

BERKELEY DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Committee on Research
2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT - APPROVED

This report summarizes the activities of the Committee on Research (COR) for 2017-18. The committee continued its work in the absence of a permanent Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR) during the fall semester.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

Under a three-year extension of the agreement reached with the Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost (EVCP) in 2014, COR received its allocation of \$50,000 to offer emeritus faculty a basic level of research and conference travel support. Emeritus faculty with a funded research program or proceeds from an endowed chair exceeding \$10,000, or other sources of funds to support their proposed research, were ineligible to apply for a grant. The committee instituted this restriction to direct its limited funding to those emeriti who otherwise would have little or no support. This year, 78 emeriti each received an award of \$640, down from 93 emeriti in 2016-17. Funding for the emeritus grants will continue until at least 2019-20.

ORGANIZED RESEARCH UNITS (ORUs)

Due to the continuing transition in research leadership on campus, ORU reviews continued to be suspended for the year. At its meetings with the interim Vice Chancellor-Research in the fall and with the new VC-Research in the spring, the committee expressed its concerns about the ongoing suspension of ORU reviews and encouraged leadership to resume them as soon as possible.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

COR submitted written comments on the following issues:

- Reports of the Working Group on the Design of Incentives
- Unionization of Graduate Student Researchers

OTHER ACTIVITIES

COR also discussed the following issues:

- Research administration pilot project
- UC bid to manage Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Fundraising for research, including collaboration with University Development and Alumni Relations (UDAR)

GUESTS

COR welcomed the following guests to meetings in 2017-18:

G. Steven Martin, Interim Vice Chancellor-Research
Professor Ronald Cohen
Deborah Cohen, Labor Relations Advocate, Berkeley Human Resources
Michelle McClellan, Associate Vice Chancellor, UDAR
Randy Katz, Vice Chancellor-Research

MEMBERS OF THE 2017-18 COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

Stuart Bale, Physics, Chair

Vinod Aggarwal, Political Science/Business

Sonia Bishop, Psychology

Deborah Blocker, French

Roland Burgmann, EPS

Gerbrand Ceder, Materials Science & Engineering

Susana Chung, Optometry

John Colford, Public Health

Irina Conboy, Bioengineering (UCORP representative)

Edgar Knobloch, Physics

John Lott, Mathematics (unable to attend meetings fall and spring)

Tarek Zohdi, Mechanical Engineering

Division Chair Lisa Alvarez-Cohen participated as an ex-officio member.