

**BERKELEY DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**  
**Committee on Research**  
**2021-22 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 2021-22 academic year. The committee was chaired by Professor Lia Fernald (Public Health). COR's activities for the year continued to be affected by the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; the committee held approximately half of its meetings remotely and half in person, with members wearing masks for the latter in accordance with city and campus requirements.

**RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS**

The emeritus research grants program was not funded in 2020-21 due to the pandemic-caused budget crisis. Last year was also the end of the most recent three-year funding cycle for the emeritus grants, and the continuation of the grants depended on a decision from the EVCP's office. In 2021-22, the Berkeley Division Chair and the Vice Provost for the Faculty made the joint decision to relocate the program, which will now be administered in the VP-Faculty's office. The Scheiber Emeriti Faculty Research Fund grants will also be administered by that office.

**ORGANIZED RESEARCH UNITS (ORUs)**

At the first meeting of the year, VCR Katz shared the process overview, self-study template, and review committee report template with COR, as well as the final report on the review of the Energy Biosciences Institute (EBI). Charge letters for a joint review of the Center for Integrative Planetary Science (CIPS) and the Theoretical Astrophysics Center (TAC) were also shared. The committee did not get an update and had no other involvement with ORU reviews this year.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS**

COR submitted written comments on the following issues:

- *Revisions to the proposed Presidential Policy on Research Data*
- *Proposed revisions to APM 025 and 671, Conflict of Commitment and Outside Activities*
- *Proposal to create a standing Senate committee on climate change*

**CONSULTATION ON RESEARCH POLICY**

The committee's charge is evolving to include less grant-giving and more review and consultation on campus research activities and policy. With the addition of the Associate Vice Chancellor-Research as a regular invited guest, the channel of communication between COR and the VCRO has been greatly improved. The VCRO regularly solicited the committee's input on research policy and practice, both formally and informally.

In keeping with this change, the committee created three internal task forces this year to address current issues facing research at Berkeley. The task force topics were generated by committee members, and task forces prepared in between COR meetings and met during portions of the larger meetings. The tasks forces were:

International Research: The task force focused on issues related to China early in the year, looking into whether the campus could make a public statement about the federal China Initiative. Late in

the year, with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, focused on campus initiatives to address the needs of displaced Ukrainian scholars and other scholars at risk.

**Arts and Humanities Research:** The group drafted a proposal for the VCRO to provide seed grants to A&H faculty to apply for larger grants in collaboration with faculty in other fields. The VCRO will review it as part of their budget process for FY23 and will report back to COR in the fall. They also focused on library needs, including possible continuation of the HathiTrust ETAS (Emergency Temporary Access Services) program, which provided expanded access to electronic resources during the pandemic.

**Research Administration:** The group discussed bottlenecks in the research administration process and also focused on the unintended consequences of the minimum \$34K stipend recently implemented for all graduate student researchers (GSRs). COR will invite Graduate Division Dean Garcia-Bedolla to attend a meeting next year.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

COR also discussed the following issues:

- Faculty experience during the pandemic and "envisioning research in the post-pandemic university"
- Research Administration and Sponsored Projects Office processes
- Chancellor's Social Justice Research Task Force
- Audit and Advisory Services review of indirect cost recovery (ICR) and research administration bottlenecks

### **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 Lavaei
- Hellman Fellows Fund Award Committee—Professor Lumpkin

### **GUESTS**

COR welcomed the following guests to meetings in 2020-21:

Randy Katz, Vice Chancellor-Research (fall)

Kathy Yelick, Vice Chancellor-Research (spring)

Professor Leo Arriola, Political Science

Professor Joan Walker, CEE

Jennifer Jones, Audit and Advisory Services

### **MEMBERS OF THE 2019-20 COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH**

Lia Fernald, Public Health (Chair)

Pieter Abbeel, EECS – spring only (joined March 2022)

Susanna Elm, History

Todd Hickey, Classics – spring only

Michael Hutchings, Mathematics

Larry Karp, Political Science

Sonia Katyal, Law – fall only

Michel Laguerre,

Javad Lavaei, IEOR  
Dung-Hai Lee, Physics – fall only  
Taeku Lee, Political Science – fall only  
Polina Lishko, MCB (fall only)  
Ellen Lumpkin, MCB  
Timothy Tangherlini, Scandinavian

In addition, Division Chair Ronald Cohen served as an ex-officio member, and Division Vice Chair Mary Ann Smart and Associate Vice Chancellor-Research Linda Rugg attended meetings as invited guests.