

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 27, 2014
2:15 P.M.
Doisy Research Center, 9th 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.
Reigh-Yi Lin, Ph.D.
Jane McHowat, Ph.D.
Michael Rauchman, M.D.
John Tavis, Ph.D.
Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., *ex officio*
Denise Johnson, *ex officio*
William Wold, Ph.D., *ex officio*

Members Excused:

Thomas Burris, Ph.D.
Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.
Paul Hauptman, M.D., *ex officio*
John Long, D.V.M., *ex officio*
Raymond Tait, Ph.D., *ex officio*

Guest:

Patrick McCarthy

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, August 27, 2014, in the Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES

The Minutes of the August 6, 2014, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 UPDATES

2.1 Medical Center Library Update: Patrick McCarthy, director of the Medical Center Library, reported on the operating budget for the Medical Center Library, which is approximately \$600K lower than the national average operating budget for medical center libraries. Mr. McCarthy is proposing that a \$10M endowment be established, if the capital campaign is successful. Dr. Di Cera requested a list of library resources that are needed and the cost.

A discussion was held on Point-of-Care clinical resources, which are to be discontinued in an effort to license resources in a manner that is cost effective.

- 2.2 Cryopreservation of Mouse Strains: Dr. Di Cera reported that a communication was distributed to applicable PI's who possess and/or have created transgenic mouse models deemed valuable and irreplaceable. Per the recommendation of the RPC, the PI's were recommended to try to identify departmental resources to cover the cost of cryopreservation. If departmental resources are not available, it was suggested that the PI contact Dr. Di Cera to discuss options.

3.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 3.1 President's Research Fund Activity: Dr. Di Cera reviewed the two plot graphs that were distributed with the agenda: President's Research Fund submissions vs awards for the School of Medicine and President's Research Fund number of awards vs number of awardees by department.

Di Cera asked the RPC on input as to how the President's Research Fund process should be structured for the School of Medicine. Suggestions should be forwarded to Dr. Di Cera within the next two weeks.

It was suggested that Denise Johnson set up a brief survey and distribute to medical school faculty. The following questions should be asked, in addition to a comment box.

- How many application cycles per year should the School of Medicine offer?
- Should the maximum amount per grant be capped at \$25K or \$50K?
- Should the awards be targeted to specific groups, such as junior faculty or clinician-scientists?

4.0 RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4.1 Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., associate dean for research, summarized his conversation with Ziyad Al-Aly, M.D., from the St. Louis VA Medical Center. The VA is looking for SLU researchers who seek membership and funding from the VA system. The VA evaluates applications based on the following criteria:

- Research vitality: the perfect phenotype (score 1.0) is an investigator with more than one current R level funding (2 RO1s), score of 2 for PI with one RO1, and one local project, score of 3.0 for investigators with 1 RO1 that is about to end.
- Independence: a perfect score is for an investigator who has >75 percent peer reviewed papers as first or last author, score 2.0 for 50-75 percent first/last authors, etc. They also consider the impact factors of journals.
- Career trajectory: number of years spent as assistant professor, associate professor, professor, milestones in career track, and honors.

- Alignment with VA mission, VA research strategic priorities, programmatic goals.
- Alignment and contribution to the local VA portfolio: existing collaboration with the local VA, etc. Investigators must articulate a clear vision on how they plan to integrate into the local program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Director, Planning and Operations