COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH
Charles McCulloch, PhD – Chair

MINUTES
Meeting of January 10, 2007


ABSENT: B. Aouizerat, P. Ling, J. Huang, J. Pittet

The Committee on Research convened at 8:35 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2007 in Room S-30. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the meeting of December 13, 2006 were approved unanimously.

Update on the Clinical and Translational Science Institute -- Deborah Grady, MD, MPH, Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research
D. Grady gave the Committee an overview of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). The mission of the CTSI at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) is to create a comprehensive, integrated academic home that promotes research and education in clinical and translational science at UCSF, at affiliated institutions, and in participating communities. She discussed clinical and translational research in terms of two phases. T-1 is the phase that deals with basic research in terms of people (mechanisms, markers, drugs, devices, intervention). T-2 is the phase that deals with barriers, feasibility, strategy, effectiveness and strategy.

The institute has four major goals:

Training
- Workshops
- Seminars
- Courses developed by each CTSI program

Design and Implementation
- Design
  - Biostatistics and ethics
  - Novel clinical and translational methods
  - Biomedical informatics
  - Regulatory knowledge and support
• Implementation
  o CTSI clinical research center
  o Translational technologies and resources
  o Community engagement
  o Global health
  o Health policy

Career Development
• Strategic opportunities support center
• Career advancement

Virtual Home
The goal of a virtual home is to facilitate all of the above goals. The CTSI is currently working with University Librarian Karen Butter to create a virtual home.

D. Grady then went over the key deliverables of the CTSI:

*Biomedical Informatics.* OAAIS is creating a Research Data Environment for access to clinical data for research and high-level structured data management.

*Regulatory Knowledge and Support.*
  • Streamlining CHR and CAR.
  • Improved legal services including a clinical research oversight office and a regulatory consulting service.

*Translational Technology Resources.*
  • Service: improve access to and enhance existing cores.
  • Education: development of new training programs with an emphasis on technology.
  • Research: encourage design, development, and optimization of new technologies from clinical investigation and translational research.

*Clinical Research Centers.*
  • Consolidation of existing three units (SFGH, Parnassus and Mission Bay).
  • Expansion of services to the existing community, extension of services to external community – adult units at Kaiser, in the Tenderloin, John Muir, and the VA.

*Community Engagement*
  • Coordination and expansion of research in the community.
  • Close collaboration with Kaiser.
  • Training opportunities for community health care providers.

*Global Health*

*Health Policy*

*Academic Advancement*
  • Enhance mentoring practices.
  • Modify value and rewards systems for clinical investigation and translational research
  • Expand efforts in minority recruitment and retention.
Strategic Opportunities Support Center

- Establish processes for review and funding of pilot grants and funding for novel technologies, global health studies, multi-disciplinary studies, mini-sabbaticals, disadvantaged researchers, multi-center trialists and nurses
- Support the career advancement of clinical fellows and junior faculty involved in clinical investigation and translational research.

For a complete summary of key deliverables, she encouraged the Committee to visit the website at: http://ctsi.ucsf.edu.

Selection of 50th Faculty Research Lecturer

The Committee received four nominations for the 50th Faculty Research Lecture. Following extensive discussion of each of the four candidates, the Committee voted by secret ballot to select Peter Walter, PhD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, School of Medicine.

The 50th Faculty Research Lecture will take place on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at 3:30pm in Genentech Hall on the Mission Bay Campus. The lecture is open to the campus community and the general public.

Report from the Task Force Reviewing and Recommending Comment to the Recommendations of the Joint Academic Senate/UCOP Workgroup on Recycling Multicampus Research Unit Funds – Stefan Habelitz

S. Habelitz gave a summary of the major issues the Task Force reviewed and the Task Force’s response to the issues laid out in the report.

New Business

- L. Bero announced a Grand Rounds taking place on Thursday in N-729 of particular interest to Committee on Academic Personnel members as the presentation deals with different ways of evaluating applications for promotion.
- Chair McCulloch asked for discussion regarding CTSI. Some comments included:
  - Perhaps this Committee could use CTSI to publicize our grants.
  - Collaboration with CTSI could streamline the grant process by avoiding resubmissions.

Update on Core Facilities – Rik Derynck, PhD, Department of Cell and Tissue Biology

R. Derynck updated the Committee with on the current situation regarding core facilities. While there was a clear mandate to develop cores at Parnassus, the primary question is how those cores would interact with Mission Bay. In determining what cores are needed and how best to consolidate them, it became obvious that the cores should not overlap, be complimentary, be administratively linked, involve all of the schools. The School of Medicine has indicated that the school will no longer solely fund. Unfortunately, the other schools are also reluctant to fund because of the inherent problem that cores lose money. In his opinion, this is not a high enough priority. At its last meeting, the Parnassus Leadership Council, it was decided that funding would have to come from CTSI, the Chancellor’s Office, and the four schools. According to R. Derynck, there has been a substantial commitment to this project. The Council’s hope is that once the strategic plan is complete core facilities will arise as one of the highest if not one of the highest priorities.
There being no further business, Chair McCulloch adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

Prepared by:
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