

Meeting Minutes June 6, 2007

In Attendance:

Allison Eddy
Guoqiang Zhang
Helen Dichek
Jason Debley
Jesus Lopez-Guisa
Ken Schenkman
Michael Cunningham

Sangeeta Hingorani
Simon Horslen
Stephen Kim
Tim Cox
Zoran Brkanac
Delila Katzka
Heather Lindemann

Introduction:

Allison complemented the team on their work so far and checked that everyone was comfortable with the direction that the committee was heading. The team indicated general agreement mentioning that they wanted to allow for flexibility in the phrasing.

On Monday, Heather reviewed each center's progress with Bruder and he liked the draft your committee has so far and thought is was descriptive and motivating. He did ask for one modification: In the Program Ideas we have "Acute pediatric injury and repair" he would like to make sure that we use the word Trauma somehow to distinguish the focus of the center vs. other types of injury. Allison added that the idea of injury in our vision is an issue because of Fred Rivera's injury prevention program. Though tissue "injury" does describe what we work with, it's use in reference to our center might be confusing for the general public. The team discussed using another word such as tissue "damage" or something similar to avoid this, but no final decision was made.

Input via e-mail:

These comments were provided via e-mail by Manrita Sidhu just prior to today's meeting:

1. I like R3 (Repair, Regeneration and Replacement) for the name.

2. As far as tissues, I would also add:

"Some focus areas were also discussed: Diseases of the bone, kidney, bladder, heart, lung, liver and vessels (blood, lymphatic)"

3. Of course, I would be highly interested in many of the areas discussed including congenital vascular malformations (including anti-angiogenesis factors and other creative ideas for attacking these diseases), imaging (of course!) and helping create grafts for damaged or missing parts of the body. There is some interesting work being done in industry on things such as dissolvable vascular stents that help keep blood vessels open but then resorb once the vessel has remodeled. This kind of thing is really great in children since we prefer not to leave permanent foreign objects in the body. Not sure the latter is exactly tissue and cell biology but could be."

Priorities discussion:

Heather suggested a framework whereby the team might differentiate their priorities by strategies that are organizational, functional and programmatic. The team reviewed the existing list and each rated their top five. These were discussed and tallied resulting in the following:

Priority Ideas (in no particular order):	Rating (higher is better)
1. Our Center will provide a collaborative state-of-the-art research environment to include core facilities and shared equipment.	0 Too broad – details are elsewhere in the list.
2. We will have a cutting edge imaging core with molecular, cellular, tissue, and whole animal imaging capabilities.	8
3. We will have a Tissue/DNA/RNA/protein processing, archiving and storage core facility. This repository will comply with HIPPA and IRB regulations and will enable SCHRI researchers to have access to this valuable resource.	10
4. We will develop a stand alone transgenic animal core facility.	4
5. We will recruit several senior level investigators whose research (basic or clinical) has translational relevance and who will help to unite all investigators in the center. Potential areas of expertise might include epithelial cell biology, vascular biology (... etc., we did not discuss focus areas in detail yet).	12 (Unanimous agreement that this is top priority)
6. We will invest in training and education of new students, fellows and junior faculty anticipated to become future research leaders.	12 (Unanimous agreement that this is top priority but needs to be worked at an institutional level)*
7. We will capitalize on the rich geography and work with our partner institutions to break down administrative barriers to better foster collaborations (especially with UW and FHCRC core facilities).	8
8. We will develop and maintain a critical mass of the nation's best researchers located together within a single campus. We will utilize composite strategies and resources to recruit and retain these key research leaders.	12 (Unanimous agreement that this is top priority)
9. We will provide researchers protected time apart from clinical and teaching responsibilities.	*Combine with item 6
10. We will provide a structured monetary incentive program that rewards individuals who are successful in the research arena (obtaining grants, publishing papers in excellent peer review journals, etc.)	12 (Unanimous agreement that this is top priority but needs to be worked at an institutional level)
11. We will have bridge funding mechanisms and guidelines.	10

Priority Ideas (in no particular order):	Rating (higher is better)
12. Our center will build close relationships with successful university based programs developing successful partnerships to further our research goals.	This item in terms of general collaboration was discussed for some time in and in a number of ways. Partnering with key individuals to help define strategy, cement relationships and carve out a unique niche within the greater research community was all important to the team. It was also felt that some of these individuals could help with pulling recruits to the Seattle area.
Deemed important and related to one another but not rated (see more refinement related to cores to follow)	
13. We will acquire (improve) genomics, proteomics, other "omics" core services.	Need easy access to, perhaps subsidized
14. We will improve (build) sequencing core services.	Need easy access to
15. Resources will be dedicated to provide a small molecule development/screening core.	Need easy access to
16. Bioinformatics core with advanced training to collaborate on grants will be a key resource for our success.	Need easy access to

The following items were also listed as important to be looked at from an institutional level:

17. Grant writing and manuscript support
 - a. Graphics and editing
 - b. Scientific/technical writing
 - c. Grant preparation – general
 - d. Other IT (images, files)
18. Central stores (barcode/card system)
19. Purchasing delivery system – needs immediate attention
20. 24/7 IT support that is flexible in terms of technology and individual requirements on the desktop
21. Electronic journal access for all employees
22. Biostatistician
23. Transportation of samples
24. More on-line training

More refinement -- cores:

Develop resources/cores (offset costs?)

1. Imaging (not isolated from outside)
2. Flow
3. Cell cultures
4. Energy metabolism
5. Tissue analysis and processing (pathologist)
 - a. Tissue banking
 - b. Certification for therapy in humans

Additional to education:

6. Speakers and conferences, seminar series

Further discussion:

The team discussed several individuals that could add their expertise to recruiting and to the center's strategy. Allison agreed to take the action to contact several for their guidance during the coming week. It was noted that with schedule constraints, this will be a challenge.

Action: E-mail the names of visionary people you believe can be helpful to Allison. **(Committee members)**

Action: Start a dialog with individuals from other institutions. **(Eddy)**

Action: Develop a survey (in Survey Monkey) to further refine the priorities including a comment section and distribute to the team. **(Lindemann)**

Action: *(In process and carried forward)* Ask MarComm to suggest 10 names for the Center **(Katzka/Lindemann)**

The next meeting is Thursday, June 21 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the hospital in room R3478.

Submitted by:

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