

Minutes
Committee on Research
October 14, 2008

The Committee on Research (COR) met at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 in 307 Kerr Hall.

Present: Phokion Kolaitis, Chair, Shaowei Chen, Donka Farkas, Carla Freccero, Donna Hunter, Holger Schmidt, Meg Wilson.

Absent with notice: Judit Moschkovich , Sriram Shastry.

Members were introduced and the Chair reviewed the Confidentiality and Recusal Policies for COR that the 2007-08 COR had formalized. All affirmed. The Minutes from the September 30, 2008 meeting were approved.

Chair's Announcements

From SEC:

- CEP's General Education Reform Forum is on Wednesday 10/29/08
- Prof. Eben Moglen will be speaking about IP-related issues on Thursday, 10/23/08. COR member Carla Freccero distributed a poster about this event.
- Continuing work to address the findings of the Report of the Joint Senate Administrative Faculty Salary Task Force – see Senate webpage: <http://senate.ucsc.edu/Faculty%20Salaries/FacultySalary%20TaskForce%20Final%20ReportwCharts.pdf>
- It is likely that the campus will embark on a comprehensive capital campaign; the Senate will be involved in setting priorities.
- Silicon Valley Center Information Trip: 10-16-08
- Academic Plan Implementation from CPEVC – Chair Williams asked for comments from Senate committees to help shape the metrics of the implementation plan.

From UCORP:

- In its first meeting on October 13, UCORP met with both the VP of Research and Graduate Affairs Steve Beckwith and with the Academic Council Chair and Vice Chair.
- \$10M will again be added to UC budget for graduate student support; campus allocations have not been set yet.
- VP Beckwith sent out a Request for Proposals last spring for collaborative proposals with the National Labs that will be funded from the expected return of fees from the National Lab for a period of up to three years; the total amount available each year is about \$20M. Applicants were mostly from Science and Engineering with a few in Social Sciences. A team of approximately 60 reviewed the 564 proposals submitted. A report will be issued after the decisions have been finalized. It is unlikely that there will be a Request for Proposals in the next two academic years.

- In November VP Beckwith will send out a Call for any existing or new MRUs (except for UCO Lick and White Mountain) to apply for funding competitively. Existing MRUs may be “defunded” from OP, but the campuses could decide to subsidize. There will be several broad themes ranging from California issues and Social and Behavioral Studies to Biology and Health, to and Emerging Science and Technology. These need not necessarily be interdisciplinary, but must be multi-campus in scope.
- The previous years’ work between UCP&B – UCORP on ICR transparency will not be continued by UCORP this year.
- Other campuses have wide-ranging styles of interaction with the VCR. COR felt its model is working well. Members suggested that COR sometimes needs to have an opportunity to discuss the information received from the VCR. The Chair indicated that members can request to place such discussions on the agenda of future COR meetings.

CASFS Overview

Lead Reviewer Hunter distributed a draft COR response and went through the highlights of the review. Members will study the documents and draft response and finalize the reponse at the next COR meeting.

Letter from COR to CPB to invite participation in contacting Deans regarding review of divisional research units and centers

COR agreed to proceed with a letter inviting CPB to join with COR in querying the academic deans on Senate involvement in the establishment, review and disestablishment of divisional research units and centers.

Overview of COR Budget, Update on NFRGs

The NFRG applications are in and available on the Filemaker site for review. Matt Henderson from IT has sent all members a login and passcode. There are 15 applications for \$31,000. COR had set aside \$30,000 for the grants. Because of the reduced carryforward, it is likely that SRGs will be funded less generously than last year.

Members’ items were incorporated into like discussions during the meeting.

Intellectual Property Faculty Forum

The Chair informed COR that the Acting Director of the Office of Management of Intellectual Property (OMIP) in OR, Vanessa Tollefson, will be a guest at the 11/18 meeting to discuss the workings of OMIP and possibilities for the Forum. The Committee brainstormed ideas for the forum:

- to contain IP to OR-related issues, not broad concepts;
- informational – what is covered by IP?, faculty/UC obligations & rights;

- have a panel that will include the Acting Director of OMIP, faculty (including a representative from the digital arts and media area), and perhaps an IP attorney of an industrial research lab.

Convocation on Research

The Committee brainstormed on the format and content of an annual Convocation on Research to celebrate significant external recognition and awards received by UCSC faculty each year:

- convocation have intellectual content, not just a social event;
- onus on the academic deans to put forward awardees;
- solicit from division *their* criteria for top awards;
- COR provide examples of top awards, Pulitzer, Guggenheim, etc.
- have up to five 15-minute speakers, one from each division and SOE;
- create a website presence?
- mechanisms to ensure that speakers stay on schedule;
- draft letter to deans.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

So attests,
Phokion Kolaitis, Chair
Committee on Research