



Committee on Research

Annual Report 2002-2003

Jon Levine, MD, PhD
Chair

During 2002-2003, the Committee on Research enjoyed a productive year during which it met seven times. The Committee's work was augmented by the use of electronic communications to gather data and facilitate communication among Committee members. Sharon Hall, PhD represented the Committee on the State Wide Academic Senate Committee on Research Policy (UCORP).

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
- Award of travel grants
- Selection of 46th Faculty Research Lecturer
- Selection of 2nd Distinguished Clinical Research Lecturer
- Reviews of MRU's, ORUs and Non-ORUs
- Review of Petition for UCSF Policy Not to Accept Tobacco Industry Funding of Research
- Review of Racial Privacy Initiative Impact on Research

Individual Investigator Grants

The Committee saw an increase in the number of applications received for Individual Investigator grants during 2002-2003. At its meetings of November 12, 2002 and June 9, 2003 the Committee reviewed seventy-two (72) applications for Individual Investigator grants requesting a total of \$2,361,270. Committee members 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. The Committee approved sixteen (16) grants in the total amount of \$542,428. The Committee was unable to provide a greater level of funding in 2002-03 due to the number of grants awarded at the end of the 2001-02 cycle. The Committee anticipates further increases to the number of applications received in 2003-04.

Shared Equipment Grants

At its meeting of March 10, 2003 the Committee reviewed twelve (12) applications for Shared Equipment grants requesting a total of \$382,665.52. Committee members ranked each application in secret ballots and approved five (5) grants totaling \$136,062.



Selection of 2nd Annual Distinguished Clinical Research Lecturer

The Committee was delighted to approve the selection of Neal Benowitz, MD as the recipient of the 2nd Distinguished Clinical Research Lecture award. Dr. Benowitz has been a member of the UCSF faculty for almost thirty years and holds appointments in the Departments of Medicine, Biopharmaceutical Sciences, and Psychiatry. He is Chief of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology in the Department of Medicine and Biopharmaceutical Sciences and Vice-Chair of the Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences.

Dr. Benowitz has devoted the main effort of his research career to studying the human pharmacology of nicotine and is renowned for his pioneering research. He has been active in many national and international tobacco related health issues. He is extensively involved in the public health arena and has applied his basic research findings to public policy issues. His lecture entitled, "***Nicotine: Understanding and Preventing the Tobacco Plague***" was delivered to the campus community on Friday, October 25, 2002 in Cole Hall.

Each year, the Distinguished Faculty Research Lecture proudly acknowledges the outstanding Clinical achievements made by a member of the Academic Senate. Academic Senate members are asked to consider the contributions of their colleagues so that the University community may recognize their achievements.

Selection of 46th Annual Faculty Research Lecturer

The Committee was delighted to approve the selection of Ronald D. Vale, PhD as the 46th Annual Faculty Research Lecturer. Dr. Vale holds appointments as Professor and Vice-Chair of the Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology and is the W.K. Hamilton Distinguished Professor in the Department of Anesthesia. He is also a member of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Co-Director of the UCSF Cell Biology Program. Dr. Vale delivered a highly memorable lecture, "***On the Road with Molecular Motors: A Journey from Single Molecules, to Cells, to the Clinic***" to the campus community on April 22, 2003 in Cole Hall on the Parnassus Heights campus. Each year the Faculty Research Lecture proudly acknowledges the outstanding scientific achievements made by a member of the Academic Senate. Academic Senate members are asked to consider the contributions of their colleagues so that the University community may recognize their achievements.



Racial Privacy Initiative

The Committee extensively reviewed and discussed the proposed ballot measure, Classification by Race, Color, Ethnicity or National Origin (Racial Privacy Initiative) (<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/reports/CRECNOupdate.pdf>) which will be on the November 2003 California State ballot.

Committee members expressed concern that the initiative, which would prohibit state classification of individuals by race, ethnicity, color, or national origin, is too restrictive and may limit scientific research. Chair Levine conveyed these concerns to UCSF Academic Senate Chair, Daniel Bikle at the Academic Senate Coordinating Committee meeting of February 7, 2003.

