

COMMITTEE ON Research
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 2, 2016
LOCATION: Hawaii Hall 208
ATTENDANCE: [P = Present; A = Absent; E = Excused]

MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS		GUESTS	TIME
Johnathon Deenik	E	James Richardson	P	BUTLER, Marguerite SEC liaison	A	VPA Jan Gouveia	
COFFMAN, Makena	E	Tao Yan	P			Donna Kiyosaki	
Patrick Cross	E						
Jeff Kuhn	E						
Peter Mougini-Mark	P						

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION / INFORMATION	ACTION / STRATEGY / RESPONSIBLE PERSON
CALL TO ORDER 3:00 p.m.	James called meeting to order	
	No vote on minutes due to lack of quorum	
	<p>We discussed the reorganization plan for moving several offices from UHM Chancellor's office to System under the VPA. Most discussion focused on the UHM Communications Office and the UHM Office of Planning and Facilities (OPF).</p> <p>Jan described that 90% of the communications effort is focused on Manoa activities, but that this does not seem to be functioning well at the present time. Moving Communications to System would move 4 FTEs from Manoa to System, with the head of this effort being Dan Meisenzahl, who reports to Jan.</p>	

There were many doubts express by CoR members on the merits of this move, principally because it adds one additional step between researchers trying to put out news of their research and the office responsible for the implementation. Jan and Donna seemed to recognize this difference of opinion.

In contrast, there was less objection to OPF moving to System. One advantage of this is that for the next fiscal year Manoa will receive \$41M out of the total \$45M for Facilities. Historically, there has been resistance from the Legislature to provide this amount of support to Manoa despite the large back-log of repair and maintenance work that needs to be carried out.

Overall, rationale for the reorganization was based on efficiency or reduction of administrative overhead to accomplish these activities. But the case for efficiency did not seem strong, especially in the case of communications. The main reason behind the reorganization seems to be concern about poor performance of these activities under the existing administrative structure, i.e., the Chancellor's office. As an example, Jan stated that most of the communications work that goes through UHM ends up at the systems office anyway, so that putting the office under the VPA would actually cut out a level of administration between the faculty and the communications staff doing the work.

None of the other components of the reorganization plan outlined in Ms. Gouveia's August 29th, 2016 memo were discussed.

Mouginis-Mark suggested to CoR Chair Richardson that it would be valuable for our Committee to meet with Dan Meisenzahl at a future meeting, as it is important to hear how the proposed reorganization would provide better communications support to Manoa's researchers compared to the current situation.

[illegible]

Respectfully submitted by James Richardson.

Approved on December 7, 2016 with 4 votes in favor of approval and 0 against.

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