COUNCIL ON RESEARCH, COMPUTING & LIBRARIES
ANNUAL REPORT
2008-09

To the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly:

I. Council Operations

Thomas P. Saine, Professor Emeritus of German in the School of Humanities, chaired the Council on Research, Computing & Libraries (CORCL) in 2008-09. At eight meetings from October 2008 through June 2009, CORCL’s principal items of business were to award faculty research grants, to review faculty proposals to establish and renew the campus-approved centers and organized research units, to review the establishment of Schools from departments, to advise the Academic Senate Irvine Division Chair, the Vice Chancellor for Research, the University Librarian, and the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Network and Academic Computing Services (NACS) on issues of importance to the campus and University that were under its charge.

II. Faculty Research Grants

A total of $728,238.00 was awarded by CORCL’s four faculty research grant programs: Research and Travel Grants ($502,595.00)\(^1\), Cultural Diversity Studies Grants ($9,000.00), Conference Support ($13,000.00) Multi Investigator Grants (142,673.00)\(^2\) and Single Investigator Grant ($61,000.00) during AY2008-09.

A. Allocations to Schools for Faculty Research Grants

CORCL sub-allocates a significant portion of its budget to the Research Committees of each academic unit for Research and Travel (R&T) grants to be awarded competitively to Senate faculty. CORCL utilizes a distribution formula that supports (a) junior faculty in all departments and (b) all ranks in Arts and Humanities, who traditionally have limited access to extramural funding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Unit</th>
<th>Weighted Faculty FTE*</th>
<th>R&amp;T Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>$45,237.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>$46,471.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>58.5</td>
<td>$23,367.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>$9,786.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>116.25</td>
<td>$46,435.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>287.5</td>
<td>$114,849.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICS</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>$32,355.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>$8,588.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine/Nursing</td>
<td>173.5</td>
<td>$28,380.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>$59,349.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Ecology</td>
<td>72.5</td>
<td>$28,960.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>$58,818.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) This amount includes the $50,000.00 that comes directly from the Office of the President and goes to the College of Health Sciences.

\(^2\) CORCL will allocate a total of $152,922.00 for AY09-10 Multi Investigator Grant. $10,249.00 of this amount is from carry forward from 07-08 funds ($5,048.00 and original SIIG funds ($5,200.00)
### B. Multi-Investigator Faculty Research Grants

The number of Multi-Investigator (MI) Faculty Research Grant proposals submitted this year was down from last year to 26 from 38. The decline in proposals may be due to a self selection process, whereby potential applicants decided not to apply because there had been reports of significant funding reductions in research support at UCI. As it turned out, CORCL was able to fund proposals at a slightly higher level than the previous year because customary levels of funding had been set aside to support the Multi Investigator Grant. Alternatively, the next award cycle will have funding levels for the Multi Investigator Grant significantly reduced.

About half of the Multi Investigator proposals submitted were funded but most at levels close to half of what was requested. The purpose of the Multi-Investigator grant is to promote new collaborations among faculty, particularly from different academic units, on “high-risk/high-yield” pilot research investigations and research which may lead to further discoveries. It has proven to be an excellent investment of campus resources with an outstanding return, both intellectually and through the resulting extramural funding. CORCL received 26 proposals in May 2009 for the 2008-09 (though money allocated with the subsequent year’s funds) competition. A total of 13 grants for 31 faculty were awarded, ranging from about $6,000 to $25,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Proposals</th>
<th>Number of Faculty Applicants</th>
<th>Amount Requested*</th>
<th>Number of Proposals Funded</th>
<th>Faculty Receiving Grants</th>
<th>Amount Awarded*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>$589,375.00</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funds recorded as split equally among the team’s investigators.

### C. Single Investigator Innovation Grants

For AY2008-09, there were fewer submissions for the Single Investigator Innovation Grant than in AY07-08. The Single Investigator Innovation Grants (SIIG) support new research projects of junior faculty, exploratory work by senior investigators, or meritorious research in disciplines that typically do not receive significant extramural support. In 2008-09, CORCL received 15 proposals and distributed 15 awards, ranging from $1,800.00 to $9,000.00.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Faculty Applicants</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Faculty Receiving Grants</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$119,879.00</td>
<td>$55,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### D. Grants for Cultural Diversity Studies

The review committee allocated grant money to all seven proposals. The allocation amounts ranged from between $600.00 and $2265.00 to faculty from Humanities, Arts, and Education. The total amount allocated was nine thousand dollars, a twenty-five percent decline from the amount allocated in AY08-09.
E. Grants for Conference Support
CORCL set aside $13,000.00 from the Research and Travel grant to match funds from the Office of Research for the Conference Support Program. Because of CORCL’s strong endorsement for the Conference Support Program, the Office of Research re-instated its support for the program which was supposed to have been completely cut for AY2008-2009.

