



# **Davis Division Academic Senate**

## **Request for Consultation Responses**

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

**February 28, 2012**

Office of Research has submitted a proposal asking to temporarily delete PPM 220-01. While temporarily deleted, the campus will rely on UC policy: UC Office of the President's Administrative Policies and Procedures Concerning Organized Research Units (web link provided). Additionally, Office of Research proposes to create a committee tasked with revising local policy during the interim period.

# **Administrative Partners (DANN TRASK)**

**February 27, 2012 5:23 PM**

*Response continued on next page.*

Dear Professor Bisson,

The L&S Executive Committee has reviewed the proposal to temporarily delete and revise UCD PPM Section 220-01 (Organized Research Units). The committee expressed some concern that deleting the existing PPM section before developing the revised replacement section will also delete any available tools to regulate ORU's. This concern was fed by some confusion over which units are ORU's and which are not, and which the Office of Research desires/intends to regulate and which they do not.

The committee concluded that if deleting the applicable section of the PPM will help the administration reduce the general level of confusion over what ORU's are and how they are born, how they are governed, and how they die, we are supportive.

Sincerely,

Abigail Thompson, Chair  
Executive Committee  
College of Letters and Science

cc: D. Trask, Assistant Dean

# **Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (AGRICULTURE)**

**February 28, 2012 9:47 AM**

The ORU policy has not been followed for years. Revision of the policy is overdue and now is an excellent time for review and revisions of the policy.

# **Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (VETERINARY MEDICINE)**

**February 11, 2012 2:41 PM**

*No response at this time.*

# **Elections, Rules & Jurisdiction**

**February 8, 2012 11:07 AM**

*No response at this time.*

# **Graduate Council**

**February 27, 2012 3:50 PM**

Graduate Council concurred with the consultants' finding that while the Organized Research Unit (ORU) review process is generally well defined, "many of the other centers and institutes seem to be more ad hoc and outside of the ORU rules." We also concurred with both Research reports that guidelines for the "sunsetting" of ORU campus funding should be more stringent and more clearly defined.

It is also recognized that there have been several failed attempts to correct UC Davis guidelines to implement UC policy. We agree that starting from scratch in revising the UC Davis guidelines makes sense.

It is, however, unclear to Graduate Council why the existing guidelines should be abandoned while they are under revision. No justification has been given for this decision. It is irregular to abandon existing guidelines while new guidelines are being developed. Once new guidelines are in place, of course, the previous guidelines will become obsolete. Therefore, Graduate Council opposes abandoning the existing ORU guidelines before new guidelines have been approved.

Finally, Graduate Council needs to be involved in the development of new guidelines because ORUs bear directly on graduate education.

# Planning & Budget

**February 16, 2012 1:36 PM**

CPB has reviewed the proposal to temporarily delete and revise PPM 220-01: Organized Research Units. We agree that the current (1994) policy is outdated and has not been followed for a number of years. We also agree that the proposed revisions (2010) are flawed and concur with the assessment of the Davis Division as outlined in the April 23rd 2010 letter from then Davis Senate Chair Bob Powell. Therefore, we support the proposal, but with two major areas that must be addressed.

1) Under PPM 220-01 the ORUs 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.

2) 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 Senate should not only be presented with a 'final' document and asked for review.

# Research

**February 8, 2012 11:11 AM**

The Committee on Research discussed the proposal to Temporarily Delete and Revise PPM 220-01: Organized Research Units. COR understands that the current policy is outdated and that the campus has clearly been noncompliant as some ORUs on campus have never been reviewed. Overall, COR agrees that temporarily deleting and revising PPM 220-01 is a good idea. COR understands that the UC Office of the President's Administrative Policies and Procedures Concerning Organized Research Units will be enforced while the local UC Davis policy is revised. In addition, COR has the following concerns:

1. The ORU Directors on campus should be consulted and agreeable with the proposal to temporarily delete the local policy and observe the systemwide policy.
2. The Academic Senate must be consulted when the new policy is being written and must have representation appointed by Committee on Committees on the committee that is appointed to craft the new policy.
3. Finally, it is very important to consider the recommendations of the Washington Advisory Group, the Blue Ribbon Committee on Research, and the Huron Consulting Group when crafting the new policy.