



COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

DESIGNATION CODE: 2013-2014 CR 1 Revised

DATE SUBMITTED: November 14, 2013

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Research

SUBJECT: 13-14 CR 1 Revised: Resolution Endorsing the Recommendations of the 2011 Research Strategic Planning Task Force

PURPOSE: Provided to the Academic Senate as Information

ACTION REQUESTED:

That the Academic Senate endorses the report of the 2011 Research Strategic Planning Task Force and be informed about the action taken so far regarding the Task Force's recommendations. The Senate may wish to charge the Committee on Research with further follow-up on recommendations as yet unmet or to make recommendations regarding the processes put in place after the Task Force reported in 2011.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At its meeting on November 14, 2013, the Committee on Research discussed the recommendations listed in the [report of the 2011 Research Strategic Planning Task Force](#). The Committee was concerned that these recommendations have been overlooked and that there has been little evidence of follow-up on the recommendations provided by the Task Force. The Committee on Research would like to request an update from Administration on the action status on each of the following recommendations in the report.

At the Executive Committee (ExCom) meeting on 1/21/14, 13-14 CR 1 was presented, which asked ExCom to endorse the recommendations in the *2011 Research Strategic Task Force Report*. The document was referred back to CR for further consultation with Provost Houpis.

On January 23, 2014, the Committee on Research (CR) was very pleased to have a discussion with Provost Houpis about progress on the recommendations. We appreciated learning about the efforts the Provost and others have made to support faculty and student research on campus. In our meeting on 2/14/14, we prepared the table below, showing the 2011 recommendations, the Provost's progress notes regarding the recommendations, and CR's response and suggestions.

Recommendation from 2011 Report	Provost's Progress Notes <i>(Quoted from memo given to CR on 1/23/14)</i>	CR Response and Suggestions
<p>Fully integrate pre/post award administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Step 1: Fully integrate pre- and post-award administration and functions into one office by integrating critical post-award functions (e.g., human resources, financial reporting) with pre-award functions. This was not fully achieved in the recent reorganization (see Appendix E for organizational chart). ○ Step 2: Clearly communicate to faculty the changes that have resulted from the recent reorganization. At present, many faculty members do not know which department is responsible for different aspects of research and sponsored programs and express concerns about receiving timely responses to their questions. ○ Step 3: Create a Research Foundation. Enterprise Operations (bookstore, catering, etc.) should be separate from grants administration in its own auxiliary. 	<p>This was done and additional individuals were hired into ORSP to help accomplish this task. The only segment of the grants process which was not integrated into ORSP was H.R. and accounting. H.R. and accounting are in A&F, and provide only services – no authority over research. It is possible that in the future ORSP and DCIE will hire an H.R. Officer specifically to assist in both areas.</p> <p>Because of recent state audits of Foundations and entities that operate as separate units on campuses (note: Stanislaus issues with Palin speech), CSUEB is unlikely to establish a separate research foundation.</p>	<p>We appreciate that ORSP is working to facilitate this integration process, but we would like to see Administration and Finance and Human Resources (A&F and HR) expedite operations so that contractors and third parties are paid in a timely manner. A&F and HR may need to develop streamlined procedures to administer grants more effectively. The human resources and payment needs for grant processing are distinct from regular university business. As the next step, we recommend that ORSP, A&F and HR develop and agree upon clear procedures for processing grant-related requests. We also recommend that the resulting procedures be widely shared with faculty.</p>
<p>Authorize the emerging Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects to hire more support staff positions for pre- and post-award administration in order to double the amount of grants received by CSUEB.</p>	<p>This has been done. The Office had in 2010 three support staff. The Office now has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Director for Research Administration 3 Grants Analysts 1 Post-Grant specialist 2 Temporary employees 1 Statistical consultant <p>An Interim Associate Vice President for Research will be announced shortly</p>	<p>The office has been understaffed for years, and we are delighted that a new grant analyst has been hired. We also appreciate that an Interim AVP of Research has been appointed. This would be a good time to inform the faculty of how this reorganization will support faculty research. We would like to see the formal search for an AVP of Research expedited and the permanent appointment of an AVP of Research completed as quickly as possible.</p>
<p>Communicate pre- and post-</p>	<p>Quarterly Principal Investigator</p>	<p>The PI meetings are helpful, but</p>

