



MINUTES

Research Strategic Advisory Council

Thursday, May 18, 2017

3:00pm – 4:00pm

AAB 302

Members Present: Andrea Giuffrida, Kathryn Aultman, Christopher Green, Byron Hepburn, Robin Leach, David Cappelli, Alexander Pertsemlidis, Jennifer Potter, and Kyumin Whang

Members Absent: Mike Beckstead, Carrie Jo Braden, Robert Clark, Erzsebet Kokovay, Maureen Simmonds, Rajeshwar Tekmal, and Tim Huang

Guests: Ramiro Ramirez-Solis, Courtney Peebles, Valerie Hutchison and Francis Lam

Minutes from 2/24/17 were approved.

New policy for institutional cores

Dr. Ramirez-Solis (Director, Institutional Research Cores) presented a draft policy for the institutional cores to improve their administrative structure and efficiency. Proposals in the draft policy include:

- Each core will have a “faculty lead” to provide scientific advise; the faculty lead will serve as chair of the Scientific Core Committee (SCC) of his/her respective core and collaborate with the SCC to advise on acquisition of new instrumentation, strategic investments, submission of infrastructure grant proposals, etc.. In addition, each core will have a “director” responsible for day-to day operations.

- A 2-level committee oversight as part of the governance of the institutional cores.

1) **Scientific Core Committee (SCC):** one for each of the institutional cores (currently 9) to provide oversight and assess scientific fitness. The committee would be chaired by the “faculty lead” of the respective core, 3-4 faculty who are subject matter experts/heavy users per individual core laboratory and one faculty who is not a heavy user. SCC meetings would be held quarterly to provide scientific advise about core scientific/service provision performance, new and obsolete technology to be reported to the Director of Institutional Research Cores. The Director of Institutional Research Cores will seek advice from the SCC for budget preparation and investments for each core lab.

2) **Institutional Core Committee (ICC):** one for all institutional cores and responsible for their strategic alignment. ICC meetings would be held semi-annually to provide strategic advise to the VP for Research and the Director of the Institutional Research Cores about new and obsolete core technologies, establishment of new cores, levels of support for specific cores, compliance and alignment with the institutional strategic plan.

There was discussion among the Council about reporting lines, Faculty Lead vs Core Lab Director and regulatory needs. *Follow Up: Dr. Ramirez-Solis will email the full proposal to the committee for review.*

Nature research services

Dr. Giuffrida reviewed previous discussions regarding Nature Research workshops and online training. The Council recommended in proceeding with the online training which will assist faculty and researchers interested in publishing in high profile journals. The VPR Office in collaboration with the School of Medicine will purchase the online training.

Follow-Up: Set-up of online courses to be available by 7/1/17.

Limited submissions

Dr. Potter and Courtney Peebles (Research Coordinator-Senior) presented a limited submission pilot process implemented by the School of Medicine Research Office via the Center for Biomedical Neuroscience for the Dana Foundation awards in late 2016/early 2017. The pilot included the following steps:

- 4 months before due date: OSP send RFA to faculty
- 3 months before due date: Pre-proposals due, committee reviews proposals
- 2 months before due date: Full proposals due, committee reviews proposals
- 1 month before due date: Reviewer comments returned to applicants with instructions to prepare a 15 minute presentation of their project incorporating reviewer feedback.
- 2 week before due date: Presentations and selection of candidate

Outcomes: because of the compressed timeline, some of the milestones were not achieved. The committee reviews provided live feedback and commitment to work with the investigators,. The oral presentations were well received and allowed junior faculty to receive constructive criticism from senior faculty to improve and strengthen their proposals.

Due to the time-consuming process of the pilot, SOM limited submissions will use this approach only for priority areas such as Diabetes, Neuroscience and Basic Biomedical Research.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm