

**MINUTES**  
**Committee on Research**  
**January 29, 2013**

**Present:** Scott Oliver (chair), David Koo, Debra Lewis, Deborah Letourneau, Barbara Rogoff, Andrew Smith (GSA), Mary-Beth Harhen (Senate Director), Matt Robinson (Committee Analyst)

**Absent with Notice:** Elisabeth Cameron, Nathaniel Deutsch, Sri Kurniawan, Fitnat Yildiz

**Committee Business**

Chair Oliver provided a brief update from the January 29<sup>th</sup> Senate Executive Committee (SEC) meeting. SEC reviewed the Committee on International Education (CIE) report entitled “The Parlous State of International Education at UCSC” and met with its chair. The campus is losing several million dollars per year by not hitting the UCOP-mandated level of ~ 200 incoming non-resident students per year. COR discussed various ways UCSC ought to be attracting more international students, including more targeted recruitment in Latin America.

Campus Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor (EVC) Galloway has asked for Senate input regarding the possible purchase of anti-plagiarism software for use at UCSC. Currently, six of the ten UCs subscribe to turnitin.com. COR contended that any anti-plagiarism software must be accessible by all levels of instructor and must also interface with eCommons. COR also contended that before purchasing a full subscription (~ \$25,000 to \$32,000 per year), a trial period to gauge demand for this software would be economical.

**Deans Post-Consultation Discussion**

At its January 15, 2013 meeting, COR concluded its consultation schedule with the Deans of the five Divisions at UCSC. The committee discussed the contrast between the Arts/Humanities consultations and the Sciences/Engineering consultations. The Deans of Arts and Humanities obviously prepared for the discussion and their websites were completely up to date. Considering the shift to new funding models that push faculty members to secure external funding, COR would like to know the level of private funding that each Dean has brought in for his Division.

COR will prepare post-consultation memos for the Deans and for EVC Galloway (consulted at the November 6, 2012 meeting).

**FRG/SRG Adjudication Preparation**

Analyst Robinson provided an overview of the COR grants review website and the final data on applications for the 2013-14 FRG and SRG programs. COR received applications for 113 FRGs and 46 SRGs, for a total of 159 applications and \$505,586 in funding requested. COR members will complete FRG reviews for adjudication at the February 12 meeting and SRG reviews for adjudication at the February 26 meeting.

**Wi-Fi Policy and Standards Update**

In May 2012, Information Technology Services (ITS) proposed a new Wi-Fi Policy that restricts “user installed-access points” in areas that are served by Campus Wi-Fi. COR reviewed this policy and responded that, as written, the policy threatened the research enterprise of the campus due to the need for reliable, secure wireless internet access for many research groups. With inconsistent campus Wi-Fi coverage at present, COR argued that ITS could not adopt of a policy of removing user-installed access points.

In January 2013, ITS issued a memo updating the policy and seeking further Senate review. The memo clarified that the policy and standards are intended to minimize degradation in service, not to eliminate user-installed access points. COR noted, however, that the problems it noted in May 2012 are still present in the updated policy documents. The committee found the ITS response inadequate given the concerns that were expressed by the Senate. COR will consider scheduling a consultation with Vice Chancellor for Information Technology (VCIT) Doyle to discuss this policy.

**Consultation with Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR) Margon**

VCR Margon explained that the move towards composite benefit rates through UC Path has been delayed. Each campus is looking to receive at least three to five composite benefit rates to match the various benefit structures for various positions at each university. Some have as many as fifteen. Multiple rates are preferable to a single composite benefit rate being applied to every member of an institution since the actual costs vary greatly by position type. VCR Margon is hopeful that one of the composite benefit rates will pertain to faculty summer salary. In December 2012, the COR chair provided to UCORP and the AC Senate a calculation of the impact on research grants if the benefit rate were to increase from the current 13.5% to the proposed composite 33.5%. For a Full Professor Step 1, a three year grant would lose ~ \$25,000. This loss would necessarily impact research negatively since there would be less funds for the research.

COR asked about the timing of the external review for the Office of Research. VCR Margon answered that he believes the external review committee members have been finalized but a date for their visit to campus has not. It is possible that the reviewers could come as soon as late February.

COR asked about the University Affiliated Research Center (UARC) at NASA Ames. VCR Margon explained that NASA has not yet decided what to do with the agreement, which expires this year. Another one-year no-cost extension will therefore likely occur but the collaborative relationship between NASA and UCSC will look different and bring in less money to campus. Currently UARC brings in about \$6 million in indirect and fees annually to campus. If UCSC faculty have a strong inclination to rebuild the UARC, then the next six to eight months would be the best time to think about this and develop a plan. COR will consider consulting with UARC Director Gordon and EVC Galloway regarding the future of the partnership with NASA.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm