



Davis Division Academic Senate

Request for Consultation Responses

Crocker Nuclear Lab - ORU Review

February 11, 2014

The 5-year ORU (Organized Research Unit) Review for Crocker Nuclear Lab is provided for official Academic Senate review.

Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (LS: SOC SCI)

February 7, 2014 10:26 AM

The L&S Executive Committee discussed the review but had no formal comment. --Phil Shaver,
Chair

Graduate Council

February 11, 2014 9:22 AM

Response continued on next page.

February 10, 2014

RFC: Crocker Nuclear Laboratory ORU 5-Year Review

The Graduate Council accepted the recommendations, as follows, from the APD Committee in consideration of the above-mentioned Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

The Academic Planning and Development Committee met on January 17, 2014 and discussed the Crocker Nuclear Laboratory ORU 5-Year Review Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

APD appreciated the in-depth review of CNL, and recognized that CNL has been very productive. However, APD saw little direct impact of this ORU on graduate education, although such impact is a critical part of being an ORU. CNL has increased its prominence as an important service facility, while at the same time decreasing its involvement in graduate training. To promote opportunities of graduate education within the potential activities of CNL, APD supported the review's suggestion to split the two main operations of CNL, IMPROVE program and the cyclotron beam facility, moving (administratively) the former to the Air Quality Research Center that is also directed by Dr. Wexler, and the beam facility to the McClellan Nuclear Reactor Center. Though the CNL director, Dr. Wexler, believes this will disrupt the activities of the entities. However, the APD committee believes that in the long run this makes more sense contextually and will benefit graduate studies by involving more faculty and students, especially if the reorganization is coupled to an increased effort to make the UCD community more aware of the strengths of these facilities, as also noted in the review.

Accordingly, the Graduate Council forwards the APD Committee's recommendation(s) as Council's response.

Sincerely,



Rachael E. Goodhue, Chair
Graduate Council

/vm

C: Gina Anderson, Academic Senate Executive Director

Planning & Budget

February 12, 2014 8:49 AM

CPB has reviewed and discussed the materials provided for the ORU review for the Crocker Nuclear Lab (CNL). The CNL is operationally organized around two different activities—the cyclotron and the IMPROVE program. Historically, these two activities were connected to each other, but over time this has been less true. In reviewing the CNL, CPB agrees that the Crocker Nuclear Lab should be restructured and the ORU should be retired. CPB discussed the following two options to facilitate our recommendation: (1) Transition the cyclotron program into a campus service recharge facility, and (2) move the IMPROVE program into the Air Quality Research Center (AQRC) ORU.

Research

February 5, 2014 1:54 PM

COR discussed the ORU review for the Crocker Nuclear Lab. Crocker operates two distinct activities—the cyclotron and the IMPROVE air quality and visibility program. COR agrees that the operations within Crocker now function more like a service unit rather than an ORU. In addition, the Crocker Nuclear Lab is not engaged in traditional research activities (publications and grants) and is not engaged in graduate education. One option would be to merge the operation of the cyclotron with the McClellan Nuclear Research Center. COR agrees that the Crocker Nuclear Lab is clearly doing great service work but urges the administration to find a solution, other than an ORU, that will benefit the campus without interrupting the important services of the unit.