

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 26, 2014
2:15 P.M.
Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room
Minutes

Members Present:

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., chair

Thomas Burris, Ph.D.

Tomasz Heyduk, Ph.D., for Dale Dorsett, Ph.D.

John Edwards, M.D.

Joyce Koenig, M.D.

John Long, D.V.M.

Michael Rauchman, M.D.

John Tavis, Ph.D.

Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., ex officio

Paul Hauptman, M.D., ex officio

Denise Johnson, ex officio

Members Excused:

Michael Meyer, ex officio

Jane McHowat, Ph.D.

Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.

Raymond Tait, Ph.D., ex officio

William Wold, Ph.D., ex officio

Guests:

Patrick McCarthy

W. Gregg Clark, Ph.D., M.L.I.S.

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, February 26, 2014, in the Doisy Research Center, 9th Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES

The Minutes of the January 22, 2014, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Expanded Library Services: Patrick McCarthy, director of the Medical Center Library, reported on the addition of Elsevier's Freedom Collection, which provides online access to Elsevier's biomedical journals from 1995 to the present. The RPC then discussed access and cost issues related to library information resources, particularly biomedical journal literature.

Mr. McCarthy reviewed different strategies for containing costs as well as various funding approaches for maintaining access to these key resources. Dr. Di Cera suggested a model of supplemental funding from Medical Center schools and departments to offset funding shortfalls. Mr. McCarthy expressed appreciation for such support, qualified by the need for stable, predictable funding to honor contractual commitments with publishers and vendors from year-to-year.

The RPC then suggested that the library plan an endowment for biomedical information resources. For example, a \$10 million endowment with a 5 percent income stream would generate \$500,000 in supplemental funding. The RPC and Mr. McCarthy agreed on the need for regular updates and close collaboration on this critical issue.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Town Hall Meeting: Agenda items for the upcoming May 14, 2014 Town Hall Meeting were discussed. Suggested agenda items included the President's Research Fund (PRF), information on the RPC (who we are and what we do), core facilities, and the Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences at Washington University.

3.2 President's Research Fund Program: Dr. Di Cera announced that the deadline for cycle 10 is April 15, 2014. RPC members should let Denise Johnson know of their availability for serving on the Review Subcommittee. Dr. Di Cera has scheduled a meeting with Dr. Tait to discuss the future of the PRF program.

3.3 Contracts and Agreements: Problems with the number of external contracts and agreements needing review by the Office of General Counsel and the delays in research projects that review of contracts causes were discussed. The workload of the Office of General Counsel staff was recognized as a significant part of the problem. The committee decided to invite Ms. Blythe Burhardt, associate general counsel, to an upcoming RPC meeting to seek ways to minimize delays in processing external contracts and agreements.

4.0 RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1 Dr. Joel Eissenberg, associate dean for research, reported on a recent meeting he attended with Dr. Ziyad Al-Aly, the associate chief of staff for research at VA St. Louis Health Care System - John Cochran Division. After the meeting, Dr. Al-Aly described his efforts to discover a pathway by which some School of Medicine research faculty with a Ph.D. degree could be accredited with the VA for the purpose of applying for VA research funds. This will require an effective letter of intent to the national office that speaks explicitly to the alignment of the applicant's research with the priorities and mission of the VA. Drs. Edwards, Rauchman and Hauptman explained how such credentialing can be done through the local VA for M.D. faculty (if they are licensed to practice) but that Ph.D. faculty requires approval at the national level. A School of

Medicine faculty has agreed to file a letter of intent, and Dr. Al-Aly will oversee and facilitate this process in order to better understand how other faculty at the University can be successful.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Sr. Planning Coordinator