Committee on Research  
Janet Myers, PhD, MPH, Chair

MINUTES  
Monday, December 15, 2014


GUESTS:  David Odato, Associate Vice Chancellor, HR; Jason Stout, Manager, HR Strategy; Brian Smith, Associate Vice Chancellor, Research, Infrastructure & Operations; Marge O’Halloran, Director, Research Management Services; and Joanne Spetz, Professor, Institute for Health Policy Studies

The Committee on Research was called to order by Chair Myers on December 15, 2014 at 10:11 a.m. in room N-417 and N-423. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes  
The minutes of the October 2014 meeting were approved as amended.

Chair’s Announcements  
Coordinating Committee report  
Chair Myers reported to Coordinating Committee on the top ideas COR members had for the $500K Chancellor’s Fund.

UCORP News  
Member and UCORP Representative Nagarajan provided an update.

UCOP still has not filled the vacancy left by former UC Systemwide Vice President, Research (Academic Programs) Steven Beckwith who stepped down to return to research. The role and responsibility of the next vice president is to be determined. Part of the determination includes the University’s focus on technology transfer and increasing the income-generating potential of research.

COR members acknowledged that UCORP and COR are the only faculty voice on University research policy.

COR members expressed concern that the University’s emphasis on increasing the income-generating potential of research would pose challenging for campus research that will never generate income.

UC Ventures  
On September 15, 2015, the University announced the creation of UC Ventures, an independent fund to pursue investments in UC research-fueled enterprises. The Office of Chief Investment Officer would make an initial contribution of up to $250 million to the fund.
COR members asked about the administrative structure of UC Ventures.

**Senate Announcements**
Kenneth Laslavic is the new Senior Analyst who will support the Academic Senate COR.

**Human Resources Survey and Final Report**
Guest Associate Vice Chancellor, HR Odato presented the recommendations of the HR consultants, Chazy Partners, who assessed the HR system during summer 2014.

**Research at UCSF**
Guest Associate Vice Chancellor, Research, Infrastructure & Operations, Brian Smith presented the results from the Office of Sponsored Research 2014 Satisfaction Survey.

**Old Business**
**RAP Subcommittee**
The Academic Senate funded a total of thirteen grants for the combined total of $432,565.

COR thanked the RAP/COR Subcommittee.

Academic Senate Interim Executive Director, Alison Cleaver, announced that REAC is implementing a new policy for one year grants that will give awardees eighteen months to draw down funds with the option to request an additional six month no cost extension. COR reached a consensus in support of adopting the same policy for the Academic Senate.

**Development of Transitions to Independence Award Program**
COR members discussed the development of a new grant mechanism to be included in the Research Allocation Program. The Transition to Independence Award Program would provide funding to support researchers between the status of junior investigator and independent investigator.

COR members discussed criteria for the Transition to Independence Award Program.

Members acknowledged that some researchers who have been awarded a K award in a particular topic area may lack the preliminary data with a certain methodology that is necessary to receive an R award and thus cannot go from observation study to a trial without some experience showing they can recruit, randomize, and conduct a trial. Thus, COR members expressed support for funding research that is either finishing up or pivoting from research conducted under a K award.

COR members asked who would be excluded by limiting eligibility criteria to K award recipients. COR members suggested expanding eligibility criteria to recipients of any career development grant, including F awards and T awards.

COR members discussed the review process for the Transition to Independence Award Program and whether there should be either a single review committee or a separate review committee evaluating the scientific merit of the grant application as well as the career development needs of the applicant.

COR members suggested $50,000 for the grant award amount. There is a tradeoff between the grant award amount and the number of grants that can be funded.

COR will revisit the Transition to Independence Award Program at its next meeting on January 26, 2015.

**New Business**
Chair Myers adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.