Committee on Research
Janet Myers, PhD, MPH, Chair

MINUTES
Monday, October 20, 2014


GUESTS: Lori Yamauchi, Associate Vice Chancellor, Campus Planning

The Committee on Research was called to order by Chair Myers on October 20, 2014 at 10:10 am in room CL-215-216. A quorum was not present.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the September 2014 meeting were approved.

Chair’s Announcements
UCORP News
Member and UCORP Representative Nagarajan provided an update via email. He was unable to dial into GoogleHangout. UC Systemwide Vice President, Research (Academic Programs) Steven Beckwith has stepped down to return to research.

UC President Napolitano is exploring changing the position title to be: Vice President, Innovation & Entrepreneurships. This newly envisioned position would report to the President directly. UCORP has drafted a communication to request the VP, Research position to be filled quickly and that this role should remain focused on the academic aspect of research – and be kept separate from the business component.

New COR Representative Needed
Committee on Sponsored Research – Former COR member Duan Xu has rotated off of the Committee on Research and as a result, off of the Committee Sponsored Research. That second committee, now Chaired by Marge O’Halloran, Director, Research Management Services, has requested a replacement. Meeting is monthly with a dial-in option. COR member Dieter Gruenert volunteered to serve as the representative on this committee.

COR members have said that while there has been some improvement in pre-award matters, they still must be very pro-active about pursuing resolution of issues.

Chancellor’s Fund
Members of COR proposed the following ideas:

- Supplementing/adding to pre-existing bridge funding
- Covering NIH gap on salary escalations
- Create a targeted RAP grant for those faculty who have received a K Award but not yet received an RO1.
- Covering cost of using a statistican or another professional outside of faculty member’s expertise
- Covering cost of things NIH doesn’t cover: software licensing, etc.

Analyst Cleaver and Sanko will send out a SurveyMonkey poll to determine the top one-two ideas to present to the Senate’s Coordinating Committee.

**Space Planning and Implementing Space Policy** (Attachment 2)

Guest Associate Vice Chancellor (AVC) Yamauchi provided an overview of the current status of campus space management and the development of a database to assist those planning space with better data. The intention is to have space allocated fairly with transparent distribution and use of space.

As space turns over on campus, there will be a clear process for how to re-allocate it. The current operational cost for space ($90 per sq ft) is a metric to determine value, not a charge to departments or faculty. All schools meet this current rate, however two schools don’t meet the new rate of $120 per sq ft. AVC Yamauchi asked how the campus can better understand and make clear the reasons why these schools cannot meet the new goal?

The project goal is to hold departments and faculty accountable for owned space. If groups aren’t using allocated space, they should provide an explanation and a plan for use. This is the bigger issue for unused space and laboratories. That way offer letters from departments can be based on actual data. Guest Yamauchi is examining the aggregate level while departments and schools are examining at a granular level.

COR members asked about Mt Zion campus as all cancer beds are moving to Mission Bay. AVC Yamauchi advised that space will be reallocated for outpatient and ambulatory surgery and administrative space. The Hellmann building is seismically compromised and needs to be demolished. Those people will be relocated to pre-existing structures while that is in progress.

AVC Yamauchi and Julie Auger, Executive Director, Research Resource Program, are determining what on campus is a CORE. Those identified as such will be pulled out of the overall UCSF space metrics.

COR members raised the following questions and concerns:

1. On Mission Hall and other mixed-use hybrid spaces, productivity and cost benefits should be used as the metrics as to whether or not the space is worthwhile.
2. Basic scientists in clinical departments aren’t getting the space support they need: there are pockets of space here and there but nothing in a block amount. And the metrics for a basic scientist are different than that of clinicians.

**APM 330 – Specialist Series**

COR Members discussed the proposed revisions and the very specific reasons at UCSF for using a Specialist over an SRA. Specialists cannot submit grants, or they need a waiver each time they do apply for one. In contrast employees in the Professional Research Series can submit grants.

Also raised was whether these changes would create budget issues if any specialists are listed on grants.

COR members didn’t want former post-docs to be automatically converted to being Specialists. Issues were raised regarding post-docs who had been in that position five-ten years becoming Associate Specialists first.

Members also proposed replacing the phrase “master’s degree” with “terminal degree” which would alleviate such issues for UCSF.
**Old Business**
None

**New Business**
COR members asked about “how to develop mid-career faculty into stars?” Space and funding go hand-in-hand.

Members also discussed UC endowments which are now at $450M. This is far below the level of many private colleges and universities nationally.

As a future guest, Chair Myers suggested Teresa Costantinidis, Associate Vice Chancellor, Budget & Resource Management Office, to discuss research endeavors especially indirects and funding models.

Chair Myers adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

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