

**COUNCIL ON RESEARCH, COMPUTING & LIBRARIES  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2009-10**

**To the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly:**

The Council on Research, Computing & Libraries respectfully submits its report of activities for the academic year 2009-10.

**I. Council Operations**

John Crawford, Associate Professor, Arts, chaired the Council on Research, Computing & Libraries (CORCL) in 2009-10. At ten meetings from October 2009 through June 2010, 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 Associate 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 \$904,505.00 was awarded by CORCL's four faculty research grant programs: Research and Travel Grants (\$63,505), Cultural Diversity Studies Grants (\$6,000), Conference Support (\$13,000) Multi Investigator Grants (0)<sup>1</sup> and Single Investigator Grant (\$20,000) during AY2009-10.

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| R&T  | \$63,505  |
| MI   | \$0       |
| SIIG   | \$20,000  |
| Cultural Diversity Grant                               | \$6,000   |
| Conference support to match Office of Research Funding | \$13,000  |
| Special Research Grant (AY09-10 only)                  | \$800,000 |
| TOTAL  | \$904,505 |

**Table 1: Allocation of CORCL Budget AY2009-2010**

**A. Allocations to Schools for Faculty Research Grants**

CORCL sub-allocated 80% less of its budget to the Travel and Research Grant program in AY09-10. A total amount of \$63,000 was apportioned to the schools according to number of FTE in that school. 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.

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<sup>1</sup> CORCL cancelled the Multi Investigator Grant for AY09-10 and funneled the money into the Special Research Grant for lower paid faculty (under 85K).

**B. Multi-Investigator Faculty Research Grants**

The Multi Investigator Faculty Research Grant was cancelled this year. Monies normally allocated to the grant were siphoned to the Special Research Grant Program (see below).

**C. Single Investigator Innovation Grants**

For AY2009-10, The Single Investigator Grant program allocated \$20,000 to ten proposals in AY09-10, down from \$61,000 the year before.

**D. Grants for Cultural Diversity Studies**

The review committee allocated grant money to all three proposals. The allocation amounts were \$2000.

**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 beginning in AY2008-2009.

**F. Special Research Grant Program**

The Special Research Grant Program was implemented as a one-time Special Research Grant whose purpose was furlough mitigation for lower paid faculty. The EVC stipulated that \$400,000 would be provided to CORCL for the Special Research Grant if CORCL could match these funds dollar for dollar (with \$400,000). Indeed, CORCL matched the funds and \$800,000 was directed to the Special Research Grant. Faculty earning under 85K before the furlough wrote an abstract outlining proposed research. All faculty proposals were accepted. 235 grants between \$3100 and \$3900 were awarded. Award amounts were allocated in accordance with faculty salary.

**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 2009-10, CORCL reviewed the following Campus Centers and Organized Research Units.

**I. Campus Centers.** The Diabetes Center presented a renewal proposal to CORL and CORCL asked that the center clarify some issues before approving renewal status. The following Campus Centers' designation were renewed in June, 2010; the amount of funding each center receives will be determined by the Office of Research:

1. Center for Asian Studies
2. Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies (GPACS)
3. UCI Interdisciplinary Center for Scientific Study of Ethics

4. Center for Ethnography
5. Center for Demographic and Social Analysis

**II. Organized Research Units:** As a carry-over review from the year before and after requesting clarification documents, CORCL suggested that the Center for Pervasive Communications and Computing be renewed for three years and that the center could be invigorated with a new director. CORCL did not review the renewal or designation of any other Organized Research Units for AY2009-2010 due to the budget shortfall. Renewal proposals and proposals for new ORUs are slated for review by CORCL for Fall, 2010.

#### **B. 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 Associate 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 Final Draft of Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Criteria for Review (October, 2009)

Members of the Council on Research Computing and Libraries (CORCL) have reviewed the proposal and did not find any errors or discrepancies. CORCL members not have any additional comments on the WASC Review at this time.

##### **ii. University-wide Issues:**

- a. University Overhead Recovery Distribution (March, 2010)

CORCL members were asked to review and comment on the proposal of the University Overhead Recovery Distribution for 2009-10. The Associate VC of Research was able to give CORCL members context and justification for methodology used to distribute overhead to the university and thus addressed many of council's initial questions. Overall, CORCL members had no objections to the methodology used for overhead recovery distribution but wanted clarification for the following:

- 1) CORCL members appreciate that OP's budget was cut significantly last year but still would like to know why 8% of the overhead is taken from the top before it is distributed to the individual campuses. CORCL members were open to the idea that campuses receive all of the overhead money and be charged by OP for specific services.
- 2) Why is funding to be used to support Garamendi projects not allocated to the Schools?
- 3) Why isn't more of the overhead funding used to support Schools who have less opportunity for federal funding?

