

**Minutes  
Committee on Research**

The Committee on Research (COR) met on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, from 2-3:30 p.m. in 307 Kerr Hall.

Present: Phokion Kolaitis (Chair), Stephanie Casher (ASO staff), Shaowei Chen, Donka Farkas, Carla Freccero, Roxanne Monnet (ASO staff), Judit Moschkovich, Holger Schmidt, Sriram Shastry, Meg Wilson.

Absent with notice: Lewis Watts

Guests: CAF Chair Chris Connery, VCR Bruce Margon.

The minutes of December 2, 2008, were approved.

**Chair's Announcement:**

Stephanie Casher was introduced to COR. She will be the new Academic Senate Office staff analyst to COR.

Chair Kolaitis reviewed the recent Senate Executive Committee (SEC) meeting for COR. Various units are being asked to submit plans on how, if it becomes inevitable, they would take a cut of 10 percent to their budget. To aid in making the decisions on where to cut, Campus Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor (CPEVC) Kliger is creating a number of administrative committees and will seek Senate participation in some. Research does not appear to be on the charge of any of the committees being formed at this time. Vice Chancellor of Planning and Budget Meredith Michaels visited SEC to answer questions regarding the high-level indicators document.

On January 27 Chair Kolaitis will be off campus. Members agreed to his seeking a chair *pro tem* for that meeting.

**High-level indicators**

COR discussed the draft response to the Campus Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor's Measuring Our Progress, Next Steps document of November 4, 2008, (aka high-level indicators document). The Committee agreed with the text of the letter and deemed it ready for sending.

**Review of grant guidelines**

The timeline for the upcoming cycle of Faculty Research Grants (FRG) and Special Research Grants (SRG) was reviewed for the Committee. The timeline for this year will be as follows:

- Tuesday, February 10: A letter will go from COR to Senators and acting assistant professors announcing the upcoming call for applications and asking them to watch their email for access information to the application tool.
- Tuesday, February 17: Senators and acting assistant professors will receive access information via email.
- Tuesday, March 31: The application window closes (6 weeks).

COR discussed the FRG and SRG guidelines as they currently appear on the web. Members expressed the desire for the text to be significantly abbreviated, with bulleted items in some areas. The differences between what information is needed for SRG versus FRG should be explicitly stated. Non-allowances should be highlighted. They discussed possibly putting sample proposals on the web. They did not reach a decision on whether to move forward with that idea.

Member Freccero agreed to draft text for the guidelines based on feedback that members were asked to provide to her within a week. The draft will be considered at the January 27 meeting when COR confirms the FRG and SRG guidelines for the next cycle.

Members discussed whether to change the wording on disallowance of requests for costs associated with editing of conference proceedings. No decision was reached.

The Committee was apprised that the review screens and user documentation for the application review site were updated recently.

### **Consultation with CAF Chair Connery and VCR Margon regarding IP Forum**

Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF) Chair Chris Connery and Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR) Bruce Margon joined COR to discuss possible forum topics in the area of intellectual property.

Two primary topics arose from the discussion. The first is what appears to be the need for clarification of services available and limitations associated with intellectual property for patents, arising from concerns expressed by the School of Engineering. VCR Margon plans to develop a very brief explanation of what his office does, current rules, and issues around patents.

The second topic is significantly more broad and possibly touches on aspects of scholarly communication. Members and guests will be provided with links for work done on a number of scholarly communication topics by the Academic Senate in recent years. At present, scholarly communication is not written into the charge of any Senate committee at UCSC, even though it is the charge of the system-wide University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC). Chair Connery raised questions about the open source textbook movement (e-sharing of textbooks free of charge) as possible topic for consideration.

Chair Connery indicated that CAFs focus is to maximize freedom of the faculty to pursue research. He will discuss with CAF what they would be interested to see covered in a forum on intellectual property, and give feedback to COR. COR will continue the discussion and planning at a future meeting.

The possibility of a joint subcommittee of CAF and COR to discuss topics of intellectual property and scholarly communication was raised.

Given the current budget situation, VCR Margon is not optimistic about the ability to increase spending in the Office of Management of Intellectual Property. This is not an area of his organization that generates

revenue, as is the case at all UCs. He finds that it makes more sense to preserve support in the areas that do generate revenue for the campus.

### **Consultation with VCR Margon**

During the remaining meeting time, COR discussed the recent call for Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) grant proposals. Divisions are to forward their nominations Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Burney Le Boeuf by February 6. This year, \$10.8M is available for awarding.

The Senate Chair has asked COR to get clarification on how these awards are prioritized. VCR Margon indicated that for all awards where there is a limit in the number that the campus may put forward, such as IGERT and the National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI), the divisional deans participate in the process of prioritizing which proposals will be put forward. Perhaps due to the workload involved in preparing IGERT grants, UCSC has never had more proposals for IGERT awards than the campus limit. Usually prioritization of proposals needs to occur for the MRI grants but that was not the case this year.

COR discussed what could help to get faculty going for the next round of awards. Members asked about editorial support. VCR Margon described what he called a failed experiment. At times in recent years, the academic divisions have had staff support for grant writing but there does not appear to be any increase in awards attributable to this support.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

So attests,  
Phokion Kolaitis, Chair  
Committee on Research