

2002-2003
COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH
Berkeley Division
Annual Report

This report summarizes the activities and accomplishments of the Committee on Research (COR) for 2002-03.

OBJECTIVES:

- ◆ automate the Research Enabling Grant application process: *accomplished*.
- ◆ to work with the Senate Chair to induce the Development Office to focus attention on fundraising for the Faculty Research Fund. (COR administers this Fund.)

*COR contributed its perspective on faculty research needs by its participation on the Senate Fundraising Advisory Group formed to provide faculty input to the VC of University Relations in setting campus fundraising priorities.

This will remain an important matter for the committee since the Chancellor has committed to matching contributions to the Faculty Research Fund up to a certain amount. The scale of funds that is required to meet this match, and to stabilize the committee's budget in the future given the significant cuts this year, and anticipated through 2004-05, will necessitate dedicated support from University Relations. Their commitment will be critical to raising funds to mitigate the reduction in State support, to offset the increasing cost of research, and to maintain Berkeley's eminent reputation as a leading research institution.

- ◆ to seek a greater role for COR in the management of research opportunities on campus (e.g. involvement in the limited submission process).
- ◆ to strengthen liaison with the office of the VC for Research (VCR) and other administrative offices managing research; to advocate when possible for adequate funding for libraries and their crucial contribution to faculty research.

*COR held a special meeting devoted to research policy issues. Two agenda items involved concerns for both the VCR and faculty. The committee invited the VCR and the Sponsored Projects Office (SPO) Director to participate. Discussion focused on plans to improve and streamline research administration to enhance support of the faculty research enterprise, and organizational changes that would facilitate faculty applying for large collaborative/interdisciplinary grants, and presently underutilized opportunities to secure grants and awards, such as those that fall within the limited submission category.

COR commented on several proposals:

- *The Academic Strategic Plan
- *Richmond Field Station Study Committee Working Paper
- *Berkeley Guidelines for Participation in Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Program
- *Laboratory Access
- *Report of UCORP subcommittee on the National Labs
- *Berkeley Summer Sessions Regularization Plan
- *Report of the Five-Year Review Committee of the Agricultural Experiment Station
- *Revision of APM 390 – Postdoctoral Scholars
- *The Novartis Agreement: An Appraisal
- *Contributed questions related to research concerns to the Academic Climate Survey disseminated to all faculty through the AVP Office of Faculty Equity

Other activities:

- *Proposed a Resolution on Computer Security that was endorsed by the Divisional Council and forwarded to the administration.
- *The Chair served on the Executive Budget Steering Committee Research Working Group formed to develop options for budget and organizational initiatives to mitigate the reduction in the 2003-04 campus budget.
- *Reported to the Chancellor on the Research Bridging Grant Program
- *Revised its Research Enabling Grant policies to permit greater leeway in using this basic grant to purchase computers, software, and peripherals.

COR Research Grant Activity

| | <i>FRG</i> | <i>JFRG</i> | <i>RASHIP</i> | <i>REG</i> | <i>TOTAL</i> |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| APPLICATIONS | 156 | 56 | 80 | 787 | 1079 |
| FUNDS REQUESTED | 1,188,668 | 488,035 | 200,932 | 748,803 | 2,626,438 |
| GRANTS AWARDED | 122 | 46 | 58 | 779* | 1005 |
| FUNDS AWARDED | 622,079 | 220,806 | 115,803 | 773,803* | 1,732,491 |
| AVERAGE AWARD | 5,099 | 4,800 | 1,996 | 993 | 1,724 |

**This number includes "default" awards to FRG and JFRG applicants who did not receive a grant under either program.*

Of the 16 proposals for a Research Bridging grant, 4 were funded for a total of \$66,216. These awards are intended for mid-career faculty who will use this "seed" money to explore innovative, "experimental" areas outside their specialized research fields. Funding of this nature generally is unavailable through other sources.

COR Travel Grant Activity

455 active and emeritus faculty utilized the travel grant program to attend and present original research at professional conferences, to collaborate with colleagues or to conduct research at specialized libraries on other campuses. A total of \$304,300 was awarded.

Respectfully submitted,

James Evans, *Chair*

Members of COR 2002-2003

David Aldous
Gertrude Buehring
Elizabeth Deakin
Tulin Erdem
Andrew Garrett
George Lakoff
Michel Laguerre
Dung Hai Lee

Luciano Moretto
Samuel Otter
Miryam Sas
George Sensabaugh
Richard Candida Smith
Richard Steinhardt
Jeremy Thorne
J. Miguel Villas-Boas
Richard Walker