

RESEARCH
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Thursday, June 9, 2022
4:00 to 5:00 pm
Zoom

Attendees: Wadih Arap, Elisa Bandera, Adam Berger, Chang Chan, Shridar Ganesan, Sanjay Goel, Carolyn Heckman, Christian Hinrichs, Howard Hochster, Haejin In, Anita Kinney, Edmund Lattime, Renata Pasqualini, Sharon Pine, Zhiyuan Shen, Ioannis Stasinopoulos, Antoinette Stroup, Eileen White, X.F. Steven Zheng, Wei-Xing Zong

Agenda

1. Report on the April 19th IQB Crash Course
 - This event had the best attendance of all Crash Courses to date.
 - Another Crash Course is being planned for the Fall 2022.
 - 2022 is also the Year of Record for the grant supporting the Protein Data Bank.

2. Report on the Annual Retreat on Cancer Research in New Jersey/CRTEC Liaisons
 - See attached presentation.
 - This year's retreat had approximately half of the number of attendees typical prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the attendance amount was still satisfactory, considering that this retreat had restarted after a two-year hiatus.
 - It will be necessary to better advertise next year's Annual Retreat.
 - All attendees had to show evidence of vaccination against COVID-19. Those with Rutgers IDs streamlined the process, since vaccination is required of those affiliated with Rutgers.
 - Dr. Lattime requested recommendations for next year's Keynote Speaker, as it is important to book the speaker now.
 - o Recommendations included James Allison, Laurie Glimcher, Naomi Taylor, or someone from Pfizer or Moderna about viral anti-cancer work.
 - The question was raised regarding whether an evening session for the community could be added for the day prior to the Annual Retreat, as community members (including those on the Community Cancer Action Board) may not be able to miss work to attend a day-long event.
 - o This pre-meeting session could involve a dinner with the presenters, key poster presenters, and the community members.
 - o Dr. Lattime will follow up with Dr. Kinney about this proposed event.
 - Dr. Lattime will find out about what is being planned for the next joint Rutgers/Princeton Symposium.

3. Comprehensive Genomics Updates
 - CINJ needs to determine whether subsidies should be provided for using services at the Newark location.
 - o There was agreement that subsidies should be provided.
 - o Once iLab is set up for this Shared Resource, there will be data on the amount of charges by CINJ Members, which can help to inform the amount of subsidization needed.

- 10X sequencing can still be done operationally within the Immune Monitoring Core; however, this service should not be listed as part of its array of services offered.
- There is no need to hire a Director for the Comprehensive Genomics New Brunswick location, since there is already one at the Newark location.

4. Monthly Catchment Area Updates

- The Program Leaders and Liaisons were thanked for their efforts to recruit speakers to the Community Science Cafés. Multiple speakers across the Programs have been recruited to participate.
- All Programs show strong data on catchment area responsiveness in publications and grants. They also have examples of engagement with the COE team.
- Dr. Hinrichs recently gave a very strong presentation to the CCAB. He asked very thoughtful questions to obtain the community's feedback.
- It is necessary for the Program Leaders and Liaisons to identify 2021/2022 data responsive to the catchment area.
 - o However, metrics will not necessarily need to be shown in the Research Programs' written narratives for the CCSG.
- All ADs have spoken to the CCAB so far except for Dr. Lattime. Either he or Dr. Chaudhary will present soon.
- The architects for the new cancer building presented the plans to the CCAB. The CCAB were very engaged in their presentation.
 - o Dr. In is working to make the esthetics of the new building engaging and welcoming to the community. She should be invited to attend the next CCAB meeting.
- The CCAB would welcome a tour of the new building.
- Dr. Evens and Kimyatta Washington can assist with patient engagement for the planning of the new building.

5. Program Leaders' and Liaisons' role in identifying members for bidirectional community engagement

- Dr. Pine was thanked for her efforts supporting the Liaisons,
- Dr. Stroup will direct oversight of the collection and curation of catchment area-responsive data.
- The CCAB and Community Science Cafés are the primary venues for researchers to have meaningful and impactful communication with the community. These events are thus being maximized.
- Dr. Stroup plans to meet with all of the Program Liaisons to review catchment area-responsive data.
- The RLC asked about the location of the calendar for the Community Science Cafés.
 - o It was noted that these events are important to publicize.
 - o However, it must be clear that other researchers can observe, but should not engage with the speaker. These events are targeted for community communication.
- A reminder was given for an upcoming event hosted by the Center for Cancer Health Equity, in which there will be a session on how to present to the lay community.
 - o The suggestion was made to record the speaker and make the recording available as an example for other researchers.
 - o Virtual meetings now have features in which attendees are told upon joining that the meeting is being recorded.
- Sets of questions are also being developed to help researchers on how to engage with the community members.

- The RLC was reminded that it is important for trainees to also be educated about catchment area topics, by either Dr. Kinney or another member of the COE team.

Next Meeting

TBD in July 2022 via Zoom