

**Annual Report: Academic Year 2014-2015
Davis Division: Academic Senate**

Committee on Research

Total Meetings: 7	Meeting frequency Approx. 3 meetings/quarter	Average hours of committee work each week: 4 hours
--------------------------	--	---

<u>Total Grant Proposals Reviewed:</u> Small Grants (2K): 176 Large Grants (10-25K): 86 Travel Grants (\$800): 401 (FY 2014-15) <u>Research Grant Proposals Approved for Funding in 2014-15:</u> Small Grants (2K): 173 Large Grants (10-25K): 30 Travel Grants (\$800): 401 (FY 2014-15)	Total of reviewed grant proposals deferred from the previous year: 0	Total projects deferred to the coming academic year: None.
--	---	---

Listing of bylaw changes proposed: **None**

Listing of committee policies established or revised: **None**

- Issues considered by the committee:
1. Chemical and Lab Safety
 2. Management of Animal Facilities
 3. Indirect Cost Rates and ORUs
 4. Work Group on Research Analytics
 5. Federal Uniform Guidance Implementation
 6. Campus Core Research Facilities Program
 7. ORU Review – Healthcare Policy & Research (CHPR)
 8. New UC Open Access Policy Proposal
 9. ARWU Global Academic Rankings
 10. Faculty Effectiveness and Morale
 11. ADVANCE PPRI Recruitment Recommendations
 12. RRIC-Research Recommendations Implementation Committee Report

13. AFS – Equity in Return for Access to University Facilities and/or Services
14. ORU Review – Bodega Marine Lab
15. High Containment Facility Oversight at UCs
16. ORU Review – Air Quality Research Center (AQRC)
17. Research Contracts with Certain State Agencies (memo from Committee on Academic Freedom)

Recommended procedural or policy changes for the coming year: **None.**

COR Items Discussed/Reviewed During 2014-15:

The Committee on Research dealt with a number of issues of substantial importance to the campus during the 2014-2015 academic year. The Committee on Research Chair attended Senate Executive Council meetings, Representative Assembly meetings, and Provost Senate Chair's meetings. The Vice Chancellor for Research (or a representative from his office) attended some of the Committee on Research meetings and provided information and updates on campus and systemwide issues and proposed new initiatives in the Office of Research.

2014-15 COR Grant Awards:

The Committee on Research received restoration of funding for the COR grants program. Since 2008-09, our campus community faced scaled-back funding opportunities as non-profits, state agencies, private donors and others reduced granting. The COR grant programs were cut by approximately 30% over the last five academic years, and those cuts remained in place until 2015-16. Restoration of funding didn't happen easily; Academic Senate and COR leadership worked collaboratively with our counterparts in Academic Federation and their COR to collect data on the impact of the program and submitted the request to Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Hexter and Chancellor Katehi. The committee demonstrated that in 2009-10 for example; for every \$500,000.00 that went into seed grants from COR, based on email questionnaires sent out to COR grant recipients, approximately \$10.5 million in outside grants came back to the university from much larger programs like NIH, NSF, DOE, National Endowment for the Arts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, etc. This is a 73 percent success rate on UC's investment. One large grant recipient leveraged \$25,000 into a \$4 million external grant. Therefore, COR was very fortunate that Provost Hexter and Chancellor Katehi agreed to restore the base budget funding for the Academic Senate Committee on Research grant programs to the amount of \$1.1 million, which was effective for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

The Committee on Research awarded 173 Small Grants in Aid and 30 New Initiative/Collaborative Interdisciplinary Grants to Promote Extramural Funding for the 2015-16 academic year. In addition, the committee awarded 401 Research Travel Grants during the 2014-15 academic year. Travel grants remain the first priority of the grants program. Overall, the Committee on Research was able to award 98% of all small grant applications, 35% of all large grant proposals, and 100% of all travel grant applications. The relative distribution of monies across campus remained consistent with an approximately 50/50 distribution between the physical and biological sciences and the social sciences and humanities.

Management of Animal Facilities:

The COR Animal Subcommittee was formed in spring 2014 and worked over the summer and into winter 2015 on coming up with a final report and recommendations regarding management of animal facilities on campus. In November 2014, the subcommittee drafted guiding principles to use while drafting the report and recommendations. The main overarching principle was as follows:

“First and foremost the administration must make a strategic decision regarding the extent to which it will invest in the increasing facilities demands of modern biomedical research involving rodents. Such investments on the Davis and Sacramento campuses are vital if the goal is to maintain UC Davis’s reputation in the biomedical research arena. The growth of biomedical research on the UCD campus and the recruitment and retention of high quality faculty in the biomedical sciences depends on this decision and any decision must be coupled with immediate action.”

