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, October 22, 2014, in the Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES
The Minutes of the October 1, 2014, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Brainstorming: Strategic Planning for Research: Stuart Slavin, M.D., M.Ed., associate dean for curriculum and a member of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, reported on the status of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. The Steering Committee began meeting with various stakeholder groups in mid-September to discuss concerns and hopes for the University’s future to use in the development of a new strategic plan. The goal is to have six to twelve goals that can support the University’s
A lengthy discussion followed regarding the lack of a research representative on the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. The RPC requested that Dr. Slavin express this concern to the Steering Committee.

Following Dr. Slavin’s update, Dr. Tom Burris reviewed the Center for Vaccine and Therapeutic Development for Global Health concept document, and Dr. Joel Eissenberg reviewed the report prepared for the dean by the Taskforce on Sustainability of Research at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. Both of these documents were distributed with the agenda. These documents along with several other suggestions were discussed as goals for the strategic planning process.

2.2 Faculty Incentive Plan: Dr. Di Cera reported that the faculty incentive plan approved by Father Biondi was never officially announced. He distributed a handout on the current faculty incentives and a proposed simplified incentive plan. Dr. Di Cera is working with Dr. Ray Tait, vice president for research, on the simplified plan.

2.3 President’s Research Fund (PRF): Dr. Di Cera announced that with the exception of the School of Medicine, there will be one application deadline (October 15, 2014) for the President’s Research Fund in FY 2015. The School of Medicine will have two PRF cycles for FY 2015: October 15, 2014 and April 15, 2015. As with recent cycles, investigators from the School of Medicine may request funding up to $50,000. A total amount of $125,000 will be allocated to the PRF in the School of Medicine for each of the two cycles. The Research Planning Committee will continue to administer review of all applications from the School of Medicine under existing guidelines.

2.4 Frontiers in Molecular Medicine: Dr. Di Cera updated the RPC on the speakers for 2015:

Thursday, January 8, 2015
Linda R. Watkins, Ph.D.
University of Colorado Distinguished Professor
Hosted by the Department of Pharmacological and Physiological Science

Thursday, March 12, 2015
Philip D. Greenberg, M.D.
Professor, Medicine-Oncology and Immunology
University of Washington.
Hosted by the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology

Thursday, May 7, 2015
Shelley L. Berger, Ph.D.
Daniel S. Och University Professor
Departments of Cell & Developmental Biology
University of Pennsylvania
Hosted by the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Dean Alderson will select the speaker for 2015 Maurice Green lecture which will be held in October 2015 as part of the Frontiers in Molecular Medicine lecture series.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Director, Planning and Operations