The Regents of the University of California voted to oppose the initiative at their May, 2003 meeting.

MRU, ORU and Non-ORU Reviews

The Committee reviewed a number of Organized Research Units (ORUs) and Non-ORUs throughout the year.

Agricultural Experiment Station (AES)

In response to a request from Academic Senate Chair, Daniel Bikle, the Committee reviewed the recent Five-Year Review of the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) at its meeting of December 18, 2003. The Committee discussed the review in detail and while members had no further comments regarding this review they affirmed that the Committee on Research should be actively involved in the review of all ORUs and Non-ORUs at UCSF. The Committee voted to approve two recommendations:

1. A copy of the five-year reviews of all UCSF ORUs and Non-ORUs should be sent to the Committee on Research for comment.
2. All ORUs and Non-ORUs should affirm to the Committee on Academic Personnel that a stewardship review of the Director (or equivalent administrator) is performed regularly and at least every five years.

The Committee conveyed these recommendations to Academic Senate Chair, Daniel Bikle dated December 20, 2002 (Appendix 1).

Multi-Campus Research Units

At the request of Daniel Bikle, MD, PhD, Chair of the Academic Senate, Committee Members participated in sub-committee reviews of three Multi-Campus Research Units (MRUs): The Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation, the Institute for Mexico and the United States, and the Linguistic Minority Research Institute (Appendices 2 - 4). Committee members Kit Chesla, Wendy Max, and Kevan Shokat participated in these reviews.

*IBM / UCSF MOU Review*

Committee members John Kurhanewicz and Chuck McCulloch participated in a review of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between IBM and UCSF at the request of Senate Chair Daniel Bikle. (Appendix 5).

Review of Proposed ORU – Institute for Global Health

A task force of the Academic Senate, chaired by Committee on Research Vice-Chair Sharon Hall, PhD and with members from the Committees on Research, Academic Planning and Budget and Graduate Council reviewed a proposal for the establishment of the UCSF Institute for Global Health in July, 2003. The task force was enthusiastic in its support of the creation of the Institute and expressed this support in a communication dated July 7, 2003 (Appendix 6). A response to this review was received by the Academic Senate from George Rutherford, MD, Interim Director of the Institute for Global Health on August 1, 2003 and will be reviewed by the task force in September, 2003.

Follow-Up to Review of Center for Health and Community

A task force of the Academic Senate, chaired by Committee on Research Vice-Chair (2001-2002) Mark Ratcliffe, MD reviewed a proposal for the UCSF Center for Health and Community (CHC) in October, 2001. The task force conveyed concerns and recommendations related to this proposal in a communication to Academic Senate Chair Daniel Bikle dated October 27, 2001. These concerns and recommendations were in turn addressed by CHC Director Nancy Adler, PhD. Having reviewed this response (Appendix 7) the task force was satisfied that its concerns and recommendations had been adequately addressed and expressed enthusiastic support of the Center in a communication to Chair Bikle dated July 7, 2003 (Appendix 7)

APM 390

Committee members discussed at length proposed changes to Academic Personnel Manual (APM) – 390: Postdoctoral Scholars, which addresses the appointment and compensation of research postdoctoral scholars at the meeting of January 11, 2003. During review of the proposed changes, Committee members raised the following concerns:

- There is no provision for extended postdoctoral appointments of less than 100% time.
- Postdoctoral fellows may choose to change fields and thus require a longer time frame.
- In determining a maximum appointment duration of five years, time in a postdoctoral status at other institutions should not count.
- The new suggested salary scale should not apply to postdocs already funded by an extramural grant where the principal investigator has no mechanism by which to increase the budget.

R. Reijo-Pera and B. Drew further considered this issue and worked with members of the Graduate Council to prepare a communication to Daniel Bikle, Chair, Academic Senate in response to the request for review of the draft (Appendix 8).

***Petition for UCSF Policy Not to Accept Tobacco Industry Funding***

A petition for a UCSF Policy Not to Accept Tobacco Industry Research Funding was prepared and sponsored by the Tobacco Control Group of the UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center and the UCSF Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education in 2002. At the request of Senate Chair Daniel Bikle, a joint Task Force of members of the Committees on Academic Freedom and Research reviewed the petition and made recommendations to hold a Town Hall Meeting of the UCSF faculty to consider the proposed policy.

