Minutes
UW School of Medicine and Public Health
Partnership Education and Research Committee (PERC) Executive Committee
June 23, 2014, 10:00 a.m., 4141 Health Sciences Learning Center

Members Present: Elizabeth Jacobs, Rick Moss, Greg Nycz (phone), Tom Oliver, Elizabeth Petty, Jim Shull

WPP Staff: Tonya Mathison, Eileen Smith

1. Call meeting to order

Moss called meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Discussion and decision on draft minutes from April 1, 2014 and April 28, 2014

The April 1, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved following a motion by Nycz and a second by Oliver.

The April 28, 2014 minutes were approved with five affirmative votes following a motion by Shull and a second by Nycz. Oliver abstained.

3. Announcements

   a. New Investigator Program preliminary applications

   Mathison reported that the Request for Proposals for the New Investigator Program, which was released May 15, 2014, resulted in 36 preliminary applications. Following a technical review, one applicant was determined to be ineligible. The remaining applications will be advanced for independent review by the members of the PERC Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will discuss the applications at its July 28 meeting and make a recommendation to PERC on invitations for full applications.

   b. Collaborative Health Sciences Program full applications

   Mathison reported that the seven Collaborative Health Sciences Program applicants invited by PERC to submit full applications had done so by the June 10, 2014 deadline. Each application was assigned to a primary and secondary content expert, a reader and two community reviewers. The PERC Review Subcommittee will meet on July 17 to discuss the applications and develop a ranked list for consideration by PERC.

Smith noted that there were two areas of expertise lacking adequate representation on the Review Subcommittee: genetics and cancer research. The Executive Committee shared several names. Smith indicated that several ad hoc reviewers were participating in the review of the Collaborative Health Sciences Program applications and will be invited to join the Review Subcommittee.
4. Discussion and recommendation to PERC on:

a. **Strategic renewal application from Michael Fiore for Optimized Chronic Care for Smokers: A Comparative Effectiveness Approach**

Moss introduced discussion of Michael Fiore’s revised strategic renewal application for Optimized Chronic Care for Smokers: A Comparative Effectiveness Approach. The application, which requests $300,000 in matching funding for a recently-awarded National Cancer Institute P01 center grant, includes a revised budget and more specificity on the use of funds. Discussion of the application by the Executive Committee resulted in a request that Dr. Fiore’s presentation to PERC include:

- A list or figure showing the research studies of the National Cancer Institute center grant, highlighting PERC’s support.
- An explanation of how PERC’s funding will make a significant contribution as match to the overall center grant.
- Given that PERC’s funding would provide match for the first two years of the five year center grant, clarify plans for a future funding request from PERC for the final three years.
- List the other sources of funds which make up the institutional match from the University.

Following a motion by Petty and a second by Shull, the Executive Committee unanimously recommended that PERC approve Dr. Fiore’s revised application. Dr. Fiore will present the renewal application at the July PERC meeting and incorporate the above request from the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee agreed to have a future discussion on the development of a policy for providing matching funds. The discussion will include a review of PERC’s financial projections.

b. **No cost extension request by Scott Nagle for Cystic Fibrosis MRI: Tracking Lung Function and Response to Therapy**

Moss provided an overview of the no cost extension request from Scott Nagle for his 2010 New Investigator Program award, Cystic Fibrosis MRI: Tracking Lung Function and Response to Therapy. If approved, this would be the second 12-month no cost extension for the project. At PERC’s request following review of Dr. Nagle’s most recent progress report, Smith and Moss met with Dr. Nagle to discuss the committee’s concerns. He was optimistic about completing this project since the obstacles related to recruitment and technical issues were largely solved. He agreed to submit a no cost extension along with a letter from his department chair regarding funding beyond the 12-month period to ensure completion of the project. Following a motion by Petty that was seconded by Jacobs, the Executive Committee unanimously recommended that PERC approve the no cost extension for 12-months.

c. **Request from Karen Timberlake to increase 3rd year budget of strategic award for Advancing Evidence-based Health Policy to the same level as the budgets for years one and two**

Smith provided an overview of Karen Timberlake’s request to increase the year three budget for Advancing Evidence-Based Health Policy from $26,201 to $52,400 – the annual budget for the project’s first two years. If approved by PERC, the increase would be matched by the UW-Madison Chancellor’s Office. As requested by PERC when the award was made in January 2013, Timberlake actively sought other sources of funding: (1) explored national organizations but they were not interested, (2) learned that seeking funding from the legislature was problematic, and (3) interest seemed to focus on specific health problems rather than a broad perspective, which is the objective of this project. An extensive assessment of this program’s impact has been conducted with stakeholders with positive results.
Shull seconded a motion by Nycz to recommend PERC’s approval of the budget increase to $52,400 for year three. The motion passed with five affirmative and one negative vote.

5. **Discussion and decision on interim progress report from Christopher Bradfield for Environmental Health Center Strategic Planning Grant**

Jim Shull declared a conflict of interest as chair of Dr. Bradfield’s department, Oncology. Shull did not participate in the discussion and did not vote.

Following discussion of Dr. Bradfield’s interim progress report, Oliver seconded a motion by Petty to include the report on PERC’s July, 2014 consent agenda. The motion passed with five affirmative votes. Shull did not vote.

6. **Discussion and decision on PERC Opportunity Grants Program application guidelines**

Discussion of the application guidelines for the PERC Opportunity Grants Program was deferred to a future meeting.

7. **Adjourn - next meeting July 28**

Moss adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison