

Tuesday, October 30, 2018  
3:00 to 4:00 pm  
CINJ Boardroom 2003

**Attendees:**

Chang Chan, Shridar Ganesan, Elisa Bandera, Cris Delnevo, Linda Tanzer, X.F. Steven Zheng, Edmund Lattime, Willetta Boswell, Paul Novembre, Howard Hochster, Eileen White, Wei-Xing Zong, Janice Mehnert, Gina Londino-Greenberg

**Agenda**

1. Research Program Membership Adjustments

- Paul Novembre guided the Research Leadership Council through factors to consider regarding certain Members of each of the Research Programs.
- Decisions for the CPC Program were as follows:
  - o Stacy Davis, Anita Kinney, Marc Steinberg, and Janet Currie will remain as Full Members.
  - o Jeanne Ferrante and Judith Graber will transition from Full Members to Associate I Members.
  - o Jesse Plascak will transition from an Associate I Member to a Full Member.
  - o Kevin Schroth and Pamela Varela will remain as Associate I Members.
  - o Neal Boyd, Diane Brown, Qingyu Meng, and Jennifer Warren will be marked as Past Members.
  - o Mary Hrywna will transition from an Associate II Member to an Associate I Member.
  - o Pamela Ohman-Strickland will transition from an Advisory Member to an Associate I Member.
- It was agreed that research on aging should be considered cancer-relevant, due to the connection between increased age and increased cancer risk. Consequently, Janet Currie would remain a Full Member.
- The question was raised of whether a mechanism existed to identify and remove Members no longer affiliated with CINJ (e.g. deceased or retired faculty, those who went to institutions beyond the matrix/consortium).
  - o Paul Novembre explained that he and his team pay attention to notices of departing faculty.
  - o Further, the Members are contacted annually about their funding and publications. For any Member who does not respond to the inquiries, Paul contacts their Department to investigate if they have left.
  - o It was agreed that Program Leaders need to pay attention to departing faculty and inform Paul accordingly.
- The question was raised of whether members are ever notified of changes to their Member status.

- Paul Novembre explained that the Members are not notified when their status changes.
  - Member status was at one point held confidentially, and used just to determine discounts at the Shared Resources. Eventually, it became the practice to show the Membership status on the Research Profile pages of the CINJ website.
  - While Members are encouraged to just list themselves as “Members” (i.e. not include their status level) on their CVs and other documents, some Members are concerned with their level of status. It was consequently agreed that downward changes in status should not be made immediately, especially in cases of when it is expected that the Members will regain funding. Consequently, Stacy Davis would remain a Full Member.
- It was agreed to not go in-depth about level of cancer relevance in research when determining Member status, that is, if a researcher is conducting cancer relevant research, then they would be eligible for some level of Member status. Cancer relevance will only be assessed regarding funding.
  - A more stringent purge of the Member list might occur during the next CCSG year of record.
    - Paul Novembre cautioned that such a reduction in Members in the CCSG year of record could result in making the Shared Resources’ use data appear much lower compared to other years.
  - Decisions for the CMG Program were as follows:
    - Raymond Birge, Qian Cai, Lisa Denzin, and Edmund Lattime will remain as Full Members.
    - Wei Dai, Arnold Rabson, Randy Strich, Chung Yang, and Renping Zhou will transition from Full Members to Associate I Members.
    - Robert Austin, Nada Boustany, and Peter Lobel will transition from Full Members to Associate II Members.
    - Paul Falkowski and Michael Hampsey will transition from Associate I Members to Associate II Members.
    - Alexei Korennykh will transition from an Associate I Member to a Full Member.
    - Richard Padgett and Yufang Shi will become Past Members.
    - Raymond Birge, Qian Cai, and Edmund Lattime are all expected to soon regain peer-reviewed funding.
    - Lisa Denzin’s peer-reviewed funding had been classified as not cancer relevant. This classification needs to be investigated.
    - Peter Lobel really does not use the Shared Resources, so the status change should not be an issue.
    - Arnold Rabson, Randy Strich, Chung Yang, and Renping Zhou all need to regain peer-reviewed funding.
  - Decisions for the CP Program were as follows:
    - Eddy Arnold, Joseph Bertino, and Arek Kulczyk will remain as Full Members.
    - David Augeri, Hahn Kim, Edmond Lavoie, Lu Wang, and William Welsh will remain as Associate I Members.
    - Manisha Bajpai will transition from an Associate I Member to an Associate II Member.
    - Adam Gormley, Sang-Hyuk Lee, and Nieng Yan will transition from Associate II Members to Associate I Members.
    - Sagar Khare will transition from an Associate II Member to a Full Member.

