

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 18, 2013
2:15 P.M.
Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room
Minutes

Members Present:

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., chair
Thomas Burris, Ph.D.
Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., for Dale Dorsett, Ph.D.
Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D., for John Edwards, M.D.
Joyce Koenig, M.D.
John Long, D.V.M.
Susan Crawford, Ph.D., for Jane McHowat, Ph.D.
Michael Rauchman, M.D.
Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.
Michael Green, Ph.D., for John Tavis, Ph.D.
Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., ex officio
Paul Hauptman, M.D., ex officio
Denise Johnson, ex officio
William Wold, Ph.D., ex officio

Members Excused:

Michael Meyer, ex officio
Raymond Tait, Ph.D., ex officio

Guest:

William Siler, Ph.D.

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., chair, called the meeting of the Research Planning Committee (RPC) of the Saint Louis University School of Medicine to order at 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2013, in the Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES

The Minutes of the November 20, 2013, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 UPDATE

2.1 Office of Research Development and Services: William Siler, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Research Development and Services (ORDS), updated the RPC on personnel changes within the ORDS and emphasized that the ORDS is focusing on enhanced communications and process flow charts. The departure of Jenny Kiesel from the ORDS created an opportunity to create a contracts office. The contracts office will be managed by Kathy Leiva-Rosario under the direction of Joe Sanning. The intent is for all industry-related and federally sponsored program contracts and sub-contracts to be

handled by the contract office, including amendments and modifications. The goal is to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Ms. Kiesel's responsibilities were distributed among remaining staff.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Capital Requests: An extensive conversation was held on the merits of purchasing vs. leasing a new platform for genetic sequencing or outsourcing services. Dr. Di Cera reported that the dean offered \$50k toward the \$300k purchase/lease cost. After a thorough discussion, it was agreed that the three basic science departments, MMI, Pharmacology and Physiological Science, and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology would contribute a total of \$100K. Along with the \$50k from the dean, a capital request will be submitted for \$150k.

3.2 Brainstorming – Research Priorities in the School of Medicine: Dr. Di Cera discussed the faculty supplemental salary compensation plan. The plan submitted for FY 2013 has been approved, effective FY 2014. For FY 2015, Dr. Di Cera is proposing that the plan include clinical faculty, provided that they are not eligible for other salary incentives under UMG compensation plans, and the incentive be calculated for all faculty as 25 percent of the salary recovered above the 50 percent threshold, plus 50 percent of the associated indirect costs. This proposal was approved by the clinical chairs for FY 2015.

A concern was voiced over the issue of clinical faculty not be eligible for other salary incentives under UMG compensation plans. Dr. Di Cera will delete that statement from the proposal before submitting the proposal to the dean.

Dr. Rauchman was asked to draft a business proposal for his suggestion to develop an infrastructure for disease specific repositories. Dr. Di Cera suggested that the suggestion of RPC town hall meetings (Drs. McHowat and Salvemini) be discussed at the January meeting.

3.3 PRF – October 2013: The RPC discussed the process for selecting proposals to fund. It was agreed that the subcommittee would meet to discuss the proposals that scored a 1.0 or 1.5 on overall impact.

4.0 RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1 Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., associate dean for research, reported that Drs. Tait, Hauptman and Eissenberg met with representatives of Appistry, a local company that specializes in the management of large datasets. Appistry is interested in establishing a relationship with the School of Medicine to develop genomic sequencing-based diagnostics in a clinical setting. A follow-up meeting is planned to define specifically where the School of Medicine is expected to contribute in their business plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Sr. Planning Coordinator