

COUNCIL ON RESEARCH, COMPUTING & LIBRARIES
ANNUAL REPORT
2016-2017

To the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly:

The Council on Research, Computing & Libraries (CORCL) respectfully submits its report of activities for the academic year 2016-17.

I. COUNCIL OPERATIONS

Professor Raju Metherate, Neurobiology and Behavior, chaired the Council for the 2016-17 academic year. Professor Margarethe Wiersema, Business, served as vice chair. At seven meetings from October 2016 through May 2017, CORCL's principal items of business included allocating faculty research funding, reviewing faculty proposals to establish and renew campus-approved centers and organized research units, and advising the Academic Senate Irvine Division Chair, Vice Chancellor for Research, Associate Vice Chancellor of Information Technology, and University Librarian on issues of importance to the campus and University that were under its charge.

II. FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS

A total of \$676,215 was awarded by CORCL's faculty research grant programs during 2016-17:

Research and Travel Grants	\$676,215
Cultural Research Grants	\$0
Single Investigator Innovation Grants	\$0
Multi-Investigator Research Grants	\$0
Conference Support Program	\$0

A. Allocations to Schools for Faculty Research Grants

CORCL allocated 100% of its budget of \$676,215 to the Research and Travel Committees of each academic unit for Research and Travel grants to be awarded competitively to Senate faculty.

AY 2016-17 Academic Unit	Weighted Faculty FTE*	R&T Allocation
Arts	131.75	\$60,140.00
Biological Sciences	124.17	\$56,682.00
Business	57.60	\$26,292.00
Education	33.00	\$15,064.00
Engineering	130.60	\$59,618.00
Humanities	274.63	\$125,364.00
ICS	77.50	\$35,378.00
Law	46.75	\$21,341.00
Medicine	158.50	\$72,354.00
Nursing	7.50	\$3,424.00
Pharmaceutical Sciences	12.50	\$5,706.00
Physical Sciences	167.60	\$76,508.00
Public Health	20.00	\$9,130.00
Social Ecology	76.00	\$34,693.00
Social Sciences	163.25	\$74,522.00
Totals	1,481.34	\$676,215.00

* Permanently filled FTE as of October 16, 2016

B. Cultural Research Grants

The Cultural Research Grants support academic research involving cultural analysis, interpretation, and production. As in 2015-16, CORCL did not conduct the Cultural Research Grant program in 2016-17.

C. Multi-Investigator Innovation Grants

The Multi-Investigator Innovation Grants promote new collaborations among faculty, particularly from different academic units, on “high-risk/high-yield” pilot research investigations and research that may lead to further discoveries. As in 2015-16, CORCL did not conduct the Multi-Investigator Innovation Grant program in 2016-17.

D. Single Investigator Innovation Grants

The Single Investigator Innovation Grants 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. As in 2015-16, CORCL did not conduct the Single Investigator Innovation Grant program in 2016-17.

E. Conference Support Program

The Conference Support Program is a joint grant program between CORCL and the Office of Research, and is administered by the Office of Research. The goal is to promote interdisciplinary research and to strengthen the presence of UCI research and scholarship in the academic world at large. As in 2015-16, CORCL did not conduct the Conference Support program in 2016-17.

III. ACADEMIC REVIEW

A. Organized Research Programs

One of CORCL’s responsibilities is to provide academic reviews and advise the administration on faculty proposals to establish or renew Campus Centers and Organized Research Units (ORUs). In 2016-17, CORCL reviewed the ORU program and the following research units.

1. Future of Organized Research Units

At the request of the Vice Chancellor for Research, CORCL formed an ad hoc committee to provide recommendations on the future of the programs for ORUs and Special Research Programs (SRPs). The subcommittee, chaired by Professor Lorenzo Valdevit, met in close consultation with Associate Vice Chancellor Hung Fan, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor Mark Warner, and Director Jill Kay. Its recommendations are as follows:

- Establish the Incubator Research Unit (IRU) program to support emerging areas of interdisciplinary research, with mission and expectations aligned with those of the ORU program. These are high-risk high-reward endeavors, with a limited life of three years to be awarded by the Office of Research. After the three-year period, IRUs are dissolved; however, third year IRUs can apply for ORU status. If successful, they morph into a full-size ORU; if unsuccessful, they disassemble.
- Modify the current ORU program as follows: No open ORU calls will be issued by the Office of Research. The only mechanism to open a new ORU is a transition from a graduating IRU. The mission and expectations for ORUs will remain substantially unchanged, as will the proposal evaluation process. New ORUs will be funded by the Office of Research at a fixed commitment allocation. ORUs will be evaluated every five years, with a mandatory sunset after 15 years.
- Identify the best approach to transition existing ORUs into the new model. One possible solution is to guarantee existing ORUs five years or the time until their next scheduled

sunset review, whichever is longer, of continued support from the Office of Research. At the end of that period, ORUs will be permanently sunsetted.

The subcommittee chose to leave the SRP program as is due to the following reasons: SRPs are created in response to unique opportunities generally with major support from extramural entities and as such, each SRP is a one-of-a-kind operation with varied funding from the Office of Research.

2. Organized Research Unit

Sunset Review of Institute for Genomics and Bioinformatics (IGB)

(Meeting date: 10/20/2016 – Memo date: 10/25/2016)

CORCL supported the renewal of the Institute for another five-year term and the reappointment of the Director and co-Director of the Institute.

3. Special Research Program

Five-Year Review of University of California Humanities Research Institute (UC-HRI)

(Meeting date: 10/20/2016 – Memo date: 10/25/2016)

CORCL supported the renewal of the Institute and the reappointment of the Director of the Institute. UC-HRI is a Multicampus Research Unit at the systemwide level and a SRP at the campus level.

IV. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

Reports were given at CORCL's monthly meetings by the Vice Chancellor for Research, the Associate Vice Chancellor of Information and Technology, and the University Librarian on issues concerning the faculty and the campus. CORCL also received reports from its representatives on three systemwide Senate committees – Chair Metherate on the University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP), Professor Amelia Regan on the University Committee on the Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC), and Professor Russell Detwiler on the University Committee on Academic Computing and Communications (UCACC).

A. Academic Senate

1. UCI Campus Issues

a. CORCL Budget Allocation

(Meeting date: 11/17/16)

CORCL received a budget of \$664,000 for 2016-17 at the same level as 2015-16. There was a \$10,000 return from a 2013-14 multi-investigator research grant and a \$2,215 carry-forward from previous years, bringing the total to \$676,215. CORCL distributed its entire funding to Research and Travel Committees to be awarded at the school level, similarly to its 2015-16 allocation model.

b. Overview of Office of Research

(Meeting date: 1/19/17)

Research funding is decreasing systemwide except for UC Berkeley. Corrective actions are necessary to increase proposal submissions and improve funding at the campus level. The 2017 seed funding program was created to target multi-disciplinary, multi-investigator convergent research proposals that attract large externally funded center-scale projects to enhance UCI research profile.

Significant efforts on streamlining efficiencies and burden reduction have been taken between July and December 2016. The Office of Research continues to streamline the areas of conflict of interest, Research Management System, Quali Coeus, and research policy and procedures.

- c. Network Monitoring and Privacy Disclosure
(Meeting date: 2/16/17)
Campus Information Security Officers and Privacy Officer updated CORCL on the practices to maintain security in electronic communications while observing privacy and principles of academic freedom.
- d. UC Campus Framework for Open Access 2020 Roadmap
(Meeting date: 2/16/17)
Open Access 2020 is an international effort to convert the existing corpus of scholarly journals from subscription-based to open access. Institutions wishing to participate sign an Expression of Interest. UCI is monitoring developments and having conversations with its constituents. Other UC campuses are expressing various degrees of interest.
- e. Actionable Recommendations for the Implementation of the UCI Strategic Plan
(Meeting date: 4/20/17 – Memo date: 4/26/17)
CORCL formed two subcommittees to 1. identify campus actions which would facilitate large scale multi-investigator and multi-disciplinary proposals and projects, and 2. identify areas of administrative efficiencies. Its recommendations were well received by the Senate Cabinet.
- f. Environmental Health and Safety Update
(Meeting date: 5/18/17)
Assistant Vice Chancellor Marc Gomez provided an update on the campus lab safety practices and safety culture.

2. Universitywide Issues

- a. 2016-21 Five-Year Planning Perspectives
(Meeting date: 10/20/16 – Memo date: 10/24/16)
CORCL observes a modest increase in the total number of degree programs in the planning pipeline, the steady and prominent role of arts and humanities among disciplinary categories, the rapid growth in the number of proposals for professional master's degree programs, the leveling of self-supporting programs after a sharp increase in the 2014-19 cycle, and the double increase of the plans to establish new schools or colleges.
- b. Revisions to Bylaw 182: University Committee on International Education
(Meeting date: 11/17/16 – Memo date: 12/8/16)
CORCL expresses reservations regarding the advisory authority given to UCIE over any and all research being done by UC faculty, the assumption that UCIE would have the expertise to advise on research policy, and whether there will be sufficient resources and adequately skilled personnel to manage the expanded purview of UCIE.

- c. Presidential Policy on Export Controls
(Meeting date: 4/20/17 – Memo date: 5/2/17)
CORCL recommends that core systemwide practices/procedures and systemwide training, which campuses could amend as needed to address specific local concerns, be established, and that input from faculty members who are dealing with export controls be included in the development of guidelines and procedures.
- d. Revisions to Presidential Policy on Electronic Information (IS-3)
(Meeting date: 5/18/17 – Memo date: 6/8/17)
CORCL has no specific concerns and is in agreement with the spirit of the Policy.

V. CONTINUING BUSINESS

- a. CORCL Funding Model
Over the course of the 2016-17 academic year, CORCL considered a new faculty research funding model that would effectively address basic research needs of the faculty with the overarching goal of increasing campus research activity in alignment with the UCI Strategic Plan. In October 2016, the Provost established the ad hoc Indirect Cost Recovery Workgroup to revise the indirect cost return methodology. The Workgroup recommendations include charging the Deans to develop a common set of guidelines for distributing some portion of the overhead from the decanal level to principal investigators. In consultation with Senate Chair Parker, Vice Chancellor Khargonekar, the Senate Cabinet, and based on feedback from the Faculty Research and Travel Committees in the schools, CORCL is proposing a new hybrid model that:
 - Covers basic minimal research needs (minor travel, office supplies, etc.) through an across-the-board distribution in the amount of \$1,000 per faculty member. However, this funding will not be provided to faculty who receive equal or greater amounts through indirect cost recovery.
 - Maintains the CORCL allocation to Research and Travel Committees (same allocation formula as in 2015-16 and 2016-17) to allow schools to award larger amounts for pilot project funding, or as best fits their research needs.

CORCL presented the funding model to the Cabinet for support and endorsement in anticipation of the Deans' decision on overhead return to principal investigators. The proposal was endorsed by the Cabinet in June 2017 and will be presented to the Provost after there is a decanal agreement on indirect cost distribution.

VI. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Members:

- Raju Metherate, Biological Sciences, Chair & UCORP representative
- Loretta Livingston, Arts
- Naomi Morrissette, Biological Sciences
- Margarethe Wiersema, Business, Vice Chair (on leave Spring 2017)
- Siew Hong Teoh, Business (Spring 2017)
- Liane Brouillette, Education
- Lorenzo Valdevit, Engineering
- Russell Detwiler, Engineering, UCACC representative
- Anne Calof, Health Sciences
- David Mobley, Health Sciences
- Kai Evers, Humanities
- Nasrin Rahimieh, Humanities
- Amelia Regan, ICS, UCOLASC representative
- Beatrice Tice, Law

Aaron Barth, Physical Sciences
Michael Goulden, Physical Sciences
Chuansheng Chen, Social Ecology
Jeffrey Barrett, Social Sciences (on leave Spring 2017)
Bruce Berg, Social Sciences

Representatives:

Cynthia Johnson, LAUC-I
Alec Follmer, AGS
David Cazares, ASUCI (Fall 2016)
Stephen Mamiit, ASUCI (Winter 2017)

Ex Officios:

Pramod Khargonekar, Vice Chancellor for Research
Dana Roode, Associate Vice Chancellor, Office of Information Technology
Lorelei Tanji, University Librarian

Consultants:

Bruce Morgan, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research
Mark Warner, Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration
Jill Kay, Director, Research Policy

Council Analyst:

Thao Nguyen