<p>award policies and procedures clearly to faculty and administrators, including policies and procedures related to IDC, human resources, financial requirements, IRB, etc. This communication should be continuous. It is essential that all pre- and post-awards services be integrated to achieve this goal.</p>	<p>meetings are conducted to explain any changes to ORSP processes and policies. These meetings have been well attended. While the switch from Foundation-based policies to incorporating all purchasing, leasing and subcontracts into the state-run procedures has had some bumps, things are getting worked out. The Academic Affairs Newsletter was started in January 2013 to convey information on forthcoming grant opportunities, meetings, training opportunities and other items that may be of interest to the faculty.</p>	<p>could be longer to allow more time for discussion. The Sponsored Program Guide section of the ORSP website needs to be updated (the last update posted is from 9/2010). We would also like to see the ORSP website updated with staff profiles, contact information, and all available support services, including grant-writing assistance and statistical consultation. It would be helpful for Academic Affairs to post an archive of the weekly newsletter. ORSP should also consider sending brief emails regarding research issues that warrant special faculty attention, and the ORSP website should feature these updates.</p>
<p>Provide faculty with incentives to encourage and reward research, grantsmanship, and other scholarly activities. These incentives should include reduced teaching load, overload, paid assignments, etc.</p>	<p>The Provost has continued to support internal research grants even though these were formerly funded by the Chancellor's Office. Each year over \$80,000 is distributed to faculty in hopes that they will work on projects that can lead to future funding, articles, and presentations.</p> <p>Additionally, the Provost established awards for Outstanding Researchers, so that each year individuals receive recognition for their work in this area.</p>	<p>Our experience has been that workload presents one of the biggest barriers to faculty' ability to complete research, and release time would both alleviate this barrier and provide an incentive. The high teaching load at CSUEB prevents us from competing with peer institutions with lower teaching requirements. CR would like to see new mechanisms developed to provide release time to faculty to engage in scholarly and creative activity. This release time program would need to address administrative barriers at the departmental level so that faculty can take full advantage of release time opportunities.</p>
<p>Ask the Academic Senate and Committee on Research to conduct a periodic review of policies related to research, scholarship, and creative activities.</p>	<p>This has not been done because of time pressures; however, the Senate has looked at the policy on Centers and Institutes and from time to time, policies have been updated on the ORSP website.</p>	<p>CR is actively engaged in review of policies and procedures related to research. In Fall 2013, we completed a survey of our colleagues to gather their feedback to inform the search for an AVP of Research, and shared our findings with Dean Leung. We completed a survey of first-year faculty to learn about their experiences in doing research on our campus. Findings will be reported to the Provost and senate</p>

		soon.
Improve and expand institutional and infrastructure support for research and scholarly activities, including studios, research laboratories, offices, etc.	<i>Not directly addressed in memo.</i>	Improving infrastructure for research is still needed. For example, some buildings have climate control problems that negatively impact research and scholarly activities. Wifi is often problematic. (We understand it will be improved this summer.)
Align college and departmental RTP policies and practices with current Senate policies regarding research and other scholarly activities. The Provost and Deans need to take leadership in establishing a fair and even application of the role of research and other professional activities in the RTP process.	This is something that individual departments will have to take on. Both the Senate and the Provost have encouraged departments to develop their own criteria for Professional Achievement. Unfortunately, few departments have accepted this challenge.	Having RTP policies determined at the departmental level leaves junior faculty caught between (often unwritten) departmental and university standards.
Establish interdisciplinary institutes and research centers that support faculty and student research and professional activities.	Several new Research Centers have been established in the last few years: Center for Research in Equity and Social Justice, Center for Sport and Social Policy, Center for Financial Literacy, Center for Math Education Research, Center for Science Education Research, Institute for STEM Education, Center for Student Research, and Community Engagement.	We are pleased with progress in this area.
Enhance the climate and research opportunities by establishing joint Ph.D. programs with other institutions.	This has not been done. Joint Ph.D.s need to originate in the College/ Department, and need a UC campus that would be willing to partner with us.	No comment at this time.
Further enhance the climate and research opportunities by establishing partnerships with other institutes, e.g., Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, the new stem-cell institute in San Francisco, museums, art galleries, social service organizations, non-profit organizations, corporations, etc.	More work needs to be done in this area.	No comment at this time.
Establish annual student and faculty research symposia that highlight research activities at CSUEB and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration.	The Week of Scholarship was established last year and highlighted several faculty and student research efforts. The Week of Scholarship will be	We are pleased with progress in this area.

	conducted this year on April 15-18 and will similarly feature speeches, posters sessions, and an awards ceremony. In addition, CSU East Bay will host the CSU Research Competition this year in May.	
Hire a staff person to provide grant writing support for faculty. This support includes: collaborating with faculty on grant ideas and proposals, copyediting, checking for compliance, budgeting, etc.	ORSP has hired, as needed, individuals to assist with grant writing. In addition, the STEM Center makes available an individual to assist with grant writing as does the Office of Development, which has 2 grant writers to assist in the development of proposals to corporations and private individuals.	We appreciate the hiring of the grant writers, but this information needs to be communicated clearly to faculty and updated on the ORSP website.
Establish a Faculty Advisory Committee for Sponsored Projects and Research. It should consist of PIs from each of the Colleges and the University Libraries and the Chair of Committee on Research.	This has not been done but may be undertaken by the new Interim Associate Vice President.	We look forward to exploring this possibility with the new Interim AVP of Research.
Refer the position of Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs to the Academic Senate's Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) for inclusion on the administrative review calendar.	This will need to be requested and approved by the President.	CR will consider this issue in consultation with the new Interim AVP of Research.