MINUTES
Monday, December 16, 2013


GUESTS: Gail Lee, UCSF Sustainability Manager

The Committee on Research was called to order by Chair Nagarajan on December 16, 2013 at 10:12 am in room CL-220. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the November 18, 2013 meeting were approved with edits. They will be posted to the Senate website by the Academic Senate office.

Chair Announcements
Chair Nagarajan invited UCORP Representative Moskowitz to provide an update. Rep Moskowitz explained how joint issues have been impacting various UC campuses differently. Separately, UCORP presented in Sacramento and pushed for more research funds. COR discussed how to push out to other UC campuses to do more research and expand the UC mission. COR members raised the idea of developing an information piece to define what else UCSF is doing – besides research. This could be pushed out to press. Analyst Cleaver will explore with Public Affairs Office what they have in the works.

Chair Nagarajan introduced new COR members Tomoki Hashimoto, Carol Dawson-Rose and Dieter Guerneart, have joined COR.

COR/RAP
COR members reviewed RAP Final scores and voted to cut-off funding at a score of 4.1 with a standard deviation of 0.3 or better.

Presentation on Sustainability
Gail Lee, UCSF Sustainability Manager, provided an overview on pathways for labs and offices to be certified green. The idea is for this to be easy for faculty to manage – and not be yet something else they must do atop an already heavy workload. She recommended lab managers contact her office and a “living green” intern will come out and do an assessment. She further recommended exploring the green-labs-planning@googlegroups.com site.

COR members asked for documentation as to what percentage of green issues are lab-level or if they’re operational-level. Knowing that information will help fuel faculty interest.
COR members questioned how sustainability fit into the overall UCSF mission. Analyst Cleaver advised that nearly all new initiatives on campus have a sustainability component. So at an infrastructure level, this is already being handled. However, sustainability is also a high priority for the new UC President as well as for Chancellor Desmond-Hellman. So sustainability as an idea is not going to vanish, but will only get more prevalent.

Considering the already heavy load of administrative duties faculty handle in addition to their actual charge, faculty requested that free services and free benefits be emphasized in these sustainability initiatives. COR members also spoke to budget constraints and while offered rebates might be useful, funding may prevent them from being able to act on the rebate immediately: so an opened-ended option should be included.

COR spoke to the larger issue of framing sustainability issues such that they are inviting for faculty to participate in, and that data presented is in context (wet lab v. dry lab). Faculty also sought the long-term benefit for lab or office being certified green. Who does it benefit?

COR members also spoke to the larger campus-wide issues of technology which prevent videoconferencing from being accomplished easily. GoogleHangout and/or Jabber video are options but not in every room or on every campus.

COR members wrapped up the conversation discussing that many of these issues are Faculty Welfare issues which should be raised to that committee. Analyst Cleaver will pass along concerns to FWC Chair Paul Green.

**Old Business**
Analyst Cleaver reminded people of the meeting time change

**New Business**
Analyst Cleaver will explore having some meetings at Mission Bay, as well as work with ITS on videoconferencing between MB and Parnassus to create a better sense of community for meetings.

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