

BERKELEY DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Committee on Research
2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT – APPROVED

In fulfilling its charge as established in the bylaws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the Committee on Research (COR) carried out the following activities during the 2019-20 academic year. The committee was chaired by Professor John Colford (Public Health). COR's activities were impacted in the spring semester by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and subsequent campus closure. The committee held its last two meetings remotely and turned some of its attention to topics related to the crisis.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

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, proceeds from an endowed chair or other sources of funds exceeding \$10,000, 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, 81 emeriti each received an award of \$620, very similar to last year's total of 79 emeriti. This is the last year of the current three-year funding cycle for the emeritus grants, so the continuation of the grants will depend on a decision from the EVCP's office.

The first grants were awarded through the Scheiber Emeriti Faculty Research Fund this year. The criteria and process were set up for the new grants; it was decided that these occasional/annual grants would be awarded to emeriti conducting research on a topic of interest to the Senate that year, to be determined by COR in collaboration with the Division Chair. For its first year, the topic was the 150th anniversary of women at Berkeley, celebrated this year. Six applications were received, and three grants were awarded in April 2020.

ORGANIZED RESEARCH UNITS (ORUs)

The ORU review process remains on hiatus. At the very end of the spring semester, the VCR's office contacted COR to discuss guidelines for the resumption of reviews. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the process was put back on hold temporarily.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

COR submitted written comments on the following issues:

- Review of the Research Grants Programs Office (join comments with CAPRA)
- Report of the NASA-Ames Faculty Steering Committee
- Proposed Presidential Policy on Protection of Human Subjects in Research
- Proposed Presidential Policy on Travel Regulations
- Proposed Presidential Policy on Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation
- Proposed Presidential Policy on Copyright Ownership
- Systemwide review of the UC Washington Center
- Revised reports of the Signature Initiatives working groups
- Report on Signature Initiative 6: Lighting the Way to the Public Research University of the Future
- Systemwide Review of proposed revisions to APM 240 and 246

- Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation

OTHER ACTIVITIES

COR also discussed the following issues:

- New guidance on proposal processing
- International Engagement Policy Task Force
- Humanities research funding
- Sexual harassment policies in federal grants
- BEAR grant funding for faculty research
- Campus structure for research administration
- Compensated and uncompensated outside activities for faculty
- Research impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

COR REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER COMMITTEES

COR members served as Senate representatives to the following campus and systemwide committees:

- Systemwide University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP)—Professor Conboy
- Faculty Budget Working Group (GIMLET)—Professor Colford
- Research Compliance Advisory Committee (RCAC)—Professor Colford
- Hellman Fellows Fund Award Committee—Professor Levi

GUESTS

COR welcomed the following guests to meetings in 2019-20:

Randy Katz, Vice Chancellor-Research

Pamela Miller, Sponsored Projects Office

Lisa Alvarez-Cohen, Vice Provost-Academic Planning

Elizabeth Brashers, Chief of Staff to VCR

Ashley Spinelli, Senior Global Engagement Specialist

Timothy Hampton, Director, Townsend Center for the Humanities

Sharon Inkelas, Special Faculty Advisor to the Chancellor on Sexual Violence/Sexual Harassment

Marc Fisher, Vice Chancellor-Administration

Ben Hermalin, Vice Provost-Faculty

Heather Archer, Assistant Vice Provost-Academic Personnel

MEMBERS OF THE 2019-20 COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

John Colford, Public Health, Chair

Irina Conboy, Bioengineering (UCORP representative)

Dorothy Hale, English

Michael Hutchings, Mathematics

Larry Karp, Political Science

Dung-Hai Lee, Physics

Dennis Levi, Optometry

Polina Lishko, MCB

Aila Matanock, Political Science

Miryam Sas, Comparative Literature/Film and Media