- Daniel Pilch will transition from an Associate I Member to a Full Member.
  - Charles Roth will transition from a Full Member to an Associate II Member.
  - Alexey Ryazanov and Kathleen Scotto will transition from Full Members to Associate I Members.
  - Paul Novembre will investigate whether R37 grants count as peer-reviewed funding under CCSG guidelines. Even if Eddy Arnold's R37 will not count, he will keep his Full Member status due to his work with Josh Rabinowitz.
  - X.F. Steven Zheng and Stephen Burley need to determine the percent cancer relevance of Sagar Khare's two grants and then report it to Paul Novembre.
  - Arek Kulczyk is another example of how members should not lose status immediately upon losing funding, as he is also expected to regain funding soon.
  - Sang-Hyuk Lee will remain an Associate I Member unless it is determined that he has peer-reviewed funding. Under CCSG guidelines, funding from the Department of Energy is not considered peer-reviewed.
  - Nieng Yan will be classified as an Associate I Member for now, but will gain Full Member status upon receiving funding.
- The idea to just have the term "Member" used, with status levels kept internal, was reiterated, as was the idea to adjust the nomenclature to give appropriate recognition to Members.
  - It was noted that the purpose of annually updating the Membership list is to determine which Members could be mentioned in the Progress Reports.
  - Decisions for the GICG Program were as follows:
    - Gyan Bhanot, Steven Brill, Kiran Madura, Ansu Perekatt, and Jay Tischfield will transition from Full Members to Associate I Members.
    - Yana Bromberg will transition from an Associate I Member to a Full Member.
    - Subhajyoti De, Samuel Gunderson, Hossein Khiabani, and Arnold Levine will remain as Associate I Members.
    - Chris Harris and Nancy Walworth will transition from Associate I Members to Associate II Members.
    - Benjamin Raphael will remain a Full Member.
    - Ian Whitehead will transition from a Full Members to an Associate II Member.
    - Eugenia Xu will become a Past Member.
    - Yana Bromberg's peer-reviewed funding was 50% cancer relevant, so therefore she could obtain Full Member status.
    - Subhajyoti De and Hossein Khiabani will be made Full Members upon receiving peer-reviewed funding.
    - If Samuel Gunderson does not receive funding from his pending grant to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, then he might be made an Associate II Member.
    - Chris Harris might be leaving CINJ.
    - Arnold Levine contributes significantly to CINJ.
    - If Ansu Perekatt's obtains peer-reviewed funding, then she will remain a Full Member.
    - Ben Raphael will likely obtain peer-reviewed funding again, so he should be given time and allowed to keep his current status.
    - Nancy Walworth has not had peer-reviewed funding for a long time, and so is being made an Associate II Member.
    - Ian Whitehead has not had peer-reviewed funding for a long time, and has not shown participation, so is having his status changed to Associate II.
    - Eugenia Xu is leaving CINJ, so is being classified as a Past Member.

- It was agreed that there could be Full and Associate I Members affiliated with other collaborating institutions (i.e. beyond the matrix/consortium), but they must participate in meetings.
- When discussion began around the CIPT Program Members, it was agreed that a category of Member needed to be established for clinical trials leaders who are without peer-reviewed funding.
  - o In the previous CCSG cycle, these Members had been part of the denominator, negatively impacting the funding statistics.
  - o It was further agreed that there should be tiers within the new "Clinical Trialist" Member status being established.
  - o CIPT Program Leaders Shridar Ganesan and Janice Mehnert will go over the Member Roster again, and make their determinations based on the new "Clinical Trialist" Member status available. They will report back to Paul Novembre with their decisions.

## 2. Criteria for determining cancer relevance of funding

- It was agreed that a new column would be added to the spreadsheets of non-NCI funded projects (which are in the format of the CCSG Data Table II) that the Program Leaders receive annually. In this column, they must provide a brief explanation to justify the level of cancer relevance that they give to each of the funded projects.
- Prior to the next CCSG year of record, there will be a more stringent determination of cancer relevance than last time.
- The Research Leadership Council was also advised to observe trends in determining cancer relevance (e.g. for work on model organisms) while at other site visits, so that CINJ can be responsive to these trends.
  - o It was noted that types of Basic Science research are being especially scrutinized for cancer relevance now.
- There needs to be a review annually of the Programs' non-NCI funded projects, so that significant funding loss does not occur in the year of record.
  - o No funding with less than 50% cancer relevance will be accepted.
- Paul Novembre will investigate what other cancer centers do regarding postdoctoral fellows and other trainees who have peer-reviewed funding.
  - o Having a "Student" Member status could enhance the Education/Training section and could strengthen any T32 grant applications being submitted.

## 3. Characteristics for new AD of Shared Resources

- The need to have this new AD position was discussed.
- The appropriate candidate should have Basic Science and administrative expertise.
- Upon reviewing the proposed roles and responsibilities of the AD of Shared Resources, the following additions were proposed:
  - o The AD of Shared Resources should assist with Shared Instrument grants.
  - o The AD of Shared Resources should oversee all of the work that needs to be done by each Shared Resource for the CCSG submission and site visit.

- It was suggested that this AD should be someone with a laboratory, who has time to commit to this position, as well as administration ability and technological expertise.
- It was acknowledged that this role would be a significant percent effort.
- It was agreed that the AD of Shared Resources should be a senior person, who has a smaller laboratory.
- Dr. Hochster suggested having one committee to oversee all of the Shared Resources.
  - o After Dr. White explained that each Shared Resource has its own advisory committee due to their unique aspects, Dr. Hochster reiterated that one committee could oversee all of them and then just bring in individuals with expertise on a specific Shared Resource when necessary.
- It was suggested that the AD of Shared Resources also have clinical/translational research expertise.
- It was noted that many of the Shared Resources that had faced issues had committees which lacked the necessary expertise in scientific technology. Also, some of the Shared Resource Directors have not been engaged.
- It was agreed that someone needs to be reviewing the Shared Resources on a monthly basis, so that problems do not “snowball”.
- While the need to recruit someone with scientific technology expertise was reiterated, it was acknowledged that no one person could have expertise to cover all of the Shared Resources (including the developing Population Science Research Support Shared Resource).
  - o The capacities of the applicants to this position will have to be examined.
- The position will be posted, and someone could be brought in from another institution or hired internally.
  - o The job description can include a list of all of the Shared Resources.
- It was stated that the candidate should have a grant, and so qualify for Full Member status.