



Committee on Research
Bradley A. Aouizerat, PhD, Chair

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

Total Individual Investigator Grants Awarded: 20
Total Shared Equipment Grants Awarded: 6
Total Grant Money Awarded: \$1,029,739.00

Issues reviewed and acted on by the Committee included:

- Review and award of two cycles of Individual Investigator grants
- Review and award of Shared Equipment grants
- Selection of the 51st Faculty Research Lecturer
- Selection of the 8th Distinguished Clinical Research Lecturer
- NIH Open Access Policy
- Biological Use Authorization Modification

Task Forces, Special Committees, and Sub-Committees:

- Appointment of a subcommittee to review Shared Equipment Grant criteria
- Continued consideration of a request from then-Divisional Chair Deborah Greenspan to evaluate current criteria for the Faculty Research lecture, Distinguished Clinical Research Lecture and make recommendations for changes as well as consider the possibility of whether a new lecture for Translational Research should be implemented

Issues for Next Year (2008-2009)

- Work with BUA Committee to increase efficiencies
- Continue to monitor policies related to open access
- Approval and implementation of Shared Equipment Grant Guideline Revisions
- Approval and implementation of the Translational Research Lectureship

2007-2008 Members

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|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Bradley Aouizerat Chair | Roland Henry |
| Ed Murphy Vice Chair | Randall Kramer |
| Tamara Alliston | Pam Ling |
| Frances Aweeka | Patrick McQuillen |
| Laurence Baskin | Judith Moskowitz |
| Lisa Bero, | Thomas Newman |
| Ken Covinsky | Jean-Francois Pittet |
| Kevin DeLucchi | Kathleen Puntillo |
| Shareen El Ibiary | David Saloner |
| McLeod "Mac" Griffiss | Matt Springer |
| Sharon Hall | Jonathan Strober |
| Tomoki Hashimoto | Max Wintermark |

Number of Meetings: 7

Senate Analyst: Shilpa Patel

Systemwide Business

Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR)

Last year, the University Committee on Research (UCORP) initiated an investigation into ICR. Spurred in part by The Future's Report, UCORP sought to increase transparency regarding ICR so that faculty better understand it and so that the overall health of UC's research enterprise can be better assessed. At the end of 2006-07, UCORP submitted to the Academic Council an interim report recommending the formation of a joint work group with the University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB) to pursue this work. Jean-Francois-Pittet, the UCSF UCORP representative, served as the UCORP representative to the joint workgroup with (UCPB).

The workgroup's charge is still being finalized, but the goals of the workgroup remain the same -- to clarify the processes underlying ICR rates, collection, and disbursement, the implications to the research enterprise and the university writ large of under recovery and diminishing returns; the impacts on FTE allocation, teaching loads, and the like must be made clear.

J. Pittet will continue to represent UCSF COR and UCORP in the upcoming academic year.

Divisional Business

Individual Investigator Grant

In 2007-2008, the Committee received seventy-one (71) applications in total for Individual Investigator Grants. The Committee reviewed the applications for Individual Investigator Grants and ranked each application using secret ballots and a scoring system similar to that of the NIH, where 1.0 = strongly recommend for full funding through 3.0 = not fundable. Additionally, as instituted in 2004-05, the Committee did not review any applications ranked 2.0 or higher by the initial reviewers unless either or both of the Committee's assigned reviewers requested discussion. The Committee approved and recommended that twenty (20) grants totaling \$639,286.00 be considered for funding.

Shared Equipment Grant

The Committee received nine (9) applications during 2007-2008. Committee members ranked each application using a secret ballot and approved eight (8) grants totaling \$173,854.00 for funding.

Continued Consideration of a Translational Lectureship

In a communication dated April 21, 2006, Chair Greenspan indicated that both Drs. Washington and Marshall support the creation of a new Academic Senate Translational Research Lecture. In order to advance this initiative, she asked the Committee to review the two existing lectures now sponsored by the Academic Senate (Faculty Research Lecture and Distinguished Clinical Research Lecture) and to ensure that these two lectures and a new "Distinguished Translational Research Lecture Award" would each have a distinctly different purpose, as well as clear and distinct criteria that is not overlapping or redundant. As such, she requested that the Committee develop and a set of recommended criteria that distinguishes the proposed Distinguished Translational Research Lecture from the two existing lectureships. She also requested that the Committee review the criteria for the existing lectureships to determine if any additional criteria or clarity is needed.

The Translational Research Lecture Subcommittee, chaired by Pam Ling, undertook the task of first researching previous selectees to ascertain whether or not they might fit into a translational category. Second, they met with previous members of the Research Committee, Jeanine Wiener-Kronish and Mary Malloy to hear opposing arguments in regards to a translational lectureship. The Subcommittee determined that there is indeed a need for such a lectureship and embarked on drafting criteria for the new lectureship as well as redrafting the criteria for the existing lectureships so that there would be little to no overlap. ([Appendix 1](#)) These guidelines were presented to the Committee at the July meeting and will be further vetted in the fall.

