

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 22, 2020
2:30 p.m.
Beaumont Conference Room
Minutes

Members Present:

David Ford, Ph.D., chairperson
Enrico Di Cera, M.D.
Rich DiPaolo, Ph.D.
Noah Hillman, M.D.
Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D.
Denise Johnson, ex officio
Oleg Kisselev, Ph.D., ex officio
Ravi Nayak, M.D.
Ken Olliff, D.Min., MBA, ex officio
Ratna Ray, Ph.D.
Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.
Jeff Teckman, M.D.
John Walker, Ph.D.
William Wold, Ph.D.

Members Not Present:

Christine Jacobs, M.D.
John P. Long, D.V.M., ex officio

Guest:

Jasmin Patel

The Minutes of the December 18, 2019 meeting were approved as submitted.

1. Per Diem Rate

David Ford, Ph.D., initiated a discussion on the two proposals he distributed via email for the School of Medicine Research Growth Fund 2020 RFA. As part of the discussion, he asked the Committee for their opinions on submitting a Research Growth Fund proposal for a per diem rebate, as suggested by a Committee member. Ken Olliff explained the process for evaluating and making recommendations for funding through the Research Growth Fund and the Sinquefield's request for how the donation should be expended.

A discussion on the per diem rate was followed by discussions initiated by Enrico Di Cera, M.D., on the School of Medicine's strategic plan for research, and Dan Hoft, M.D., Ph.D., on the critical staffing shortage in the IRB office.

Action Item: Rich DiPaolo, Ph.D., will draft a letter to the dean for the Committee to approve with a request for funding to subsidize the per diem rate.

Action Item: David Ford, Ph.D., will draft a letter for the Committee to approve, asking the dean for the Research Planning Committee to be involved in the strategic

planning for research, the recruitment process for research faculty, and the approval process for capital research equipment.

Action Item: A motion was made and approved for Dan Hoft, M.D., Ph.D., to write letter to the president regarding the IRB staffing shortage.

Action Item: Enrico Di Cera, M.D., will redistribute the 2017 School of Medicine strategic plan. The strategic plan will be put on the February RPC meeting agenda.

Action Item: David Ford, Ph.D., will invited Tammy Burton to a future RPC meeting to present on the School of Medicine finances.

2. Research Growth Fund

The two proposals for the School of Medicine Research Growth Fund 2020 RFA were discussed further. Dr. Ford explained that one focused on improving research infrastructure and the other was more broadly focused, including collaborative multi-PI research projects. A motion was made and approved to go forward with the broadly-focused RFA proposal.

3. President's Research Fund (PRF)

The School of Medicine had 23 applications submitted for PRF Cycle 17. Denise Johnson explained the review process. All Committee members present agreed to serve on the School of Medicine PRF study section.

4. School of Medicine Research Updates

Dr. Di Cera reported that an email was distributed to the School of Medicine faculty on the resources available to our researchers through the ICTS at Washington University. These resources may benefit the development of junior investigators as they plan to compete effectively for NIH funding. Junior faculty involved in clinical and/or translational research should pay particular attention to the Research Development Program that includes the Research Forum Program, the Scientific Editing Program and the NIH Mock Study Section.

5. OVPR Updates

Ken Olliff reported on the next round of Big Ideas and financial models for recruiting four to five School of Medicine PIs per year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Director, Planning and Operations

