

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2013
2:15 P.M.
Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room
Minutes

Members Present:

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., chair
Tomasz Heyduk, Ph.D., for Dale Dorsett, Ph.D.
Joyce Koenig, M.D.
Jane McHowat, Ph.D.
Michael Rauchman, M.D.
Mark M. Knuepfer, Ph.D., for Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.
John Tavis, Ph.D.
Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., ex officio
Paul Hauptman, M.D., ex officio
Denise Johnson, ex officio

Members Excused:

John Edwards, M.D.
John Long, D.V.M.
Michael Meyer, ex officio
Raymond Tait, Ph.D., ex officio
William Wold, Ph.D., ex officio

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, November 20, 2013, in the Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES

The Minutes of the October 23, 2013, meeting were approved with one correction. Item 4.3 should read: Dr. Di Cera informed the RPC that he will discuss the plan with the clinical chairs on November 6, 2013 (not December 6, 2013).

2.0 OLD BUSINESS

2.1 Revised Cancer Center Report: The revised Cancer Center report and Dr. Di Cera's draft response to Dean Alderson were distributed with the agenda. After discussing, the RPC agreed to recommend approval of the charter for the Cancer Center. The review has been completed.

2.2 Salary Recovery Supplement: Dr. Di Cera updated the RPC on his November 6, 2013, meeting with the clinical chairs to discuss the supplemental pay plan. The current non-

salary incentive plan and the proposed salary recovery supplement for FY 2013 only applies to the basic science departments. The clinical chairs were not aware of the reason for the clinical scientists not being eligible for the non-salary incentive plan. Dr. Di Cera offered to draft a salary recovery supplement proposal for FY 2014 that includes the clinical departments for the RPC to approve. This item will be discussed at the December meeting.

Dr. Di Cera announced that the proposed salary recovery supplement for FY 2013 has not yet been announced by the Vice President for Research. The RPC discussed incentive pay calculations and if it should be tied back to indirect costs.

- 2.3 Capital Requests: The RPC discussed Dr. Green's proposal to upgrade the Genomic Core Facility platform with the Ion Torrent Proton NGS System (\$292,000, plus maintenance agreement). It was suggested that the RPC consider an alternative to purchasing the Ion Torrent, its service contract and supplies (approximate total cost of \$400,000). A portion of that money could be used to establish a virtual genomics core without any hardware purchases. This would involve 1) replacing a technician position with a more highly trained bioinformaticist, and 2) subsidizing genomics experiments by medical school scientists. One of the roles of the bioinformaticist would be to coordinate contracts with commercial or industrial genomics facilities for a wide range of technologies (454, illumina, ion-torrent, etc.) In addition to maintaining an up-to-date list of economically favorable service providers, this position would keep an up-to-date set of standard operating procedures for each of the technologies that the virtual center supports. Expenses for this proposed model would be the salary for the bioinformaticist and subsidy expenses.

The RPC agreed to submit a capital request for the Ion Torrent Proton NGS System. Dr. Di Cera suggested that the discussion continue next month with Dr. Wold and Dr. Burris in attendance.

- 2.4 Brainstorming – Research Priorities in the School of Medicine: A list of suggestions from RPC members was distributed prior to the meeting. Dr. Di Cera asked committee members to send their comments to Denise Johnson.

3.0 UPDATES

- 3.1 PRF – October 2013: Dr. Di Cera reported that 26 proposals were submitted by School of Medicine faculty. Reviews should be completed by the end of this week. Denise Johnson was asked to schedule a meeting with the study section during the first week of December.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Sr. Planning Coordinator