## COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH
### Annual Report 2005-2006

*To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:*

The following describes the activities of the 2005-2006 UCSC Committee on Research (COR).

## I. COR Activities

### COR Budget

COR funding was increased by a permanent $23,950 allocation in 05-06 resulting from an increase in campus indirect cost recovery funds. Coupled with a small decrease in the number of Senate members, this yielded an increase in funding available per faculty member ($863 up from $811).[1] Taking inflation into account, funding available still falls sharply below the 1989-1990 level (see the COR Annual Report for 04-05 for a historical perspective, http://senate.ucsc.edu/cor/index.html ).

### COR Grants Program

COR voted to increase funding available in 05-06 under the COR grants programs. The 'basic' award for Faculty Research Grants was increased from $1500 to $2000 for untenured faculty and from $1000 to $1500 for tenured faculty. The maxima for awards remained the same ($2500/ $2000). Travel funds available for dissemination of research were increased from $500/year to $650/year.

COR worked with ITS to develop an on-line grants application and tracking process available in time for this year's round of research grants. Submission, review, notification, and follow-up business functions were all conducted on-line. Feedback from faculty, COR members, and Senate staff indicate that the new system represents a significant improvement over the previous paper-based system. COR will continue to work with ITS on improvements.

The SRG application includes an abstract of the proposed research project. Abstracts of grants awarded in 2004-5 and 2005-6 are now posted on the COR website. COR requests that faculty write abstracts in language understandable to lay colleagues, as abstracts are read by faculty from a variety of disciplines.

### Review of Organized Research Units

The five-year review of the Santa Cruz Institute for Particle Physics (SCIPP) was scheduled for Spring 2006. COR provided input on the composition of the review committee. The review committee visited the campus in May 2006. For reasons of miscommunication, Senate committees were not informed of the visit and were not represented at the exit meeting. The committee's final report and the response from SCIPP Director Seiden were submitted in late Spring. The 06-07 COR will respond to the report.

Since 2000, authority for Organized Research Unit (ORU) reviews has devolved to the campuses, with each campus expected to put in place an ORU review policy. In 04-05, COR worked with the Office of Research (OR) to draft policy. COR feels there are still problems with the policy

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[1] These amounts are based on the number of active (non-emeritus) faculty.

distributed as part of the SCIPP review and has suggested to OR (6/16/06) that a committee including representatives from OR, COR, and the PBS Division be appointed to review and finalize ORU Guidelines for the campus.

## Other Activities

### Export Control and Compliance
The committee met several times with Caitlin Deck, Compliance Officer, and once with Brittany Whiting, Export Shipping Specialist, on issues related to export control, training for new PI's, and education of faculty regarding shipping regulations.

### UARC and Silicon Valley Initiative
Vice Provost Carl Walsh briefed the committee on activities at the University Affiliated Research Center (UARC). He informed the committee that the original overhead rate of 24% has been reduced to 17.8% effective 7/1/06. Meredith Michaels, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Planning, informed the COR Chair that the reduction reflects the fact that many of the costs usually considered as indirects are covered through a management task order and charged directly to NASA.

The Aligned Research Program (ARP), administered through the Office of Research (OR), continues to provide funding for faculty and graduate student research (900K through 6/30/05). COR asked OR to make sure that all relevant faculty are aware of the ARP, to provide further guidelines concerning the applications and review process, and to provide feedback to faculty when applications are not funded.

### Other
Vice Chancellor of Research (VCR) Miller met regularly with the committee. At COR's invitation, EVC Kliger met with the committee to discuss research-related issues of concern to the central administration. COR met with Chair Thorsett and members of the VCR search committee as a concerned stakeholder. COR Chair Aissen joined GC Chair Schumm in a meeting with Librarian Steele to discuss the library budget.

COR provided input on the external review of the Art Department. It responded to requests from the Divisional Senate for review of Pre-proposals for Professional Schools at UCSC, for response to Principles for Growth, and for comment on a set of draft white papers from the UC Special Committee on Scholarly Communication. With assistance from Compliance Officer Deck, the Committee responded to a request from UCORP for information on the workings of the campus Institutional Review Board.

## II. Allocation of COR Grant Funding

A major activity of COR is to evaluate proposals for scholarly travel, research and other scholarly activity. This year, COR maintained the level of funding available under the Special Research Grants (SRG) program at $15,000 for individual proposals and $20,000 for collaborative projects. During the year, COR awarded a total of $493,890.

Special Research Grants
Applications received/funded: 44/23
Total awarded: $209,028

Breakdown: number awarded/amount
Arts    5/$40,714
Eng     3/$25,000
Hum     3/$13,845
PBS     4/49,469
SS      8/80,000

Faculty Research Grants
Applications funded: 107
Total awarded: $172,207

Breakdown: number awarded/amount
Arts    32/$60,501
Eng     1/$2500
Hum     32/$44,788
PBS     10/$13,930
SS      32/$50,488

Scholarly Meeting Travel
Applications funded: 166
Total awarded: $112,655

Breakdown: number/amount
Arts    23/$15,796
Eng     5/$3,000
Hum     47/$33,674
PBS     20/$15,300
SS      71/$44,885

## III. University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP) Activities

COR chair Judith Aissen served as the UCSC representative to UCORP. In addition to its usual workload reviewing multi-campus research units, UCORP continued its discussions with the Office of Research concerning the Senate's formal recommendations on restructuring the MRU review process. A joint Senate/administrative task force was appointed to develop policies for a new review process that would recycle UCOP funds in support of new research initiatives. A review process for the California Institutes for Science and Innovation (the CAL ISIs) was approved by UCOP and Academic Council. Reviews are expected to begin in 2006-7. UCORP spent considerable time this year studying IRB activities on the campuses and is finalizing a report to Academic Council.

More details on UCORP activities will be found in the UCORP annual report when it appears (http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/committees/ucorp/reports.html).

## IV. COR Representation

In addition to representation on UCORP, COR was represented through its chair on the Senate Executive Committee. That committee also met several times with the Chancellor's Advisory Board. Two COR members, J. Aissen and A. Thorne, served on the VCR search committee.

Chair Aissen represented the committee at the 5/15 meeting of the Instructional Technology Guidance Committee.

In Spring 2005, the Campus Provost/EVC approved addition of a COR representative to the administrative Information Technology Committee (ITC). However, for reasons of scheduling it was not possible to appoint a member this year.

COR is again indebted to Laurie Babka, Senate Committee Advisor, for the support she provided to the committee during the 05-06 year. Laurie played a particularly central role this year as the chief interface between COR and ITS in the development of the electronic grants process.

Respectfully submitted,
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