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 26, 2015, in the Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES
The Minutes of the May 27, 2015, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Grant Reporting: Bill Siler, Ph.D., director of Research Development, was asked to attend the meeting to discuss reporting options for grant funding. Bill explained how reports are currently generated in eRS. Dr. Di Cera requested quarterly reports on R01 funding that compare direct expenses and indirect costs data going back five years. After discussing, it was agreed that U01 funding also
should be included. Bill agreed to look into this reporting format and report back to the RPC.

2.2 New Guidelines for President’s Research Fund (PRF) Cycle 13: Dr. Di Cera announced that the School of Medicine will have one distribution of PRF funds for FY 2016 (Cycle 13), with a deadline of Friday, January 15, 2016. The School of Medicine will have approximately $500k ($250k from the PRF and another $250k from the Doisy Fund) to support applications for cycle 13. Dr. Di Cera explained that he would like to implement a more targeted use of the PRF resources. Specifically, he proposed 1) incentivizing new research of high scientific quality that is likely to secure extramural funding, and 2) supporting existing research reviewed favorably by the NIH but not yet funded.

For example:

PRF01 - Single PI application describing a new project with high likelihood of extramural funding. Up to $50,000 per year for to 2 years ($100,000 total) may be requested for this award.

PRF02 - Multi-PI application describing a new project with high likelihood of extramural funding. Up to $100,000 per year for to 2 years ($200,000 total) may be requested for this award.

PRF03 - Existing R01 application, new or renewal, which was scored but not funded by the NIH during 2015. Up to $50,000 may be requested for this award.

It was proposed that all applications be reviewed by an internal study section appointed by the RPC and chaired by the current chair of the RPC.

After discussing, the RPC agreed to proceed with these proposed changes.

3.0 Research Administration Announcement: Dr. Paul Hauptman, assistant dean, Clinical and Translational Research, announced that the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) renewal is May 31, 2016. The University may be called upon to assist. In the new proposal, the University may be the recipient of a portion of the funds based on our total NIH dollars.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Director, Planning and Operations