CORCL members were supportive of the university's efforts to raise the rate of overhead, which is currently between 51% to 54% on campuses, from the federal government (mainly, NSF, NIH) without having to sacrifice the amount of funding the researchers actually receive. With this purpose in mind, the council, recommends that the UCI Office of Research hire a consultant to help UCI achieve higher recovery rates.

#### b. On-Line and Remote Learning at UC

CORCL members were asked to consider the recommendations of the "Report of Special Senate Committee on Remote and Online Instruction and Residency." CORCL members noted that the Report does not recommend changing the role of online and remote instruction at UC; rather it provides information about current and past UC projects dealing with on line course issues and compares UC to other similar universities and to colleges and universities in general. The role of senate faculty is exploratory: to provide feedback to the Office of the President on how UC might be impacted by an increase in online and remote instruction. Members commented that online/remote instruction should only be advanced for the sake of pedagogy, not to save money. Even if cost savings were the aim of the online/remote instruction proposal, it is likely that the development and implementation of online and remote instruction is more expensive than classroom and lecture teaching. There was also concern about the fact that if online/remote learning were geared toward classes with a large number of students, the quality of learning would diminish because instruction becomes increasingly superficial the larger the class size. Instructors would also be compelled to test students using multiple choice exams when essay exams may be superior indicators of learning outcomes. Several members were concerned that the workload for large on line courses would increase substantially if email were the main communication mode for student and instructor interaction. It is significantly more time consuming to reply to emails than it is to have office hours and answer questions orally. However, if sufficient TA support were available for online instruction courses, students attending large on line courses may actually receive more feedback and instruction than they would in lecture hall settings. Finally, CORCL members advised that blended courses may be the best option for online/remote instruction because quality could be enhanced through technology in some learning areas while personal interaction maintained in others. Members also stressed that some of the most successful online courses are small and are attended by students who are mature, disciplined, and self guided.

c. Comments on Recommendations of the UC Commission on the Future Working Groups, from CORCL

CORCL members were asked to comment on the first round of recommendations proposed by working groups for UC Commission on the Future. CORCL members' discussion focused on their opposition to increasing on line courses and part time instruction options (Education and Curriculum, Recommendation 2 and 3) and charging differential fees by campus (Funding Strategies, Recommendation 9)

With regard to increasing online instruction at UC (E. & C. Rec. 2), members all agreed that excessive dependence on online education would be a bad idea (see above).

Members commented that while E. & C. Rec. 3, expanding use of self-supporting and part-time programs may work in certain cases, but UC needs to be careful that this does not move the University too close to the mission of the CSU system.

Members commented that F. S. Rec. 9, allowing for the possibility of charging differential tuition by campus, would mean the end of the UC system. Instead, the administration should do a better job of making sure that each campus receives its fair share and that money does not go back to campuses differentially.

**V. Continuing Issues for AY10-11**

- A. Decide how to spend CORCL budget this year and strategize for future years.
- B.. Competitive review of ORU renewal and first time designation proposals.
- C. Review Library implementation of budget (pending).

**Members:**

John Crawford, Arts  
Joanna Ho, Business  
Steven Gross, Biological Sciences

Chris Hughes, Biological Sciences  
Thurston Domina, Education  
Network & Academic Computing  
Michael McCarthy, Engineering  
James Brody, Engineering  
Tony Givargis, ICS  
Haoping Liu, Health Sciences

**Representatives:**

Eric Baumer, ASUCI

**Ex Officio:**

Susan Bryant, Vice Chancellor for Research

Dana Roode, Assist. Vice Chancellor,

Carol Hughes, Associate Librarian

Eyal Amiran, Humanities  
Hugh Roberts, Humanities  
Ramesh Srinivasan, Social Sciences  
Marianne Bitler, Social Sciences  
Gudrun Magnusdottir, Physical Sciences  
Ruqian Wu, Physical Sciences  
Carroll Seron, Social Ecology

for Research Administration

and Research Policy

**Analyst**

Michelle AuCoin

**Consultants:**

Susan V. Bryant, Vice Chancellor of  
Research  
Mark Warner, Associate Vice Chancellor

Marie Richman, Director, Administration