

MINUTES

Research Strategic Advisory Council

Monday, October 10, 2016

4:00pm – 5:00pm

ALTC 2.206

Members Present: Andrea Giuffrida, Kathryn Aultman, Mike Beckstead, Carrie Jo Braden, Christopher Green, Byron Hepburn and Robin Leach

Members Absent: Robert Clark, Erzsebet Kokovay, Alexander Pertsemelidis, Jennifer Potter, Maureen Simmonds, Rajeshwar Tekmal, Ian Thompson and Kyumin Whang

Guests: Mark Nijland, Valerie Hutchison

Minutes from 5/19/16 and 6/29/16 were approved.

Research Profiling/San Antonio Bioscience Website

Dr. Nijland discussed several web-based research expertise profiling systems used to promote individual research and collaborations. UTHSCSA currently uses a system resourced by UT System called *Influent*, which is based on the Elsevier platform *Pure*. Through *Influent*, top HSC experts in a particular field can be identified by searching for topics of interest and keywords. Faculty profiles show researchers' citations, h-index, department, publications, etc. In addition, *Influent* allows to quantify how many times publications have been cited by social media and in which geographical area across the world. Currently, Dr. Nijland is the HSC Administrator of *Influent* and is responsible for uploading data from our institution. Since UT System's support for *Influent* will end on January 2018, it is unclear whether we should continue to invest in this type of resource or consider alternative solutions. *Influent* is an expensive commercial platform that includes specific data mining services (such as NIH grants and Scopus), but does not have a reporting functionality (profiles only) and does not allow for further development because it is a vendor-based product. Possible exit scenarios for us include *VIVO* and *Profiles*, which originated from Cornell and Harvard CTSA's, respectively. These products are flexible, include mining providers (such as NIH, NSF, Web of Science, etc.), they are cheaper (or free), but require significant manpower for their maintenance (between 3 to 12 FTE). Several institutions across the US use both systems and often use these databases for faculty evaluation and promotion, creation of eCV, etc. Dr. Nijland showed examples of *VIVO* and *Profiles* uses by Duke University (scholars.duke.edu) and the University of Colorado Boulder (experts.colorado.edu).

The RSAC endorsed the importance of having this type of database at the HSC, and recommended to bring the discussion to the level of the Council of Principal Investigators (CPI) and Executive Committee for additional input. In addition, the RSAC suggested to house the database in the HSC Library.

Dr. Nijland also presented the San Antonio Bioscience new website supported by the San Antonio Medical Foundation (sabioscienceresearch.org). The site features a directory of ongoing research from 11 different organizations located in San Antonio. The concept is to have a single source describing the collection of research awards across the city and showcasing the highly collaborative environment with the intent to elevate San Antonio as a hub for innovative biomedical research. The organizations participating include: 59th Medical Wing at the Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center (WHASC), BioBridge Global, Biomedical Development Corporation, Brooke Army Medical Center, Cancer Insight, EO2, Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio (NAMRU-SA), Southwest Research Institute, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, UTSA and UTHSCSA. The website shows all the active research projects per organization that have been entered into the system so far. For UTHSCSA, Dr. Nijland has uploaded only NIH awards at this time, as the NIH is the only agency providing detailed information on grants (title, start date, abstract, etc.). Some of the problems encountered include: 1) Uploading information from the HSC on a regular basis; 2) assigning awards to the designated *research categories* (Aging, Behavioral Health, Cancer, Cardiovascular, Diabetes and Obesity, Infectious Disease, Musculoskeletal,

Neuroscience, Regenerative Medicine and Trauma) as the HSC's data are not collected and grouped in this format.

The RSAC recommended to continue our participation to this initiative, and asked Dr. Nijland to present the new website to the CPI Executive Committee on November 16, 2016 for additional input. Chris Green from the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) will attend as well.

Intramural and Limited Funding Opportunities

As follow-up on the 6/29/16 RSAC meeting, Chris Green discussed the success rates of limited submissions proposals separated into NIH and Non-Federal totals. Dr. Leach asked to include CPRIT awards as well. *Follow-up: Mr. Green will provide data from all agencies, including CPRIT, at the next RSAC meeting.*

Pilot Grant Program for the School of Health Professions

Dr. Aultman presented a new plan for the School of Health Professions (SHP) 2017 Pilot Program sponsored by the VPR Office. The program will support SHP faculty to develop their "Programs of Science" and position themselves for successful externally-funded research. A "Program of Science" consists in the set of research questions, goals, approaches and methods for addressing specific aims, and any other activities that a researcher undertakes, either individually or as part of a team. Support will be applied at any stage of the research cycle (including development of applications for research funding, development of new ideas, interventions and approaches to improve health and health care, etc.) for a full year. In addition, pilot grants will be used for internal or external resources, including coaching, review, writing, coordination, and procurement of supplies or equipment. A Research Retreat scheduled for December 9, 2016 will focus on drafting individual Programs of Science and identify needs. The retreat will include a Programs of Science Workshop, a student poster session and a Research Support Resource Fair, to advertise available resources for researchers, such as GrantSeekers, Clinical & Translational Science Award (CTSA), Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP), Office of Clinical Research (OCR) and the Library. Dr. Leach recommended adding the Cancer Therapy Research Center (CTRC) as a resource. The deadline for receipt of applications will be in January 2017 and the start date will be March 2017 (exact dates to be determined). An external committee will conduct the review of the applications.

Strategic Plan for Research 2018-2012

Due to time constraints, Dr. Giuffrida will discuss the Strategic Plan for Research at the next RSAC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm