

Research Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 23, 2019
2:30 p.m.
Beaumont Conference Room
Minutes

Members Present:

David Ford, Ph.D., chairperson
Enrico Di Cera, M.D.
Rich DiPaolo, Ph.D.
Ranjit Ray, Ph.D., for Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D.
Christine Jacobs, M.D.
Denise Johnson, ex officio
Oleg Kisselev, Ph.D., ex officio
John P. Long, D.V.M., ex officio
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:

Ravi Nayak, M.D.
Noah Hillman, MD.

Guests:

Jasmin Patel

The Minutes of the September 25, 2019, meeting were approved with the following correction: Under Compensation Plan, number 1. should read Expected Salary Recovery, (not Recover) Associate and Full Professors (not Profession).

1. Research Planning Committee (RPC) Website

Dr. Ford announced that the RPC website is being revamped. He asked that suggestions be sent to him.

2. PRF and Research Growth Fund

Jasmin Patel, assistant vice president for research, reported on two internal award programs designed to foster research and scholarly activities: the President's Research Fund (PRF), which supports promising projects that have strong potential to attract external funding, and the Research Growth Fund (RGF), which is designed to be a flexible source of funding for faculty across the University to help achieve their research and scholarship ambitions and make progress towards the goals of the Research Institute.

The next PRF deadline is January 15, 2020. The reviews of medical school proposals will remain with the RPC. The University has converted from eRS to OpenWaters, an all-in-one platform that will simplify the internal award program process. The portal is expected to be operational by December 15, 2019.

Instead of a separate RGF request for proposals, the Office of the Vice President for Research is proposing a supplement to the January 2020 PRF cycle. A discussion was held on how the supplement would be awarded. The RPC agreed that the top five PRF applications (\$50K each) be funded through the RGF. Ken Olliff will take this suggestion to the Research Institute and get back to the RPC.

Notes: 1) internal funding is contingent upon IRB approval, and 2) with OpenWaters, PRF applicants will need to submit a chair approval letter with the application.

3. VA Funding Opportunity

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., interim vice dean for research for the School of Medicine, announced that a town hall meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2019, for Dr. Ziyad Al-Aly, associate chief of staff for the Research and Education Services at the VA St. Louis Health Care system, to talk about VA funding opportunities and research priorities.

4. Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) Announcements

Ken Olliff, D.Min., MBA, vice president for research, made the following announcements:

In response to President Pestello's request, the OVPR is working on a framework and process to identify Centers of Academic Excellence.

Big Ideas: The Health Informatics Big Idea is moving forward with funding from the Research Institute. Vaccine & Immunology and the Institute for Drug and Biotherapeutic Innovation are Big Ideas are under consideration. (The Big Ideas competition is a multi-year process to identify and invest in collaborative projects that will establish SLU as a leading destination for research, training and innovation.)

Rick Grucza, Ph.D., has been hired as a new faculty member in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, as a Research Institute Fellow.

The Research Institute is building a new research website and will provide templates for research groups to develop their own webpages.

There is space available for faculty to use at COLLAB at Cortex.

The Research Institute Distinguished Lecture Series is launching today with a lecture by Holden Thorp, editor-in-chief of *Science* family of journals.

Matthew Christian, associate vice president and OVPR chief of staff, will attend the November RPC meeting to speak about membership on the Research Growth Institute and the selection process.

5. School of Medicine Research Announcements

Enrico Di Cera, M.D., vice dean for research at the School of Medicine, announced that the Executive Committee of the Faculty Assembly accepted the compensation plan (version EDC090419) with one revision: 2nd paragraph under Expected Salary Recovery should read: Tenured Associate and Full Professors involved full-time in research ~~are expected~~ should have a goal to recover 50% of their salary.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Johnson
Director, Planning and Operations