

**Minutes**  
**Committee on Research**  
**January 31st, 2012**

**Present:** Scott Oliver (chair), Sri Kurniawan, Deborah Letourneau, David Koo, Barbara Rogoff, Kim Smith (ASO)

**Absent with notice:** Hamid Sadjadpour, Elisabeth Cameron, Nathaniel Deutschkk

**Guests:** VCR Bruce Margon, Andrew Smith (GSA Representative)

**1. Chair's Announcements:**

None.

**2. UCO Discussion:**

COR discussed a confidential report from UCORP regarding the External Review of the UC Observatory and the future of the program. UCORP made this draft report available only to UC campus CORs. COR discussed sending UCORP a response letter, suggesting they add important additional information, such as the recent internal and external review findings of UCO which were organized by Steven Beckwith (Vice President of Research and Graduate Studies, VPRGS), UC Office of the President, as well as the results of the self-study, established by the Director of UCO, Professor Michael Bolte.

COR is very concerned about the major cuts that UCO is facing. All of the reviews of the unit, both internal and external, have been excellent. COR agreed it will ask for clarification of this point in UCORP's final letter, as well as clarification of budgetary allocations and reductions of the last few years. COR agreed to invite UCO Director, Michael Bolte to consult with the committee. COR will also check in with VCR Bruce Margon on this subject.

**3. SRG and FRG documents Overview:**

COR briefly reviewed the new FRG and SRG documents prepared by Chair Oliver in preparation for the 2012 Call. Chair Oliver merged the four current documents for each (call, policy guidelines, FAQ and list of questions from the website) into one. A question was raised as to whether adjunct professors are eligible for grant funding. COR will continue reviewing this subject next meeting.

**4. Consultation with VCR Bruce Margon:**

COR asked VCR Margon about UCO budgetary cuts in the last few years. He stated there was a \$2M permanent budget cut the year Michael Bolte became Director, before VPRGS Beckwith was there. But soon after, there was also a budget restoration established by Director Bolte of \$2M. For full information about the UCO budget, VCR Margon suggested consulting with Director Bolte and/or Maureen McLean, Assistant Director for Administration of UCO.

VCR Margon explained that when budget cuts allocated to campuses, they do not include the MRU's like UCO, because those allocations are from UCOP, not the campus. It's hard to tell what VPRGS Beckwith will do. Only the senate can disassemble an MRU, but UCOP can change the funding. VCR Margon doesn't think the program will go away, UCO will most likely be facing some percentage budget cut.

VCR Margon and Chair Oliver discussed their membership on the new task force: Principles, Process and Assessment (PPA) of UC System wide Research Investments, in which all UC campus VCRs and UCORP members are now a part of. Both will keep COR informed of any future news and/or developments that will be of interest to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

So Attests,

Scott Oliver, Chair

Committee on Research (COR)