Shared Equipment Grant Guideline Revision

The Committee continued to pursue increased clarity and consistency within the current Academic Senate Shared Equipment grant application procedures. ([Appendix 2](#)) This year's subcommittee was chaired by Tamara Alliston. Major areas of revision include:

- criterion used in grant scoring
- expectations for matching funds
- expectations about diversity of applicants
- details of access to existing equipment
- expectations about access to proposed equipment request for written description and contact info that can be posted on UCSF website to improve campus access to shared equipment

NIH Open Access Mandate

As of April 7, 2008, scientists receiving grant money from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) must submit copies of their research papers to PubMed Central (PMC) when those papers are accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. PMC will then make the papers freely available to the public within 12 months of publication.

The Committee on Research continues to assess the situation and will continue to receive informational updates from the Library to help determine the most effective way to get this vital information to faculty.

Turn-around Time for Biological Use Authorization Modifications

The Committee recently discussed the time required for the review of Biological Use Authorization (BUA) applications. In particular, the procedure for reviewing relatively simple modifications to existing protocols has raised concern among campus investigators. Minor revisions have taken more than 3 months for approval, presenting a significant limitation for investigators pursuing new research questions. The Committee, concerned that the current system is not configured optimally for either the Review Board or for the investigators it serves, will contact the BUA Committee to express concerns and exchange ideas on how this situation could be improved.

Selection of the 51st Faculty Research Lecturer

The Committee received five nominations for the 51st Faculty Research Lecture. Following extensive discussion of each of the five candidates, the Committee voted by secret ballot to select Gail R. Martin, Ph.D., as the recipient of the 51st Faculty Research Lectureship. Dr. Martin, a native of New York City, received an A.B. at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, a Ph.D. at the University of California, Berkeley, and then did postdoctoral work at University College London, England prior to joining the UCSF faculty in 1976. She is now a Professor in the Department of Anatomy, and director the PIBS Program in Developmental Biology. The many honors and awards that Dr. Martin has received include election as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1991) and the National Academy of Sciences (2002), the Edwin Grant Conklin Medal from the Society for Developmental Biology (2002), and the Pearl Meister Greengard Prize (2007). In addition, she has served as President of the Society for Developmental Biology (2006-2007). One of the pioneers in stem cell research, Dr. Martin defined methods for isolating and culturing pluripotent stem cells from mouse embryos, and coined the term "embryonic stem cells" to describe these cells. These studies provided scientists with a tool that revolutionized mouse genetics by making it possible to generate mice carrying mutations in specific genes, and also pointed the way for other scientists to develop methods to isolate stem cells from human embryos and to explore their use in treating disorders.

Dr. Martin's lecture, entitled, "From Pluripotency to Pattern - or - How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Embryo," was delivered to the campus community during Founder's Week in Cole Hall on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at 3:30 P.M.

Each year, the Faculty Research Lecture proudly acknowledges the outstanding scientific achievements made by a member of the UCSF Academic Senate. Academic Senate members are asked to consider the contributions of their colleagues when they make nominations for this prestigious award so that the University community may recognize their scientific achievements.

Selection of the 8th Annual Distinguished Clinical Research Lectureship

The Committee received five nominations for the 8th Distinguished Research Lectureship. Following extensive discussion of each of the five candidates, the Committee voted by secret ballot to select Bernard Lo, MD as recipient of the 8th Annual Distinguished Clinical Research Lectureship. Dr. Lo is nationally and internationally recognized for the exceptional quality and breadth of his research in medical ethics. He has made seminal contributions in the ethics of end of life care, HIV infection, and stem cell research. Few scholars have as many publications in top-tier clinical journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine and JAMA. His research continues at the cutting edge of scholarship. During the past few years he has achieved national and international prominence in a new area, the ethics of human stem cell research. His public service is exceptional, with leadership roles on important state and national panels. Dr. Lo's sustained and original productivity is accompanied by continuous extramural funding. Although there is no institute at NIH dedicated to ethics research, Dr. Lo has been successful in obtaining funding from the NIH and private foundations and helping other faculty do so as well.

Since 2001, this award has been bestowed on an individual member or members of the UCSF faculty with outstanding achievements in clinical research. Nominations are made by UCSF faculty, who consider the clinical research contributions of their colleagues and submit nominations for this prestigious award to the Academic Senate Committee on Research. Each year, the Committee on Research selects the recipient of this award.

Appendices

[Appendix 1:](#) Revised Committee on Research Lectureship Criteria

[Appendix 2:](#) Revised Shared Equipment Grant Criteria