III. Academic Review

A. Organized Research Programs

One of CORCL’s most important responsibilities is to provide an academic review and advise the administration about faculty proposals to establish or renew the Campus Centers and Organized Research Units. In AY 2008-09, CORCL reviewed the following Campus Centers and Organized Research Units.

i. Campus Centers
   a. Proposal for the establishment of the Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Students and Cultures as a Campus Center:
      CORCL unanimously supported the center’s establishment. (November, 2008).
   b. Proposal for Renewal of the Center for Hearing Research, Campus Center:
      CORCL unanimously recommended campus center renewal. (February, 2009).
   c. Proposal for Renewal of the Center for Organizational Research, Campus Center
      CORCL unanimously recommended campus center renewal. (June, 2009).

ii. Organized Research Units
   a. Establishment of Spinal Cord Injury/Neural Regeneration, ORU:
      The Council recommended the formation of Spinal Cord Injury/Regeneration as an ORU. (January, 2009).
   b. Establishment of the Institute of Immunology as an ORU:
      The establishment of this ORU was pending two dean’s letters as of June, 2008. After receiving and reviewing the letters, the Council formally granted approval of the establishment of the Institute of Immunology as an ORU. (October, 2008).
   c. Establishment of Center for Immigration, Population, and Public Policy as an ORU:
      CORCL members were excited about this proposal and voted unanimously to endorse it. (November, 2008).
d. Establishment of the Health Policy Research Institute as an ORU:
CORCL members voted unanimously to approve the establishment of this ORU, (February, 2009).

C. Review of Internal Proposals for Limited Submissions

Outside of the monthly meetings, CORCL members served on ad hoc committees to screen pre-proposals when sponsors limited the number of proposals or nominations that the campus could submit. The ad hoc committees advised the Vice Chancellor for Research on those applications they considered the most competitive for the specific program.

IV. University Administration and Governance

Reports are given at CORCL’s monthly meetings by the Vice Chancellor for Research, the University Librarian, and the Assistant Vice Chancellor, Network and Academic Computing (NACs) on issues concerning the faculty and the campus. CORCL also hears reports from its representatives on three systemwide Senate committees— the University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP), University Committee on the Library (UCOLASC), and the University Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy (ITTP). In addition, the CORCL chair serves on the Academic Senate Cabinet, and a CORCL member sits on the Special Senate Committee on Diversity and the Pandemic Planning Committee.

A. Academic Senate

i. UCI Campus Issues:

a. Review of the Proposal to Establish a School of Nursing, UCI:
The Council supported the request to change the Program in Nursing Science into the School of Nursing. The Program in Nursing Science had had the goal of becoming a School since its inception in response to state directives to ameliorate the shortage of nurses in California. Because the original concept of the Program included a plan for a school with a Ph.D and other graduate degrees as well as secured state funding, the current proposal does not imply any substantive changes from what was originally proposed; therefore, CORCL members voted for School status. The next step in the process is Senate Cabinet approval, which is still pending.

b. Review of the Proposal to Establish a School of Education, UCI:
CORCL approved the establishment of a School of Education but with strong reservations (see March, 2009 CORCL meeting minutes). The approval of the School of Education was denied by the Senate Cabinet in June, 2009.

c. Review of Implementation of regulation RE-98, Restrictions on Tobacco Company Funded Research
CORCL members voted in favor of the formation of local review committees made up of ex officio members and voting members from divisional Academic Freedom councils to review and monitor proposals that would be fully or partially funded by tobacco companies. Some
CORCL members were uneasy about establishing review committees to monitor tobacco funded research but not establishing committees to review to monitor research that is funded by other industries whose products could have negative effects on human beings, such as alcohol, lead, or nuclear weapons (October, 2008).

