

RESEARCH
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Thursday, July 21, 2022
4:00 to 5:00 pm
Zoom

Attendees: Adam Berger, Stephen Burley, Chang Chan, Shridar Ganesan, Carolyn Heckman, Howard Hochster, Anita Kinney, Edmund Lattime, Gina Londino-Greenberg, Cristina Montagna, Zhiyuan Shen, Ioannis Stasinopoulos, Antoinette Stroup, Linda Tanzer, Eileen White, X.F. Steven Zheng, Wei-Xing Zong

Agenda

1. Monthly Catchment Area Updates (Kinney)
 - The Research Program Leaders have been given lists of publications and grants, and asked to link them to the catchment area priorities as appropriate. If a grant or publication relates to cancer disparities overall, then it can also be considered relevant to all of the priority cancers.
 - It was reiterated that the Research Program Leaders need to be well-versed in the research being done by the various Members.
2. Update on Progress of Organoid Program (Berger/Stasinopoulos)
 - External advisor David Darr recommends CINJ develop a PDO Shared Resource.
 - Mike Verzi is interested in helping to develop this new Shared Resource; at least one dedicated FTE will need to be recruited.
3. CCSG Updates (Tanzer)
 - The ADs and Program Leaders, in collaboration with Center Administration, did a reassessment of the percent cancer relevance of the funding. Justifications were provided for their revised cancer relevance assignments.
 - The Program Leaders were reminded of the need to keep assessing the Membership, such that anyone who is without peer-reviewed cancer relevant funding should be counted as a CCSG Member only if there is another compelling reason (e.g., leading a clinical trial).
 - It was noted that the Membership needs to be updated ASAP, as that is what drives all of the Program metrics.
 - Several Program Leaders noted needing guidance on how to write the sections of their narratives relating to PED.
 - o Dr. In will be asked to reach out to the Program Leaders to offer them guidance.
 - o There was agreement that some coordinated language and strategy should be crafted for how the Program Leaders will communicate about PED in their narratives.
 - The CRTEC team will begin communication with the Program Leaders ASAP to provide them with information for that section of their narratives.
 - o It was noted that the NCI may be cutting its funding for T32 grants, such that it may be necessary to identify other sources of training funding.
4. Developmental Funds Awards (Londino-Greenberg)

- Another series of CETI meetings will be happening in Fall 2022, and it is expected that translational pilot awards will be issued following these meetings.
- It was noted that it could be helpful to the Members to provide funding for sequencing services (e.g., single cell, long range), as the services are often cost-prohibitive. Alternatively, some form of credit to use the Shared Resources could be provided.
- There was agreement that it is always advisable to support pilot awards that promote collaboration between Rutgers University and Princeton University Members.
 - o The focus of the RFA should not be too narrow. However, it should certainly promote research responsive to catchment area priorities.
- Another round of CPC pilot awards should be issued. Drs. Bandera and Heckman can be consulted on how to generate the RFA.
- Dr. Kinney confirmed that there should be a round of Fall CCHE pilot awards, and G. Londino-Greenberg should communicate with S. Scharf on next steps.
- There was agreement to issue another round of New Investigator Awards (NIA) in the Fall 2022.
- G. Londino-Greenberg will send the RLC a list of all past NIA recipients, to help to inform nominations for the August RLC meeting. It is important to have representation across Programs and the Consortium.
- It was noted that the CPC Program has tried to engage Princeton University faculty through opportunities for postdoctoral trainees.
- The Princeton University faculty could perhaps be engaged in Population Science research through access to the cancer registry data.