
RECORDED MINUTES
Research Policy Committee

November 12, 2007
3:30 PM

Present:

Kathleen Campbell, Ph.D.
Mark Johnson, M.D.,
Teresa Liberati, Ph.D., D.V.M.
Mary McAsey, Ph.D.
Joseph Milbrandt, Ph.D.
Prema Narayan, Ph.D.

Peter Patrylo, Ph.D.
Louis Premkumar, Ph.D.
Sophia Ran, Ph.D.,
Laura Rogers, M.D.
Steven Verhulst, Ph.D.

Ex-Officio Members

Sandra Puczynski, Ph.D., Director of
Clinical Research Development
Linda Toth, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Research
Ko Watabe, Ph.D., Chair, Central Research Committee

Absent:

Sukesh Bhaumik, Ph.D.
M. Steven Evans, M.D.
Bradley Schwartz, D.O.
Don Scott, M.D.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.

Dr. Campbell asked all committee members to introduce themselves and welcomed them all to the RPC. She then set out guidelines for committee communications. All members are welcome to directly contact her at any time. Urgent communications should be left on her voice mail which she monitors even when she is out of the office. She also asked that all RPC interactions be concise, courteous, and constructive to expedite the committee proceedings throughout the year.

Approval of Minutes

As moved by Dr. McAsey, and seconded by Dr. Milbrandt the June 11, 2007, minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements:

It was announced that the Excellence in Academic Medicine grant reviews had been completed by the Central Research Committee (CRC) on November 7 and grant awardees would be notified in the near future. Dr. Watabe was commended on the CRC's excellent handling of the reviews and meeting.

Dr. Toth announced that Nancy Austin's medical leave would be for 6 months.

Dr. Campbell announced the CRC/RPC Subcommittee Membership for 2007/2008 as: Ko Watabe, PhD Chair, Kathleen Campbell, PhD, Laura Rogers, MD, Sophia Ran, PhD, Steve Evans, MD, and Linda Toth, PhD. Ex officio. The CRC/RPC subcommittee will meet twice per year after EAM and CRC grant reviews.

Dr. Campbell announced the Space Allocation Subcommittee Membership for 2007/2008, with terms starting in September 2007 as: Sophia Ran, PhD Chair will serve 4 years, Steve Evans, MD will serve 3 years, Mark Francis, MD will serve one year, Kathleen Campbell, PhD will serve as RPC chair.

Agenda Items:

I. RPC Operating Paper: Dr. Milbrandt moved and Dr. McAsey seconded the motion to replace Assistant Dean for Faculty Development with the Director of Clinical Research Development as an ex officio member of RPC. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. CRC Guidelines: Dr. Johnson moved and Dr. Rogers seconded a motion to approve the final CRC document reflecting the changes previously approved by the RPC during the FY 2007 meetings. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. RCR

The committee discussed suggestions for Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Training at SIUSOM. Extensive discussion included which faculty and other personnel should be required to have RCR training, the type of training that should be required versus optional, the amount of time required to take the training, and how any training requirements could be enforced. Through the discussion, a consensus developed that all SIUSOM faculty, students, and residents be required to take Responsible Conduct of Research Training including the authorship and fabrication-falsification-plagiarism modules of the CITI. Principal Investigators should be required to ensure that all of their research personnel complete the same CITI modules.

Through discussion it was agreed that before a formal motion was proposed, the RPC members themselves would take the relevant CITI training modules prior to further discussion at a future RPC meeting.

IV. Bridge Funding: Dr. Toth introduced the possibility of a Bridge Funding program for investigators who's R01s had expired and not funded through the first round of competitive review. Bridge grants would differ from the Near Miss awards in that the PI's department would be required to provide matching funds and no committee review would be required. The funding decision would be made by the Chair and matched by ADRFA. Extensive discussion centered on the impact of a Bridge program on funds available for the CRC and EAM funding programs. Other discussion involved whether a PI should be limited to only one award. The committee asked Dr. Toth to provide additional information regarding how many investigators would probably be eligible for these awards each year and the potential impact on CRC EAM funding mechanisms. Dr. Toth agreed to provide this information at the December RPC meeting when bridge funding would again be discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.