Committee on Research
Srikantan Nagarajan, PhD, Chair

MINUTES
Monday, April 21, 2014


GUESTS: Teresa Costantinidis, Associate Vice Chancellor, Budget & Resource Management

The Committee on Research was called to order by Chair Nagarajan on February 24, 2014 at 9:00 am in room S-30. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the February 24, 2014 meeting were approved with edits to attendance. They will be posted to the Senate website by the Academic Senate office.

Chair and Vice Chair Announcements

CRC Classification Change
Vice Chair Myers provided an update that the change in CRC classification has produced some unexpected costs for faculty. Further information will be provided on this at the next meeting when there is additional time.

Gift and Endowment Tax Proposed Changes
Chair Nagarajan provided an update on these proposed changes.

Campus administration has agreed to extend the percentage increase from two years to three. They declined to do a progressive tax. Senate Chair Chehab still supports doing a survey as a way to demonstrate faculty dissatisfaction.

COR members questioned why faculty were being asked to cover the gap. Chair Nagarajan advised that departments and units will be asked to cover the gap not individual faculty; he did acknowledge that may mean that the cost trickles down to faculty in some groups.

COR members asked if the financial interest on vacant endowments/STP funds is going to be returned to departments? At present, the interest goes to the Development Office. Members advised that if these gift/endowment tax changes go through—then the Development Office should renounce on this practice and return those interest funds back to departments.
Other ideas/topics included:

1. Have the tax changes function like a Roth IRA with all expenses paid upfront, with nothing at the point of disbursement.

2. The notion of these changes prompting intellectual capital/faculty to leave UCSF needs to be driven home to campus administration. There are numerous junior clinicians and mid-level faculty across the board who are departing due to lack of support and financial constraints.

**Presentation on OnCore Coverage Analysis**

Jennifer Kallen, Clinical Trials Manager, and Lindsey Watt, OnCore Coverage Project Analyst provided an overview of this program. For full information please review the Attachments 2 and 3.

Coverage Analysis is the analysis of where all of the information is going to be billed ahead of time; this is then uploaded eventually to APeX. Because the coverage decisions change over time, these have to be standardized overtime.

As of July 1, 2014, site teams will have to input data into OnCore. Anything that has the potential to be billed could be considered a clinical trial. So a UCSF study held in a research site—and not coded as a clinical site—has the potential issue to be impacted by this.

At present, three groups: ITR (Industry-sponsored and therapeutic), Clinical Trials Manager Team, and the division of Cardiology has a small group approved as test models.

All clinical trials will have a coverage analysis performed. Most will be audited and this analysis will assist in transparency. UCSF has noted that it’s past methodologies were insufficient to gather data for what the campus is being asked to provide now. Billing/Coverage Analysis is driving these changes as well as the potential for being audited in the future by outside reporting bodies.

This process will hopefully also see more appropriate billing to sponsors and others outside of UCSF.

**Potential Impact on Faculty**

Guest Kallen advised that when post-award kicks in—faculty should contact her group to make sure everything’s in line. Only new studies (where a CHR # is issued) will go through workflow efforts.

**Pre-existing Protocols**

This does also impact protocols already in place. Some historical (300-500 count) legacy analyses are being conducted to determine and document if any past errors were made. The intention is not to disrupt any current/ongoing studies. Prior studies analysis is for research purposes only.

**Impact on CHR**

This runs parallel to CHR except for IDE (Investigational Device Exemption). The intention is to have all clinical trials active within ninety days. There will also be an integration with IRIS soon so important to have IRB # inputted into OnCore.

During this process, IDE codes from FDA should be provided early in the process. Members asked that requesting this information be added into the OnCore Work Flow.

**OnCore Training Forthcoming**

OnCore training for investigators is being developed. At present such training is focused on staff and on inputting. If you intend to expand use of OnCore, trainings happen every other week online.

**Complications**
Treatment of complications is billable. An investigator can provide an anticipated issue list to guest Kallen’s team. Cohort or patient injury is considered separate from complications and is coded differently.

**Discussion of HR Tracking System Issues**
AVC David Odato, Human Resources, and Jason Stout, Program Manager, HR Tracking System, provided an overview of the project and fielded inquiries from members as to issues and efforts to correct them. It was acknowledged that the program was developed for administrative employees who are more experienced with working such systems. They were not designed for easy maneuvering for faculty who previously haven’t interacted with such programs – or now must do so due to lack of support staff.

For more information, please review the provided presentation (Attachment 4).

Guest Stout will contact members to follow-up on issues.

**Preliminary Discussion of FRL Proposed Changes**
COR members discussed:
1. Expanding the Call to include teams of two or more faculty, in addition to individual faculty.
2. Expanding the Translational Science definition to specifically include:
   a. Health policy/behavioral and social scientists—including both bench-to-bedside and straight policy researchers. Exemplars will be provided to address any uncertainty of inclusion.
   b. Sending the Call for Nominations specifically to Chairs of these departments – so they’re aware of being included.

Further discussion of this topic will be held in fall 2014.

**Old Business**
None

**New Business**
A one-time RAP/COR Subcommittee is needed to determine COR funding/scoring level for the Spring 2014 cycle. Analyst Cleaver will canvas committee members for availability; it’s anticipated the meeting will be in held in mid- to late-May 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 11:09am.

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