RUTGERS

Cancer Institute
of New Jersey
RUTGERS HEALTH

## RESEARCH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Thursday, November 18, 2021 4:00 to 5:00 pm Zoom

<u>Attendees</u>: Elisa Bandera, Adam Berger, Carolyn Heckman, Christian Hinrichs, Howard Hochster, Haejin In, Anita Kinney, Edmund Lattime, Renata Pasqualini, Sharon Pine, Sarah Scharf, Zhiyuan Shen, Ioannis Stasinopoulos, Linda Tanzer, Eileen White

## Agenda

- 1. CCSG Shared Resources (Berger)
  - Please see attached presentation.
  - The question was raised of why the Research Pharmacy's work with specialized drugs was not being considered relevant to the CCSG.
    - Dr. Berger explained that the Research Pharmacy is not currently doing very much work with specialized drugs, and when it does, that work is with OHRS for clinical trials and so mainly benefiting the CIPT Research Program.
    - Although the Research Pharmacy is critical to clinical trials, at present is really not functioning as a Shared Resource.
  - The external advisors engaged to review the Shared Resources recommended not including the Research Pharmacy as a CCSG Shared Resource for the upcoming competing renewal application.
  - The Research Pharmacy will still provide research faculty with drugs and services for research projects. The plan is just to not deem it a CCSG Shared Resource for this competing renewal application.
  - The external reviewers recommended that the Population Science Research Support Shared Resource be made a full Shared Resource in the upcoming CCSG competing renewal application.
  - It was noted that so far, only Reynold Panettieri has brought forth a successful research project from the agreement that gave CCSG Program Members access to the Small Molecule Screening Center Shared Resource.
  - Other projects that utilized the Small Molecule Screening Center began prior to the partnership agreement and are not linked to the partnership agreement that was enacted to make it a Developing Shared Resource.
  - There could be issues with including the Small Molecule Screening Center in the upcoming competing renewal application, if the only successful research projects linked to it are those which preceded the partnership agreement.
    - o It was noted that Small Molecule Screening is a very long, stepwise process.
    - The Small Molecule Screening Center can still be a service available to the CP Program. It just has very little ROI in terms of chargebacks to be presented as a Shared Resource, since they tend to be fee-for-service cores.
    - Small Molecule Screening could be presented as an institutional commitment rather than a Shared Resource, since it has driven strong science that should be highlighted in the Research Program narratives.
  - It would be helpful to make the Patient-Derived Organoid Core a Developing Shared Resource in the CCSG.

- 2. Catchment Area Relevant Activity for Research Programs
  - Daniel Pearson will be working closely with the Disease Study Groups to provide them with relevant data relating to catchment area relevant metrics.
  - The Developmental Funds section of the CCSG competing renewal application can note how relevant the awards have been to catchment area needs.
  - Please see attached presentation. The work on cancer disparities across the Research Program is quite strong. The data will be made available to the Program Leaders on a routine basis.
  - The question was raised regarding whether each Research Program narrative and slide set should include at least some of the data being presented.
    - Dr. Kinney and Dr. Pine will assess how to best present the data to show improvements across the Research Programs.
  - These data could be incorporated into the reporting for the Strategic Plan and tracking the activities could be done for the LPE section of the CCSG competing renewal application.
  - A notation could be developed for use in the CCSG written application, to indicate anything catchment area relevant.
  - The Shared Resources also could note any work done that is catchment area relevant.
- 3. RFA Pending for Studies that Capitalize Linking COVID-19 Registry with Cancer Registry
  - Please see attached slide set. The question was raised of who should be the steward to work with Center Administration to develop the RFA, determine reviews, and other aspects of the process.
  - Dr. Kinney was willing to be a steward, if she can receive assistance in the writing of the RFA, perhaps from one of the CPC and/or CIPT Program Leaders.
    - Dr. Bandera offered to help, as did Dr. Berger, for his group has done some work relating to COVID-19.
    - The Citizen Scientists can help with review.
    - Clinical Fellows may be able to do the research, with a faculty member named as the PI.
  - It was noted that the data available in the Cancer Registry could be limiting to the research that can be done.
    - The Cancer Registry has been experiencing delays.
    - o Nan Stroup should be consulted to see what COVID-19 data would be available.

Next Meeting
Thursday, December 16, 2021 (4:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Zoom)