COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

AMENDED Minutes: October 13, 2016
Present: Katherine Bell, Jeff Seitz, Cristian Gaedicke, Jiming Wu, Albert Gonzalez, Jenny O (chair), Jeffra Bussmann, Helen Zong, Mark Karplus (Guest)

Introductions – New and returning committee members for 2016-17. The committee has two vacancies – one from CLASS and one from CSCI

Appointment of Secretary: Kate Bell appointed as secretary.

Approval of the agenda: Moved by Jeffra Bussmann; seconded Jiming Wu

Report of the Chair:

The CR annual report is available online.

Unnamed teacher/scholar program – the focus and scope of this program still needs to be determined. Jenny, on behalf of the CR committee will invite the new Provost to the next committee meeting to discuss, including the model of a “super” 3-year Faculty Support Grant. We have discussed support through release time and/or equipment. Faculty Affairs Committee is eager to finalize this program. JO is invited to the next FAC meeting, Oct. 19 at 2 p.m. to talk about the program.

The committee needs to follow up on Research focus groups held on May 12, 2016. The afternoon had good participation from faculty. CR will look at the data and decide next steps. We will consider holding another group that focuses on research and solicits faculty and administration input this academic year.

From the 2015-16 annual report: Institutional Review Board indicates 42 student-initiated IRB requests were withdrawn, 134 were exempted from the IRB process. Faculty initiated 98 IRB requests. Jeff Seitz says ORSP records indicate 60-80 active projects. JS, JB noted these figures do not capture the extent of research on campus.

JO-JS said we have no accurate picture of the campus research culture. ORSP and IRB applications do not tell the entire story. The committee discussed how we might obtain an accurate accounting of research. JS noted that faculty research is taking a higher priority; for example, it is now a line item in the budget.

Report of the Presidential appointee:

Jeff Seitz is interim AVP of Research and Sponsored Programs.

JS said the Director of the Center for Student Research has stepped down. The deadline for applications for interim director is November 1st; there were no applications as yet.
There have been two separations from ORSP by staff who moved elsewhere: Director of Grant Administration Jeanne Dittman and Grant Support Assistant Angelica Garcia. The jobs will be posted.

ORSP is investigating two potential violations of IRB rules.

Stephanie Couch and Jeff Seitz worked on draft strategic plan for student research, which will be brought to the committee for consideration. ORSP is beginning to collect data to inform a strategic plan based on external proposals and awards handed out since 2011.

ORSP will put quarterly reports on the ORSP website to publicize awards – the first is already on the website for the start of this fiscal year.

ORSP has not done an annual report in a number of years, but will begin doing so again as of this year.

JS will begin sending letters of congratulations to research PIs starting this year. Some of these projects will also be publicized through University Communications. East Bay Today has already highlighted some work.

The next PI quarterly meeting will be held on October 25. The PI advisory committee is being reactivated its 1st meeting is Nov. 1

6. Faculty Workload Task Force: Kate Bell was appointed CR member to the Task Force. It comes with 4 units of assigned time this year, to be used this academic year. The committee will provide guidance as to its priorities for the task force.

Faculty Support grants: There are 16-18 applications in total. All committee members will review them this time around. Each faculty member will review approximately 4 applications. Reviews must be completed in the new InfoReady system.

**Other business:**

Jenny O asked if the committee would like to convene a student research subcommittee as permitted under Article VIII, Section 2a of CR Policies and Procedures. The committee discussed and decided not to convene the committee.

JO asked the committee to consider what specific goals it would like to accomplish this academic year, possibly moving forward from the focus groups last May. The CR could survey faculty about research issues, priorities etc. AG suggested we look at IRB data and grant data. This discussion item will be carried over to the next meeting.

Adjournment: 3:55 p.m.