

Breast Cancer Research Council Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2020: Council Funding Meeting
Via Zoom

Members Present: Abigail Arons, Michele Atlan, Colleen Carvalho, Rati Fotedar, Sharon Lum, Chris Meda, Dolores Moorehead, Ana Navarro, Sharon Pitteri, Svetlana Popova, Thu Quach, Ujwala Rajgopal, Melanie Smitt, Tasha Stoiber, Joan Venticinque, Veronica Vieira

Members Absent: none

Staff: Nick Anthis, Mhel Kavanaugh-Lynch, Katherine McKenzie, Lisa Minniefield, Senaida Poole

Guests: Bart Aoki, Theresa Maldonado

Programmatic Review Committees met to discuss funding recommendations on Thursday, June 4, 2020.

I. Call to Order: Ana called the council to order at 8:49 am.

II. Approval of Minutes: The council reviewed the minutes from the March meeting.

MOTION: Joan moved (Veronica seconded) that the council approve the March minutes. The motion passed with one abstention.

III. Cycle 26 Funding: Mhel presented the resource allocation, reviewing the available funding and explained how the funds are allocated. The representatives from the Community Impact and the Clinical, Prevention & Biological Sciences committees each detailed their groups' applications and recommendations for funding. Council members also designated the Faith Fancher and Tax Check-Off awards.

The group had a thorough discussion on the grants that were selected to be funded. There were varying views for how many grants to fund if the program wanted to save funds for the following cycle.

MOTION: Michele moved (Sharon Lum seconded) to fund all of the grants that were recommended for funding in both review committees. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Batch 1 Concept Papers: Representatives from CBI: Nick gave a brief introduction for the upcoming presentation from the Steering Committee (SC). Then Mhel further introduced the representative from CBI, Gina Bartlett, and the Steering Committee (SC) members that led the presentation.

Susan Braun started the presentation summarizing the Concept Papers (CP) to include but not limiting to the focus areas and cost of each CP. Then each proposal was presented in great detail from the rest of the SC members, Mhel included. The group then asked the SC questions.

MOTION: Joan moved (Dolores seconded) to approve the four Concept Papers to move forward. The motion passed with two abstentions.

V. Cycle 27 Draft Call for Applications: Katie presented an overview of the Call to include the newly added info that was not in last cycle's call. If the council has edits to the Call, they were asked to send them to her by 6/30. No other action was requested.

VI. Director's Report: Mhel expressed her thanks for almost every council member (Thu declined) agreeing to extend their council appointments an additional year. Due the pandemic, recruiting new members would be difficult so this was a relief to the staff. Mhel asked the members to send her any recommendations they might have to fill Thu's non-profit organization seat on the council. The new Vice President for Research & Innovation, Theresa Maldonado, briefly joined the meeting to meet with the council members. Mhel updated the group on the Covid-19 Emergency Seed Funding. There were 85 projects totaling \$2.1M that were awarded to investigators throughout the state. Recipients of the seed awards will be invited to apply for additional funding in the form of one-year pilot grants. She further detailed the impact the pandemic is having on CBCRP/RGPO and stakeholders as well as certain projects and council work that CBCRP plans to put on hold until 2021. She also summarized the program's budget.

Chair/Vice Chair Elections: Ana was re-nominated to be the Chair of the council and Rati was nominated to fill Thu's place as the Vice Chair.

MOTION: Veronica moved (Joan seconded) to re-elect Ana for Chair elect Rati for Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Community Initiatives Update: Senaida gave an update on the QuickStart program noting the 2020 cohort was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The group is welcome to apply early for the 2021 training. CRC applications were submitted from four of the six teams from the QuickStart 2019 cohort. Thu suggested that there be some non-traditional ways to reach out to researchers to encourage them to apply for a CRC award. She thought there were many researchers that need that extra encouragement to apply. Senaida will follow up on that her suggestion. Senaida also updated the group on the joint review committee meeting that was held for TRDRP and CBCRP partnered awards.

VIII. PI-3 Update: Nick announced that the interim name: Program Initiatives 3 (PI-3) was changed to Preventing Breast Cancer, Community, Population, and Environment Approaches (PBC). He also updated the group on the meeting with the full group of advisors. Two action items came out of the meeting, 1. review of the Batch 1 concept papers and 2. prioritizing the next batch of concept papers. Staff will now develop the first batch into RFP/RFQs. He summarized the research topics and focus areas for the Batch 1 and 2 concept papers.

IX. Policy Initiative Update: Nick briefly updated the group on the PRAG members and what will take place at the upcoming meetings.

X. Announcements: Dolores announced that she and a researcher will have an article, *Patient Navigators for the Underserved, Illumination the Voices of Unsung Heroes* in the Journal of Oncology Navigations and Survivorship. They also have a small research grant to look into community navigation with clients and patients with breast cancer that are from communities of color with the hopes of being awarded a larger grant.

Ana adjourned the meeting at 2:16 pm