

**Research Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 6, 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.  
Joyce Koenig, M.D.  
Michael Gratton, Ph.D., for Reigh-Yi Lin, Ph.D.  
Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.  
John Tavis, Ph.D.  
Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., *ex officio*  
Paul Hauptman, M.D., *ex officio*  
Denise Johnson, *ex officio*  
John Long, D.V.M., *ex officio*

**Members Excused:**

Dale Dorsett, Ph.D.  
John Edwards, M.D., Ph.D.  
Jane McHowat, Ph.D.  
Michael Rauchman, M.D.  
Raymond Tait, Ph.D., *ex officio*  
William Wold, Ph.D., *ex officio*

**Guests:**

Matt Schuelke, Ph.D.  
John Chibnall, Ph.D.

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 6, 2014, in the Doisy Research Center, 3rd Floor Conference Room.

1.0 MINUTES

The Minutes of the May 28, 2014, meeting were approved as submitted.

2.0 UPDATES

2.1 Newly Established Grants Development Office: Matt Schuelke, Ph.D., John Chibnall, Ph.D., and Joel Eissenberg, Ph.D., introduced the Grants Development Office (GDO), a new initiative out of Research Administration. This service is being established in response to the need for research support across the entire University. The primary goal of the GDO is to increase externally funded grant application success rates. The service is free to any SLU employee authoring an external application. The GCO will

offer two tracks of consultation: research design, measurement, and statistical analysis (DMA); and grantsmanship (GMS). DMA consults will help identify more innovative and valid approaches to design, measurement, or analysis while GMS consults will focus on aspects of the application such as framing, clarity, and submission timing. Because demand is anticipated to exceed startup resources, the GDO is currently seeking those willing to serve as Partners. Partners would give no more than four hours per month during times of peak demand and offer support in their respective areas of competence. Should a Partner's total level of support warrant, it is also envisioned that they might recover time by being written into the grant. A request from Dr. Schuelke and Dr. Di Cera will soon go out to faculty asking for those willing to serve as GDO Partners. For additional information, visit <http://www.slu.edu/division-of-research-administration-home/grants-development-office>.

Prior to the meeting, Dr. Eissenberg distributed a draft Policy Regarding Grants Development Services and Operation and a draft Procedures for Submitting Proposals for Grants Development Office Services.

2.2 Student Research Program: At the request of Dr. Koenig, Oleg Kisselev, Ph.D., chair of the IRB, attended the meeting to address concerns with the medical student research program. Specifically, a mechanism for students to get information on research opportunities and the importance of early education regarding IRB submissions and reviews were discussed. Dr. Di Cera offered to include information on the RPC website on faculty who are available to take on students. It was suggested that a link to the RPC website be placed on the Student Affairs website.

### 3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Transgenic Mouse Cryopreservation: Dr. Long reviewed the issue of the need to consider cryopreserving irreplaceable mouse strains to prevent potential loss (natural disaster, disease, loss of genetic integrity, etc.). Since this is not a service that can be provided by Comparative Medicine, Dr. Long invited Charles River Laboratories to give a presentation to explain the process and the associated cost. In his original survey to University faculty, 25 investigators responded that they possess anywhere between 1 to 10 mouse lines that they deem as irreplaceable. In a follow-up questionnaire, 55 strains were identified as being truly irreplaceable. The cost of the cryopreservation procedure is approximately \$3K per line. The RPC suggested that departments be contacted first for the funds. Dr. Long will draft a letter to pertinent chairs, explaining the process and associated costs.

### 4.0 UPDATES

4.1 President's Research Fund (PRF) Cycle 10 Update: Dr. Di Cera reported that the School of Medicine completed the review process for 26 proposals. The allocation for the School of Medicine for Cycle 10 was \$198K. The RPC subcommittee for the PRF recommended six proposals for funding at amounts less than requested.

Pie charts with data on School of Medicine awards by department and extramural funding generated by PRF awards by department were distributed with the agenda. Denise Johnson was asked to compare total proposals submitted by department to awards granted, and compare the number of awardees vs awards by department.

#### 5.0 RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 5.1 Paul Hauptman, M.D., assistant dean of clinical – translational research, informed the RPC of a town hall meeting that afternoon with representatives from the Institute for Clinical and Translational Science at Washington University. Topic: Funding Opportunity this Fall for Researchers (clinical and translational).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Johnson  
Director, Planning and Operations