SUMMARY - Office of Research Budget Reduction Plan for FY12

The work conducted in the Office of Research is either directly or indirectly related to assisting the campus continue on its path to preeminence and achieve academic excellence as a research-intensive university by the continuous improvement of UCR’s research environment. Reductions in the Office of Research is contrary to the decisions reached at every other UC campus where there were no reductions in Sponsored Programs or Research Integrity staff, recognizing that during these challenging financial times and increased research compliance burden (e.g. ARRA reporting and NSF RCR compliance, Export Controls and H1B Export Control compliance, in just this past year), sponsored funding is one of the few areas where the campus has the prospect of significantly increasing its funding.

The required budget reduction will be accomplished by eliminating 3.5 FTE between Sponsored Programs, Research Integrity and Research Development to achieve the mandated reduction of $244,467.

Impact to campus:

- Significant reduction in support to faculty and students searching for funding opportunities.
- Significant reduction in ability to manage limited submission proposals that the federal agencies are dramatically increasing to keep their rejection rates from increasing rapidly.
- Significant reduction in announcement of funding opportunities to the campus.
- Significant reduction in ability to develop teams of researchers to go after large funding initiatives (including assisting with the collection of data for large multi-investigator proposals).
- Significant reduction in the coordination of proposals for institutional funding opportunities (e.g. facilities and construction grants).
- Significant reduction in assistance to students seeking outside funding through fellowships, scholarships, and sponsored funding opportunities and assisting students with writing proposals.
- Significant reduction in the number of proposals accepted by SPA by at least 30% for all colleges/departments/centers/administrative units, etc.
- Limiting the number of subawards that could be included on grants/contracts.
- Significant delays in transferring research material into or out of the campus.
- Increased time required to process protocols involving human, animal, biohazardous materials, manage research misconduct cases, and review conflict of interest disclosures.
- Significant delay of the UCR research activity as the review and approval of the use of humans, animals, biohazardous materials and the review of conflict of interest disclosures are mandated by UC policies and federal regulations before such research can commence; continued reduction in Research Integrity could result in the inability of the campus to maintain the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care and Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs compromising the ability of our investigators to be successful in their proposals to federal agencies that now expect this accreditation.