



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2015

1. Meeting Called to Order

A quorum being present, Dr. Rice, Chair, called the Oversight Committee to order at 11:02 a.m.

2. Roll Call /Excused Absences

Board Members Present:

Dr. Bill Rice, Chair

Mr. Pete Geren, Vice-Chair

Ms. Amy Mitchell, Secretary

Mr. Angelos Angelou

Mr. Gerry Geistweidt

Mr. Ned Holmes

Mr. Will Montgomery

Dr. Cynthia Mulrow

Dr. Craig Rosenfeld

Board Member Absent:

Mr. Gerry Geistweidt

MOTION:

Dr. Rice entertained a motion to approve an excused absence for Mr. Geistweidt.

Motion made by Mr. Angelou and seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Public Comments

Dr. Rice informed the committee that there had been no requests for public comment.

4. Chief Executive Officer Report

Mr. Wayne Roberts, Chief Executive Officer, announced the naming of the agency’s two conference rooms in memory of Carson Leslie and James Ragan, two young men who inspired us with their determination to live and to help other young cancer victims.

Mr. Roberts updated the Oversight Committee on the status of personnel issues, contract approvals and pending legislation.

5. Academic Research Grant Award Recommendations

Dr. Kripke presented two award recommendations for approval:

Application ID	Candidate	Organization	Amount	Mechanism
RR150050	Dr. Xianochun Yu	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$4,000,000	RRS
RR150039	Dr. Margarida Santos	The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$2,000,000	RFT

COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION

Kristen Doyle, General Counsel and Interim Chief Compliance Officer, certified the two applications for Oversight Committee consideration.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTIFICATIONS – Academic Research Grant Awards

Dr. Rice noted for the record that Ms. Mitchell reported conflicts with applications submitted by the following institutions:

- The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

MOTION:

Dr. Rice entertained a motion to approve each of the PIC’s recommendations for academic research grant awards and award amounts noted in members’ meeting materials for applications submitted by:

- The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and
- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Motion made by Dr. Rosenfeld made and seconded Mr. Montgomery.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Dr. Rice noted for the record that Ms. Mitchell abstained from voting.

MOTION:

Dr. Rice entertained a motion to delegate contract negotiation authority to the Chief Executive Officer and CPRIT staff and to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

Motion made by Mr. Holmes made and seconded by Mr. Angelou.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Grant Award Funding for FY 2015

Mr. Roberts stated it appeared likely that available awards may exceed available grant funds at some time in the future. Mr. Roberts discussed the options that were noted in his memo for how the situation could be handled when it occurs. He recommended that CPRIT develop administrative rules for a process to defer grant approvals from one meeting to the next. Proposed rules will be presented at the May or August Oversight Meeting for the members' consideration. Mr. Roberts also recommended another special meeting of the OC in September to consider recruitment awards. Dr. Kripke asked for guidance from the OC about which grants are their priority. For example, if recruitment grants are the priority, then when deferring grants, they would defer other grants before recruitment grants. Since this guidance is not needed for the May or August recommendations, the committee will discuss this at a future meeting when priorities are considered for next year. Dr. Rice asked the staff to prepare data for this discussion which would include such information as the amounts awarded in each of the programs for each RFA (rather than a yearly cumulative amount).

7. License Plate Revenue for Disbursement in FY 2015

Ms. Cameron Eckel presented background on the revenue from the sale of two cancer-related license plates, which accrues to the License Plate Trust Fund Account and is appropriated to CPRIT. Ms. Eckel then laid out the proposed process (which will not impact grantees) for use of the accrued license plate revenue to reimburse certain expenses submitted by current prevention grantees, including but not limited to transportation assistance, insurance co-payments, childcare assistance, patient incentives, colonoscopy prep kits, and survivorship services.

MOTION:

Dr. Rice entertained a motion to accept the staff recommended process for disbursing license plate revenues to prevention grantees.

Motion made by Mr. Holmes and seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Health & Safety Code § 102.1062 Waiver

Dr. Rice explained that Mr. Kirk Cole, as Interim Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), serves on CPRIT's Program Integration Committee (PIC), and as such is called upon to exercise discretion related to whether applications proposed for grant awards by the peer review committee should be recommended to the Oversight Committee for final review. DSHS is a CPRIT grant recipient, which implicates conflict of interest concerns. The waiver is necessary for Commissioner Cole to participate in CPRIT's review process as a PIC member.

MOTION:

Dr. Rice entertained a motion finding exceptional circumstances exist and to approve the waiver of conflict of interest, pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 102.1062, for fiscal year 2015 to Mr. Kirk Cole, Interim Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services.

Motion by Mr. Holmes made and seconded by Mr. Geren.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Personnel – Chief Scientific Officer Position

Mr. Roberts announced that Dr. Margaret Kripke, Chief Scientific Officer, has expressed her desire to retire from CPRIT as of August 31, 2015. She has agreed to stay longer if necessary to assist in the search for a replacement.

10. Executive Search Firm Contract

Ms. Heidi McConnell presented the staff recommendation to award a contract for \$125,000 to Spencer Stuart to assist the agency with conducting in a national search for a candidate to fill the Chief Scientific Officer position being vacated by Dr. Margaret Kripke. Given the amount of the contract, CPRIT must request approval from the Legislative Budget Board.

Dr. Rice asked staff to present at the next meeting the process for selecting applicants and conducting interviews.

Mr. Angelou presented the Audit Subcommittee's recommendation that the agency move forward with the signing of the contract with Spencer Stuart. Dr. Rice confirmed that no Oversight Committee member had reported a financial interest in Spencer Stuart at this time.

MOTION:

Dr. Rice entertained a motion to authorize the agency to seek approval for a contract with Spencer Stuart to provide executive search firm services in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.

Motion by Mr. Holmes made and seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Consultation with General Counsel

This agenda item was not taken up.

12. Future Meeting Date and Agenda Items

The next regular Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2015. CPRIT staff will circulate a tentative agenda prior to the meeting.

Additional Comments:

An Oversight Committee member asked for an update on the CPRIT 2015 conference. Dr. Becky Garcia, Chief Prevention and Communications Officer, responded by stating a meeting planner and a vendor to handle collecting the abstracts are in place. Two speakers have been confirmed. Mr. Roberts stated he sent letters of invitation to speak to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, Senator Nelson, Representative Keffer, and Congressman McCaul. Staff will email a draft agenda to Oversight Committee members.

13. Adjourn

MOTION:

There being no further business, Dr. Rice entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Geren made and seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Signature



Date





Cindy M. Mitchell
4/20/15
4-20-15

CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

April 8, 2015

Dear Oversight Committee Members:

I am pleased to present the Program Integration Committee's (PIC) unanimous recommendations for funding two recruitment grant applications totaling \$6,000,000. The PIC recommendations for the two recruitment awards are included with this letter.

Dr. Margaret Kripke, CPRIT's Chief Scientific Officer, prepared an overview of the recruitment recommendations to assist your evaluation of the proposed awards. The overview is intended to provide a comprehensive summary of the recommended proposals with enough detail that you should be able to understand the substance of the proposal and the reasons endorsing grant funding.

In addition to the comprehensive overview, all of the information reviewed by the Review Council is available by clicking on the appropriate link in the portal. This information includes the full application, peer reviewer critiques, and the CEO affidavit for each proposal.

The approval of these grant recommendations is governed by a statutory process that requires two-thirds of the members present and voting to approve each recommendation. Kristen Doyle, CPRIT's Interim Chief Compliance Officer, will certify that the review process for the recommended grants followed CPRIT's award process prior to any Oversight Committee action.

The award recommendations will not be considered final until the Oversight Committee meeting on Monday, April 20, 2015. Consistent with the non-disclosure agreement that all Oversight Committee members have signed, the recommendations should be kept confidential and not be disclosed to anyone until the award list is publicly announced at the Oversight Committee meeting. I request that Oversight Committee members not print, email or save to your computer's hard drive any material on the portal. I appreciate your assistance in taking all necessary precautions to protect this information.

If you have any questions or would like more information on the review process or any of the projects recommended for an award, CPRIT's staff, including myself and Dr. Kripke, are always available. Please feel free to contact us directly should you have any questions. The programs that will be supported by the CPRIT awards are an important step in our efforts to mitigate the effects of cancer in Texas. Thank you for being part of this endeavor.

Sincerely,
Wayne R. Roberts
Chief Executive Officer

Academic Research Recruitment Grant Award Recommendations –

The PIC unanimously recommends approval of two academic research grant proposals totaling \$6,000,000. The recommended grant proposals were submitted in response to one of two grant mechanisms: Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure-Track Faculty; and Recruitment of Rising Stars. The PIC followed the recommendations made by the Scientific Review Council (SRC). The SRC provided the prioritized list of recommendations for the Recruitment awards to the presiding officers on March 26, 2015, with an updated recommendation provided on April 7 to address an inadvertent reverse ordering in the presentation of the two proposals.

The PIC is required to give funding priority, to the extent possible, to applications that meet one or more criteria set forth in V.T.C.A., TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 102.251(a)(2)(C). The PIC determined that these academic research proposals met the following CPRIT funding priorities:

- could lead to immediate or long-term medical and scientific breakthroughs in the area of cancer prevention or cures for cancer;
- strengthen and enhance fundamental science in cancer research;
- are interdisciplinary or interinstitutional;
- address federal or other major research sponsors' priorities in emerging scientific or technology fields in the area of cancer prevention or cures for cancer;
- are matched with funds available by a private or nonprofit entity and institution or institutions of higher education;
- have a demonstrable economic development benefit to this state;
- enhance research superiority at institutions of higher education in this state by creating new research superiority, attracting existing research superiority from institutions not located in this state and other research entities, or enhancing existing research superiority by attracting from outside this state additional researchers and resources;
- Expedite innovation and commercialization, attract, create, or expand private sector entities applied science or Technology research capabilities: and
- address the goals of the Texas Cancer Plan.

Academic Research Recruitment Grant Award Recommendations

Rank	Application ID	Candidate	Organization	Amount	Mechanism	Overall Score
1	RR150050	Dr. Xiaochun Yu	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	4,000,000	RRS	1.2
2	RR150039	Dr. Margarida Santos	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	2,000,000	RFT	1.4

*RRS = Recruitment of Rising Star, RFT = Recruitment of First Time Tenure Track



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**Conflict of Interest Disclosure – Oversight Committee Members
For Applications Recommended for Consideration at April 20, 2015, Open Meeting**

Conflict of Interest Disclosure - Amy Mitchell

Academic Research (2)

RR150050
RR150039

By my signature, this list of reported conflicts of interest shall be included as the official record of conflicts of interest reported by Oversight Committee members for grant award recommendations considered at the April 20, 2015, Oversight Committee meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "William Rice", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. William Rice, Presiding Officer, Oversight Committee

4-20-15

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Amy Mitchell", written over a horizontal line.

Amy Mitchell, Secretary, Oversight Committee

4/20/15

Date