

March 13, 2012

**HARRIS A. LEWIN**

Vice Chancellor-Research

**Re:** Proposal to Temporarily Delete and Revise PPM 220-01: Organized Research Units

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 were received from the Committees on Research, Planning and Budget and Graduate Council, as well as the Faculty Executive Committee from Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and Letters and Science.

The majority of respondents agree that the policy is outdated, has not been followed for many years and the time for review and revision is well overdue. Although there is widespread support for updating the policy, some expressed concern that abandoning the existing policy before a new policy has been developed is irregular and would also delete any available tools to regulate ORU's (Graduate Council specifically opposes abandoning the existing ORU guidelines before new guidelines have been approved).

Should PPM 220-01 be temporarily deleted, some respondents noted:

- The ORU Directors on campus should be consulted and agreeable with the proposal to temporarily delete the local policy and observe the systemwide policy
- Under PPM 220-01, the ORU's on campus were to be reviewed every five years. This has not been done. Further delays with reviews while the policy is being revised will only make the situation worse. The system-wide PPM has policy for such reviews. They should be continued on as timely a fashion as possible.

Specific issues cited by respondents with regard to the new policy include:

- There must be strong Academic Senate input into the formulation of the new ORU policy. This input must be on-going as the policy is developed. The Committee on Committees should appoint a representative(s) on the committee that is appointed to craft the new policy. The Senate should not be presented with a 'final' document and asked for review.
- Confusion currently exists regarding which units are ORU's and which are not, and which the Office of Research desires/intends to regulate and which they do not. This confusion should be eliminated.
- Guidelines for the "sunsetting" of ORU campus funding should be more stringent and more clearly defined.
- It is important to consider the recommendations of the Washington Advisory Group, the Blue Ribbon Committee on Research, and the Huron Consulting Group when crafting a new policy.

Based on the above the Davis Division of the Academic does "not" support deletion of PPM 220-01 while revision of the policy is underway.

Sincerely,



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Davis Division of the Academic Senate  
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