On February 18, 2015, the COR Animal Subcommittee submitted its final report and recommendations to Senate Chair Knoesen. The final report was transmitted to Chancellor Katehi the same day. The three main recommendations in the report were as follows:

1. Provide new and enhanced infrastructure for rodent facilities as a top priority on campus. Consistent with the recommendations of a 2010 White paper, entitled “Achieving Excellence in Management of Research and Teaching Animals at UC Davis”, which concluded the need for more centralized facilities to stream-line services and reduce costs, a new, state-of-the-art central rodent research facility must be built to accommodate the urgent need of existing faculty and students and the anticipated increase of rodent research as part of the 2020 initiative. In addition to the 2010 outlined deficiencies and challenges running the current decentralized animal housing units, UC Davis lacks sufficient rodent housing space overall.
2. Develop and implement a single uniform per diem rate-structure across campus. An independent outside entity (offered through AAALAC) should assess such rates. The new rates must be transparent, fair, affordable and comparable with other peer institutions, such as our sister campus at Berkeley, where current (subsidized) per diem rates for mice are just over half compared to that charged by TRACS. This rate structure should be inclusive of all costs and should avoid extra charges, such as “first-day rates” and additional costs for health surveillance.
3. Consistent with the administrative structure on most other campuses, including all other UC campuses and the acknowledgement that Animal Services are a vital Core for research on the campus, the institutional oversight for the UC Davis Animal Care and Research Core should rest with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research is the logical home for the Animal Care and Research Core as this office is currently the administrative home for human research and for the National Primate Research Center. The Attending Veterinarian, IACUC, and a joint oversight committee with strong faculty representation should report to the Vice Chancellor for Research. The Attending Veterinarian would retain oversight of all animal

veterinary care, IACUC will continue to be responsible for overseeing the rules and regulations governing the use of animals in research and teaching, but all other responsibilities, detailed below, would fall to a newly developed oversight committee. The funding provided by the Provost for the TRACS veterinary services and IACUC administration should be maintained and allocated to the Office of Research. Given the need for new infrastructure and ongoing need for maintenance/repair of current facilities it is recommended that the Office of Research consult and work closely with Budget and Institutional Analysis and the Office of Campus Planning, Facilities, and Safety Services.

Based on the COR Animal Subcommittee's final report and recommendations, the Chancellor appointed the UC Davis Joint Senate - Administration Teaching and Research Animal Program Task Force in April 2015. An interim working report was presented to the Academic Senate Representative Assembly in June 2015. The interim report included a Strategic Vision, Executive Summary, Visionary Leader of Animal Care, Roles & Responsibility of Key Stakeholders, Organizational Structure and Governance, and an Implementation Strategy and Timeline. The final Animal Care Task Force Report was submitted to Chancellor Katehi in July 2015.

On July 23, 2015 a letter signed by Chancellor Katehi and Senate Chair Knoesen was transmitted to COR for consultation. Agreement has been reached among the various faculty stakeholders on an implementation direction for the recommendation. Chancellor Katehi and Senate Chair Knoesen consulted COR and the committee agreed that the following are immediate action items: (1) Hire the new director, (2) assemble the Cabinet, (3) begin program reporting realignment to both the Office of Research and the Office of Finance, Operations and Administration. In addition, COR reiterated that the hiring committee for the new director must include at a minimum: one Academic Senate and one Academic Federation member, appointed by the respective Committee on Committees and those members will be voting members.

Indirect Cost Return and Sharing in Depts., ORUs, and Centers:

In June 2015, COR sent a memo to Vice Chancellor Harris Lewin regarding indirect cost return and sharing in department, ORUs, and centers. It came to the committee's attention that there is a big problem on campus regarding indirect cost return and sharing in departments, ORUs, and Centers. There are no formal guidelines in place on issues relating to shared faculty costs and indirect cost returns between departments, ORUs, and centers. This has led to significant confusion among the faculty that have additional appointments in centers or ORUs and it is certainly not clear or straightforward in departments. There are definitely faculty on campus feeling a tug between department chairs asking for grants to go through departments, center directors having a different perspective, faculty choosing based on where they'll get higher returns from the new budget model, and various other sorts of confusion. The faculty agree that this is a fairly complex and significant issue that needs some immediate attention. COR requested that the Vice Chancellor for Research convene a task force or work group to research and investigate the problem and report back to the Academic Senate with some draft guidelines that can be reviewed by COR, CPB, and other Senate committees.

Faculty Effectiveness Questionnaire:

COR developed a questionnaire, approved by the Academic Senate Executive Council in May 2015, regarding faculty effectiveness and morale that will be distributed to all

Academic Senate and Academic Federation faculty in fall 2015. In 1997, the University of California Academic Senate Welfare and Morale Committee prepared a study called "The Deteriorating Environment for Conducting Research at the University of California". As we recover from the recession, anticipate significant increases in student and faculty numbers in the 2020 Initiative, and cope with reduced federal funding, over-commitment, and burnout, the Academic Senate and Academic Federation Committees on Research would like to solicit from all faculty feedback related to research challenges, frustrations and opportunities faculty perceive at UC Davis. COR will use the input and responses to understand what the community can do to support faculty to achieve research aspirations and serve our stakeholders. Finally, COR will request a meeting with Chancellor Katehi in winter 2016 to discuss the survey results as well as the data received from OR-Sponsored Programs regarding grant submissions.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Foley, Chair
Frederic Chedin
Nicholas Curro
Lorien Dalrymple
Diana Davis
Roland Faller
Ting Guo
David Hessel
Dietmar Kueltz
Kenneth Loh
Patricia Pesavento
David Pleasure
Rajiv Singh
Ed Taylor
Brian Trainor
Anita Oberholster, Academic Federation Representative
Harris Lewin, Vice Chancellor for Research (Ex-officio)
Kimberly Pulliam, Analyst