

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 28, 2014
2:15 P.M.
Doisy Research Center, 3rd Floor Conference Room
Minutes

Members Present:

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., chair
Dale Dorsett, Ph.D.
John Edwards, M.D., Ph.D.
Joyce Koenig, M.D.
John Long, D.V.M.
Jane McHowat, Ph.D.
Michael Rauchman, M.D.
Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.
Richard DiPaolo, Ph.D., for John Tavis, Ph.D.
Paul Hauptman, M.D., ex officio
Gary Whitworth for Michael Meyer, ex officio
Denise Johnson, ex officio

Members Excused:

Thomas Burris, Ph.D.
Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., ex officio
Raymond Tait, Ph.D., ex officio
William Wold, Ph.D., ex officio

Guest:

Patrick McCarthy
Tom Burroughs, 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, May 28, 2014, in the Doisy Research Center, 3rd Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 23, 2014, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 UPDATES

2.1 Medical Center Library: Patrick McCarthy, director, Medical Center Library, distributed and reviewed a financial update on the Medical Center Library. A comparison of budgets for academic health sciences libraries in North America (2012-2013) indicates that Saint Louis University's variance from mean value to be -\$610,000. Planning is underway to establish a Medical Center Library endowment. Mr. McCarthy would like to see a \$125k addition to the base budget for the next four years.

- 2.2 SLUCOR: Tom Burroughs, Ph.D., executive director, SLUCOR, announced that (1) a new faculty member, Eric Westhus, Ph.D., with expertise in statistical analysis for the basic sciences has joined SLUCOR; (2) Paula Buchanan, Ph.D., M.P.H., will continue to manage all of the requests by University faculty for analytic assistance (pbuchan1@slu.edu or 977-9446); and (3) the post-graduate certificate in health outcomes research is now completely available online. Beginning this fall, there is also a concentration in Clinical Investigation.

A discussion was held on how consultations will work between SLUCOR and the new position being recruited by the Office of the Vice President for Research. School of Medicine faculty can continue to call SLUCOR for statistical assistance or contact the new staff being hired by the VP of Research. This new staff will focus primarily on initial consultations/simple requests. After the initial consultation, this group will then connect the faculty member with someone else in the University who is ideally suited for the specific analytic requests. School of Medicine requests will most likely be sent to SLUCOR or the College of Public Health and Social Justice.

3.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 3.1 Transgenic Mouse Cryopreservation: Prior to the meeting, Dr. Long distributed information on transgenic mouse cryopreservation and results from a survey he conducted at the School of Medicine. Dr. Long is not sure of the demand since he has not yet received a request to do cryopreservation. The cost is \$4k per strain. Dr. Long was requested to conduct another survey to determine which lines are irreplaceable.

4.0 OLD BUSINESS

- 4.1 President's Research Fund (PRF) Cycle 10 Update: Dr. Di Cera reported that of the 55 total proposals submitted for Cycle 10, 26 were from the School of Medicine. He expects that the School of Medicine will receive about \$198k to fund applications. Since the School of Medicine will only receive about \$150k per cycle next year, we may need to go back to the \$25K funding limit.

A discussion was held on funding opportunities for seed grants. Dr. Di Cera suggested that a list of potential sponsors be developed.

- 4.2 Town Hall Meeting Recap: The RPC discussed the success of the May 14, 2014, Town Hall Meeting. It was suggested that the event be held biannually, with the next one scheduled for November. As a follow up to the Town Hall Meeting, President's Research Fund information will be posted on the RPC website. Denise was asked to breakdown the departments of PRF recipients back to Cycle 8.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Director, Planning and Operations