In response to these recommendations, a Special Town Hall Meeting on Tobacco Industry Funding of Research was held on Wednesday, September 25, 2002 from 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. in Toland Hall. The purpose of the Town Hall meeting was to provide members of the campus community with an opportunity to fully discuss all issues related to the acceptance of tobacco industry funding for research at UCSF and its impact on the academic freedom of investigators. Dr. Phillip Gardner – Research Administrator Social and Behavioral Sciences, Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program, University of California Office of the President - presented arguments against accepting tobacco industry funding for research. Supporting statements were provided by Drs. Neal Benowitz, Lisa Bero and Stanton Glantz. Dr. Sydney Brenner – Distinguished Professor, The Salk Institute – presented arguments in favor of accepting research funding from the tobacco industry. Academic Senate Chair Dan Bikle announced at this meeting that a vote of the faculty on the issue of tobacco industry funding of research would take place pending further discussion.

In November 2002, the Academic Senate Office released a ballot, posing the following question to all UCSF faculty with appointments at 50% or greater: “Should we, the faculty, at UCSF refuse to accept any funding from the tobacco industry, and the foundations it supports, an agreement that would be binding for all UCSF faculty?” As indicated at the Town Hall meeting, the results of the faculty vote were transmitted by the Chair to the Chancellor and to the Academic Council for information and consideration. The results of the faculty vote were as follows: 52% supported the position of not accepting funding from the tobacco industry for research purposes at UCSF, while 48% did not want to prohibit the acceptance of tobacco industry funding for research at UCSF.

The results of this ballot (<http://www.ucsf.edu/senate/townhallmeeting/index.html>) were presented to the campus community at the Academic Senate Division Meeting of March 5, 2003.

University Committee on Research Policy

Vice-Chair Sharon Hall, PhD served as the Committee’s representative to the University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP). Dr. Hall reported regularly to the Committee on a number of issues which are summarized elsewhere in this report:

- Proposed Racial Privacy Initiative
- Review of ORUs and Non-ORUs
- Tobacco Industry Funding of Research

***UC Committee of Research Analysts***

A retreat for the Committee on Research (COR) analysts from each of the nine University of California Academic Senate divisions was hosted by the San Francisco Division on Friday, December 6, 2002. The retreat provided analysts with a valuable opportunity to discuss best practices for COR administration at each campus, as well as issues of current importance related to each campus' Committee on Research. Senate Analyst Elizabeth Langdon-Gray attended this retreat and provided feedback to the Committee at its meeting of December 18, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,

UCSF Academic Senate Committee on Research 2002-2003

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Sharon Hall, PhD *Vice-Chair*

Patsy Babbitt, PhD

Alma Burlingame, PhD

Catherine Chesla, RN, DNS

Steve Cheung, MD

Teresa De Marco, MD

Barbara Drew, RN, PhD, FAAN

Reese Jones, MD

John Kurhanewicz, PhD

Randall Kramer, PhD

Jeff Lansman, PhD

Randy Lee, MD, PhD

Robert Lustig, MD

Chuck McCulloch, PhD

Sally Marshall, PhD

Wendy Max, PhD

Lenore Pereira, PhD



Russell Pieper, PhD

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Letter from Chair Levine to Daniel Bikle, December 20, 2002

Appendix 2: Letter from Kevan Shokat to Daniel Bikle, July 15, 2003

Appendix 3: Letter from Wendy Max to Daniel Bikle, July 11, 2003

Appendix 4: To Follow

Appendix 5: Letter from John Kurhanewicz to Daniel Bikle, May 1, 2003

Appendix 6: Letter to Daniel Bikle from Task Force reviewing the Proposed Institute for Global Health, July 7, 2003.

Appendix 7: Letter to Dan Bikle from Task Force reviewing Center for Health and Community.

Appendix 8: Graduate Council / Committee on Research Communication to Daniel Bikle, January 29, 2003