards at UCSC. Pending input from VCR Brandt, the committee agreed to forward the proposal to the Graduate Council (GC) for feedback.

Post Consultation Discussion for Graduate Dean Miller and VCR Brandt

COR consulted with Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (VPDGS) Miller and Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR) Brandt on November 5, 2013 regarding UCSC's plans for graduate growth. The committee discussed some frustration that a long term plan has not yet been developed. They were sympathetic, though, to the constraints under which Dean Miller is operating. To this point the growth initiatives seem to be small and local. As a traditionally undergraduate campus, UCSC has unique cultural barriers to graduate growth that must be confronted.

COR was glad to hear both Dean Miller and VCR Brandt voice their support of and increase in infrastructure to allow faculty to secure large training grants. There is currently no incentive for faculty to dedicate a large amount of time to training grant proposals.

NFRG Adjudication

The committee adjudicated the 2013-14 New Faculty Research Grant (NFRG) applications.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm