

## CELS Research Committee Meeting Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 - Meeting Notes and Discussion

In attendance: Carlos Prada Montoya, Carol Thornber (ex officio), Thomas Boving, Mark Stolt, Niall Howlett (Chair)

Absent: Tom Sproul, Jason Kolbe, Elizabeth Mendenhall

### General Discussion

- No direct charge from the Dean with respect to goals for the committee this semester/year
- The CELS Research Strategic Plan has advanced beyond the College and is currently undergoing editing revisions. The plan will be shared on the Google Drive with all new research committee members (*Carol*)
- Multi-disciplinary graduate training programs: are there opportunities for CELS faculty to work together to apply for graduate training grants, e.g. NIH T32 funding mechanism? Could the research committee help to facilitate this?
- Related to this; the NIH / NIGMS (National Institute of General Medical Sciences) is emphasizing/mandating that all graduate programs (*at least in the biomedical sciences - much of this stems from attending the recent NIH Training, Workforce Development, Diversity Program Directors' Meeting*):
  - Focus on technical, operational and professional skills development
  - Emphasize computational, statistical, and quantitative approaches
  - Promote rigor and reproducibility in research (*this should be emphasized throughout the training program and not just check the box for 3 h of RCR training*)
  - Teach the responsible and safe conduct of research (*same as above*)
  - Promote diversity, equity and inclusion (*gender equity, unconscious/implicit bias, sexual harassment training*)
  - Encourage inclusive, safe, and supportive research environments
  - Use evidence-based educational and mentoring practices - Advance-CTR (<https://www.brown.edu/initiatives/translational-research/home>) is now facilitating mentoring training throughout the state - encourage CELS faculty to receive mentoring training - how do we select mentors for new faculty?
  - Employ cohort-building activities and interventions that enhance the trainees' science identity and self-efficacy
  - Provide individualized mentoring and oversight throughout
  - Introduce trainees to a variety of scientific research areas and careers (*preparation of trainees for a variety of careers outside of academia was emphasized*)
  - Promote graduate student wellness and resilience
  - Collect and disseminate data on the success/failure of educational aims; make career outcomes publicly available

- Compile a list of Rhode Island-specific funding mechanisms (particularly) for new faculty, e.g. RI-INBRE (*new theme of environmental health sciences*), Advance-CTR, RI-STAC, RI Sea Grant, Champlin Foundations, C-AIM, RI now has 12 COBRE awards (listed below) - URI junior faculty are eligible to apply for COBRE funding, others?
  - P20GM130414 - Phase 1 COBRE Center for Addiction and Disease Risk Exacerbation (CADRE), PI Peter Monti, School of Public Health, Brown University
  - P20GM125507 - Phase 1 COBRE Center on Opioids and Overdose, PI Josiah Rich, Rhode Island Hospital
  - P20 (newly awarded) - Phase 1 COBRE Center for Antimicrobial Resistance and Therapeutic Discovery (CARTD), PI Eleftherios Mylonakis, The Miriam Hospital
  - P20GM104317 - Phase 1 Immune-Based Interventions Against Infectious Diseases, PI Alan Rothman, University of Rhode Island
  - 1P20GM121298 - Phase 1 COBRE for Reproductive Health, PI Surendra Sharma, Women and Infants Hospital
  - P20 GM109035 - Phase 1 COBRE: Center for Computational Biology of Human Disease, PI: David Rand, Brown University
  - P20GM103652 - Phase 2 Endothelial Injury and Repair: Cardiopulmonary Vascular Biology COBRE, PI Sharon Rounds, Ocean State Research Institute
  - P20GM103645 - Phase 2 COBRE Center for Central Nervous System Function, PI: Jerome Sanes, Brown University
  - P20GM119943 - Phase 2 COBRE for Stem Cells and Aging, PI: Peter Quesenberry, Rhode Island Hospital
  - P20GM104937 - Phase 3 COBRE for Skeletal Health and Repair, PI Qian Chen, Rhode Island Hospital
  - P30GM110759 - Phase 3 COBRE Center for Cancer Research Development, PI Bharat Ramratnam, Rhode Island Hospital
  - P30GM114750 - Phase 3 COBRE for Perinatal Biology, PI Sunil Shaw, Women and Infants Hospital
- Other forward thinking research initiatives?