

**Research Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 24, 2021**  
**2:30 p.m.**  
**Zoom Video Conference**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

David Ford, Ph.D., chairperson  
Rich DiPaolo, Ph.D.  
Noah Hillman, M.D.  
Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D.  
Denise Johnson, ex officio  
Oleg Kisselev, Ph.D., ex officio  
John Long, D.V.M., ex officio  
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:**

Tammy Burton, CPA, ex officio  
Enrico Di Cera, M.D.  
Ravi Nayak, M.D.

**Guests**

James Brien, Ph.D.  
John David  
Christine Jacobs, M.D.

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

**2. Center for Defense Medicine in St. Louis**

John David, Director for Center Operations at the Center for Defense Medicine (CDM), provided a presentation on the establishment and operations of the Center. The CDM is part of BioGenerator investment in building the collaborative biomedical ecosystem in Saint Louis that assists innovative people and small businesses with support in pursuit of Defense Department medical research and development funds. Assistance is available as grants for proof-of-concept studies to develop data prior to submissions or technical and proposal consultants to prepare proposals showcasing military relevance of technology developed at SLU. Contact information for John is [jdavid@biogenerator.org](mailto:jdavid@biogenerator.org). A copy of his presentation is available in the office of Planning and Operations.

**Action Items:**

- RPC members will ask interested faculty in their departments to send a description of their research to Mr. David.
- Ken Olliff will send information on relevant faculty outside of the SOM.

### **3. Nano Assembler**

Dr. Brien, Department of MMI, presented information on the NanoAssembler Ignite. The equipment cost is \$75K, cartridges \$5K, lipid mix \$2.5K, service plan and training \$9.5K. (See agenda item #4 below.)

#### **Action Item:**

Dr. Brien to schedule a time for Nanosystems to do a presentation for a larger group of faculty.

### **4. Research Growth Fund and President's Research Fund**

Dr. Ford reported that the finalized SOM Research Growth Fund Program Overview document was submitted to the OVPR to upload onto OpenWater.

A discussion took place on using the SOM Research Growth Fund to purchase the NanoAssembler Ignite. A motion was made and approved by all in attendance that the NanoAssembler Ignite be purchased from the Research Growth Fund and that users be monitored and charged for the maintenance agreement based on the amount of usage.

Dr. Ford reported on the PRF Study Section that met on March 11, 2021, and the difficulties assigning reviewers to proposals and scheduling the Study Section due to scheduling conflicts and conflicts of interest. After discussing, the Committee agreed that going forward the February RPC meeting will be used for the PRF Study Section, and that members of the RPC are expected to review proposals and attend the Study Section.

Recipients of PRF Cycle 18:

- Getahun Abate, M.D., Ph.D., Internal Medicine
- Alexis Guenette, D.O., Internal Medicine
- Elise Alspach, Ph.D., Molecular Microbiology & Immunology
- Ian Mitchell de Vera, Ph.D., Pharmacology & Physiological Science
- Julie Dillard, M.D., Pediatrics
- Daniel Hawiger, M.D., Ph.D., Molecular Microbiology & Immunology
- Jacki Kornbluth, Ph.D., Pathology
- Jianguo Liu, M.D., Ph.D., Internal Medicine
- Ranjit Ray, Ph.D., Internal Medicine

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Johnson  
Director, Planning and Operations