

**Research Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 28, 2021**  
**2:30 p.m.**  
**Zoom Video Conference**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Tammy Burton, CPA, ex officio  
Enrico Di Cera, M.D.  
David Ford, Ph.D., chairperson  
Rich DiPaolo, Ph.D.  
Noah Hillman, M.D.  
Oleg Kisselev, Ph.D., ex officio  
John Long, D.V.M., ex officio  
Ravi Nayak, M.D.  
Ken Olliff, D.Min., MBA, ex officio  
Ratna Ray, Ph.D.  
Daniela Salvemini, Ph.D.  
Kim Schiel, M.D.  
Jeff Teckman, M.D.  
John Walker, Ph.D.  
William Wold, Ph.D.

**Members Not Present:**

Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D.  
Denise Johnson, ex officio

**Guests**

Christine Jacobs, M.D.  
Grant Kolar, Ph.D.

**1. The Minutes of the March 24, 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.**

**2. Funding for the GeoMX system**

Tammy Burton provided a presentation on proposing the purchase of the Spinning Disk Confocal Microscope. Dr. Kolar explained the difference between the GeoMX system and the Spinning Disk Confocal Microscope.

The current Doisy approval was for the GeoMX system.

Dr. Kolar feels that there is an urgent need for the Spinning Disk instrument. In FY 2018-19, it was approved for purchase, but funds were not used. ROI was presented in slides. Contact Tammy Burton for a copy of the presentation or Dr. Kolar for more information.

Dr. Ford stated that the original topic was supposed to be about funding the GeoMX system. Dr. Ford asked for elaboration on funding from Tammy Burton. Tammy confirmed that funding for the Spinning Disk microscope is available and has previously been approved. Tammy further confirmed that funding is also available and approved from the Doisy Funds for the GeoMX system.

A discussion took place in which Dr. Kolar explained the difference between the GeoMX and spinning disk microscope.

Dr. Ford concluded that the GeoMX funding has been approved by Tammy and the Dean and has been funded through Doisy Funds; the spinning disk has been previously been approved and has funding. Dr. Kolar is providing an update to everyone before taking on the endeavor.

Dr. Ford clarified that the RPC had not approved this but had simply endorsed the purchase. This was because the RPC did not know what other capital needs would be.

**Action Item:**

Dr. Ford asked that each member to speak with their department to find out what equipment needs may look like over a several years. This would prevent “sudden” needs. Dr. Jacobs suggested looking at the list of items, maintained by Denise Johnson, to see if these items are on the list.

**3. SOM Research Growth Plan**

Dr. Jacobs, started by providing a background that there is the decline or stagnation in research, clinical funding, and basic science. The idea of this committee is to get members together from science chairs and clinical science departments along with a set of trustees to think forward. A 3-year timeframe is in place with a plan to recruit 7 scientist the first year, 5 the second and 4 for the third year. The committee is looking at how to get these extra funds with development. The second thing that the committee is looking at is strategy in increasing productivity. The third thing is to implement something like a Go Center to provide technical expertise.

Ken Olliff stated that the idea is to pull together the key research leaders, chairs of the departments, additional members and bring it together with the vice president for development, vice president for marketing, vice president for research, key board members, external individuals and collectively empower and focus this group on this ongoing problem of hires.

Dr. Ford referred to each chairmen’s needs in recruiting and faculty, there is enough number to recruit 16 people over the next 3-4 years. The issue with recruitment is funding. He suggested strategic hiring. Chairmen need to communicate on strategic recruitment.

Dr. Salvemini supports strategic hiring. Consider the idea of collaborating with other departments. She uses this strategy currently when hiring. Noted the lack of startup packages.

#### **4. OVPR Updates**

No updates from Dr. Olliff

#### **5. Other Business**

CQI asked Dr. Ford about research development and resources for young investigators for grants review. RPC review submitted grants. Chairmen to let departments know there are resources available including Joel Eissenberg who will review grants and manuscripts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristen Roberts  
Administrative Assistant III, Dean's Office