

May 18, 2012

RALPH HEXTER, PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

RE: Indirect Cost Return Memo 2011-12

The Indirect Cost Return Memo discusses immediate implementation and provides a budgetary data description.

The Davis Division of the Academic Senate forwarded the referenced proposal to all divisional standing committees as well as Faculty Executive Committees within each college/professional school. Comments from the Committee on Planning and Budget and the Committee on Research were received.

Majority Consensus: Both the committees that responded strongly believe that ICR funds should be received directly by the departments and not routed through Dean's Offices. Both committees agree that this change will result in a loss of ICR funds to departments and the impact will be serious and/or devastating to those departments.

Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB)

CPB strongly feels that ICR should come directly to the departments and NOT through the Dean's Offices. Over time the ICR will be used at the Dean's level to balance their books and nothing will end up in the department. The loss of the ICR funds that come to the departments will be devastating.

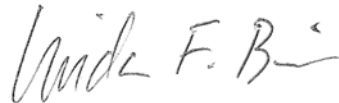
Committee on Research (COR)

COR reviewed the Indirect Cost Return whitepaper and executive summary. The committee understands that the proposal has already been approved for next fiscal year and has very serious concerns that there was not proper Senate consultation (including the Committee on Research) regarding the proposal. In addition, COR understands that the original motivation from the Blue Ribbon Committee was to return money to departments, not the Deans. Therefore, the proposal does not achieve the goals of the Blue Ribbon Committee. Finally, COR has the following concerns/comments regarding the ICR proposal: ICR funds that are returned to the Dean will go into a large pool and some departments will never see any. This is a serious concern among the members of COR.

1. COR strongly recommends that the Provost's Office create a modeling of what this change will look for departments after the ICR funding proposal has been implemented.
2. COR also strongly recommends that the Provost's Office monitor the impact of this new ICR model on departments.

3. COR would like to know why the proposal was changed from the original intent to have the funds returned to the departments based on recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Committee.
4. It would be an incentive for faculty to obtain external funds if they knew the funds would be returning to their department.
5. It would be an incentive for faculty to go out and get external funds if they knew the funds were coming back to their department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda F. Bisson".

Linda F. Bisson, Chair
Davis Division of the Academic Senate
Professor: Viticulture and Enology

LFB:sas