

UNLV Research Council
Friday, May 09, 2014
MEETING MINUTES

1. General Announcements
 - a. CoRE Update – Monica Lounsbery
 - b. IP Policy – Jill Zimbelman
 - i. Proposed amendments have been made to the NSHE IP policy, removing material terms and giving direction to each institution to set up their own specific IP policy consistent with their unique academic, research, and commercial missions.
 - ii. The revised UNLV IP policy is currently being reviewed by General Counsel and will be provided to the Research Council later this month for review/comments.
 - c. Vivarium Master Plan – Stan Smith
 - i. The status of the Vivarium project was discussed. The next step is to have meetings regarding funding.
2. Blood draws as part of research – Lori Olafson & Jeff Kinney (handout)
 - a. Obstacles to collecting blood on-campus:
 - i. Utilizing the UNLV Student Health Center is not possible due to non-student status and cannot be used for research purposes.
 - ii. Lack of funds for malpractice insurance.
 - iii. External phlebotomist coming to UNLV to collect blood is not acceptable and not covered by UNLV.
 - iv. The Research Council agreed there are certain infrastructure needs that are needed – having the ability to draw/collect blood on campus is one of those needs. The next step is to identify the road blocks for collecting blood as well as to conduct a 'infrastructure needs assessment.'
3. Proposal Development Manager – Carol Brodie
 - a. David Paul introduced Carol Brodie who has joined UNLV to provide proposal development services to faculty. Carol is currently developing a website and a bi-weekly newsletter.
 - b. Services Will Include:
 - i. Editing and Writing of large, multi-disciplinary proposals.
 - ii. Training for faculty starting this fall. Topics to include proposal writing, funding for Early Career faculty, budget development, and putting together proposals for NIH, NSF, etc.
 - iii. Locating Funding - there will be a web form to request funding searches. Priority will be on CoRE and multi-disciplinary projects.
 - c. Carol will also be working to form a network of grant writers on campus.
4. SEB Greenhouse Problems – Marty Schiller

- a. Concerns regarding the functioning of the SEB Greenhouse were discussed. It was determined that humidity, temperature, and alarm system issues are being addressed.
5. Recap of the UNLV Academic Achievement Gala – Monica Lounsbery
 - a. This celebration highlighted the most significant student and faculty achievements of the 2013-2014 academic year through posters, short videos, and a short program
 - b. The event will began at 4:00 p.m. in the Cohen Theater in the Student Union, with a presentation of academic achievement awards.
 - c. Then at 5:00 p.m., the doors opened in the Student Union Ballroom for the Gala event.
 - d. The Gala was a successful event and will be scheduled again next year for April 23, 2015.
6. Future Agenda Items
 - a. CoRE Update – Bo Bernhard
 - b. Tour of Switch – Rob Roy
 - c. Identifying Research Strengths – Tom Piechota
 - d. IP Policy Review – Zach Miles
 - e. Differentiated faculty types – Monica Lounsbery (Fall 2014 agenda item)
 - f. Infrastructure gaps (including blood draws on-campus) – John Mercer/Lori Olafson (Fall 2014 agenda item)
 - g. Vivarium Master Plan – Stan Smith (Fall 2014 agenda item)
7. **Action Items - Please take this information back to your college/school.**
 - a. The CoRE Fellows would like to invite all faculty and staff to mingle across disciplines in support of a movement toward a campus cross-disciplinary culture from **4:00-6:00 p.m. on May 15, 2014 in the Stan Fulton Building Ballroom**. Libations and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

To: UNLV Research Council
From: Jefferson Kinney Ph.D., Department of Psychology
Re: Availability of blood draws for research purposes

I am writing this memo in response to a request to outline specific hurdles our research has encountered in attempting to evaluate blood samples for genetic and protein markers. As part of a growing collaborative research effort between my laboratory and several other investigators within and external to UNLV we have been evaluating biochemical targets in blood collected in research studies. Thus far we are evaluating samples collected as part of a clinical trial investigating Alzheimer's disease in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, and are getting underway profiling blood samples in an oncology project with an investigator from Health Sciences. We have also attempted to get a project started in collaboration with Dr. Dan Allen (Department of Psychology) investigating genetic and protein markers from blood samples in bipolar disorder. Additional possible projects have been discussed in collaboration with my lab and independent of my lab with applicants we have interviewed for faculty positions the last few years.

While all of the protocols have been in place to perform this work for a few years (approved IRB and biosafety protocol) we have been unable to start the project. The hold up has been the inability to collect the blood samples at UNLV. In the projects underway the blood is being collected at the clinical site (non-UNLV site). For our internal projects I have not been able to solve the fairly simple obstacle of being able to collect blood at UNLV. Several attempts to solve this have been investigated; including arranging for the student health center to perform the collections (not possible as not all participants are students, and confusion if the health center can be used in research), arranging for Nursing to perform the blood draws (not possible as I was instructed I would have to fund the malpractice insurance for the program), and even having an external phlebotomist come to UNLV to collect blood (which is not acceptable as not covered by UNLV).

Each time that I return to this issue I am surprised that something as simple as a blood draw used for research is such an obstacle. I have exhausted the avenues to solve this that others or I have come up with. If there is a way that the research council could intervene to establish a practice for blood draws at UNLV I am confident it would benefit numerous departments and researchers. This would be particularly necessary as work begins on building a medical school at UNLV.

If the committee would like any additional detail please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,
Jefferson Kinney

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