

**Minutes of WSU School of Medicine Research Development Committee (RDC)
Friday September 4, 2009, Room 1140 / 1200 Scott Hall**

Present:

Donal O'Leary, Chair
Renu Kowluru
Lawrence Lash
Adhip Majumdar
Kathleen Meert
Sandra Remple
Noreen Rossi
Andrei Tkatchencko
Dan Walz
Rob Welch

The meeting began at 9:30 am.

1) This was the first meeting of the 2009/2010 academic year. With Dr. Judith Whittum-Hudson taking over as the new President of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Dr. Donal O'Leary has assumed the Chair of the Research Development Committee (RDC). Besides the usual turnover in membership, there was a desire this year to add a junior faculty member and someone from Henry Ford Hospital, both of which was done.

2) Interim Dean Parisi has expressed interest in working with the research committee. Dr. O'Leary noted that the RDC reports to the faculty senate and not the Dean's office. There is a belief that Dr. Parisi will create her own research advisory committee, possibly including some of the members of the RDC.

3) Dr. O'Leary discussed the faculty meetings with Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA) and consultants in late-August. He noted three main areas of concern: Communication, customer service, and training. Another important issue continues to be SPA's interpretation of the PHS A21 rules.

4) Dr. Walz provided an update on research issues at the School of Medicine. The new Interim Dean, Dr. Parisi, is in the process of meeting with all departments to present her goals. She wants to have faculty consultation and buy-in. A prospectus is being developed for the new Multidisciplinary Biomedical Sciences Building. President Noren wants public health to be one focus of the new facility. The new building will encompass the new NIH focus on personalized medicine.

5) Other issues discussed:

The question of restructuring of departments came up. While this has been a persistent rumor, some restructuring may be inevitable because of fiscal circumstances.

Discussed the issue of our aging faculty and that while there are some junior faculty, there are few faculty in the middle. Dr. Walz stated that there is a desire to develop a more formalized mentoring program for junior faculty; such a program would be better at the departmental level than being centrally administered.

Year 3 of the now completed incentive plan (covers calendar year 2008) will be paid, probably by mid-November, 2009. New incentive plans are expected to be developed at departmental levels.

6) Please e-mail Dr. O'Leary (doleary@med.wayne.edu) proposed issues for discussion at upcoming RDC meetings.

Topics that are of continuing interest include:

- SPA
- Invite Dr. Joe Dunbar to attend to provide regular reports from the OVPR
- Development of incentive plan(s)
- Departmental restructuring: rumors vs. truth
- Invite Dr. Parisi to attend a future meeting.

Next RDC meeting will be Friday October 4th and will presumably be in room 1140 Scott Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence Lash

Professor

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