d. Effects of Reduced CORCL Budget on Grant Allocations
Because CORCL suffered an $8,000.00 decrease in faculty research funding for AY08-09, money from two grant programs was reduced: the Single Investigator grant (five percent cut) and the Cultural Diversity Studies grant (12 percent cut). CORCL members agreed that Multi Investigator and Research & Travel grants would remain priorities for the council. Additionally, CORCL members restated their strong support for conference support grants and agreed to set aside $13,000.00, appropriated from the Research and Travel allocation.

ii. University-wide Issues:

a. Accountability Framework: Comments from CORCL to OP on the revised version:
Section 9 in the new iteration of the accountability framework was only an outline and it is therefore impossible to ascertain whether it would be an improvement on the original Section 8 (which provides indicators of research success for each campus). In any case the approach taken (the fascination with graphs and metrics) is misguided because it shows both UC grants and research expenditures declining over time more or less in proportion to the declining universe of federal dollars. The metrics chosen do not necessarily put the University's best foot forward and the framework still evinces a total disregard for modes of research and scholarship that do not readily lend themselves to quantitative measurement.

b. CORCL’s Endorsement of the University Committee on Research Policy:
CORCL welcomed the possible development of a network for sharing seminars, lectures, and other events and research and discussion materials throughout the UC system and endorsed continuation of such planning. While many elements of the proposed network already exist and there has already been considerable cooperation between individual campuses, there would appear to be substantial work to be undertaken before the concept can be fully implemented. So far the UCORP proposal seems to be avoiding detailed discussion of the costs that might eventually be involved and in the present budget climate full implementation may be difficult.

CORCL members stated that the proposed seminar network is a productivity enhancer; it should by no means be thought of simply or primarily as a way of reducing the costs of sharing ideas and research between campuses. At the same time, the undertaking is quite complex and the seminar network will have to be ready to deal with significant
academic freedom and intellectual property issues such as those raised in the attached letter from Larry Armi, chair of UCOLASC.

c. System-wide review of Dialectic on remote and online University Instruction:
CORCL members decided that online instruction must be integrated around a central element of face-to-face encounters between students and their instructors; i.e., elements should be integrated into this core instruction or added on to it in a most careful way, and only to the extent they increase efficiency without damaging educational goals. February, 2007.

d. Review of Agricultural and Natural Resources Division (DANR) Review:
CORCL was asked to comment on the recently released review of the agriculture and natural resources division and cooperative extension services. DANR and Extension Services are obviously operations of great importance to UC and its research programs and represent a significant public interface with a constituency that is perhaps less impressed by some of the more traditionally academic enterprises contained within the overall UC system. Therefore, the recommendations of the review panel should be taken seriously and actions should be taken expeditiously to address the shortcomings pointed out (including redirection of certain staffing efforts and coping with a certain amount of what appears to be generational emphasis-shifting and emergence of new problems and thought paradigms). In these difficult budget times it may not be easy to aggregate or redirect the resources needed for such changes and improvements, but they should still be a high priority for the UC Senate and administration.

V. Continuing Issues for AY08-09

A. Decide how to spend CORCL budget this year and strategize for future years. The CORCL budget was cut permanently by 136K.

B. Change rules for who can apply for CORCL grants. In the past, CORCL members have applied and because so few have done so in recent past (1) and conflict of interest issue never came up but probably should have.

C. Implementation of new ORU guidelines

Members:
Thomas Saine, Chair, Humanities
John Crawford, Arts
Kaye Schoonhoven, Business
Diane O’Dowd, Biological Sciences
Paul Gershon, Biological Sciences
Thurston Domina, Education
Michael McCarthy, Engineering
Ender Ayanoglu, Engineering

Representatives:
Eric Baumer, ASUCI
Carol Hughes, LAUC-I

Ex Officio:
Susan Bryant, Vice Chancellor for Research
Dana Roode, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Network & Academic Computing
Gerald Munoff, University Librarian
Tony Givargis, ICS
Moyra Smith, Health Sciences
Eyal Amiran, Humanities
Ramesh Srinivasan, Social Sciences
Francesca Polletta, Social Sciences
Gudrun Magnusdottir, Physical Sciences
Henry Sobel, Physical Sciences
Carroll Seron, Social Ecology

Consultants:
James Earthman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research
Mark Warner, Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration
Christina Hansen, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research
Marie Richman, Director, Administration & Research Policy

Analyst
Michelle AuCoin