

BREAST CANCER RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

May 20-22, 1999

Waterfront Hotel
Oakland, CA

Members Present: Shelley Adler, Barbara Brenner, Floretta Chisom, Arlyne Draper, Bob Erwin, Bobbie Head, Judy Luce, Mary Ann Jordan, Anne Wallace, Maria Pellegrini, Liana Lianov, Kevin Scanlon, Michele Rakoff

Members Absent: Susan Love, Holly Mitchell

Staff Present: Mhel Kavanaugh-Lynch, Larry Fitzgerald, Katie McKenzie, Walter Price, Larry Gruder, Garland Giles, Brenda Dixon, Deshawn Boyd, Mary Kreger

May 20, 1999

Programmatic Review Committees met from 6 PM – 9 PM.

I. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 AM on May 21.

A moment of silence was held for Suzette Wright.

II. Approval of 02/05/99 Minutes

Minutes were approved as submitted.

III. Cycle V Funding

A. Recommendations

After presentation by each of the Programmatic Review committees and considerable discussion, the attached list of grants was recommended for funding.

MOTION: *Kevin Scanlon moved that the attached funding recommendations be accepted. Floretta Chisom seconded the motion. The council approved the motion unanimously.*

B. Tax Check-Off Funds

The Council discussed which grants to designate from the tax check-off revenue. Three grants (direct costs only) were chosen:

FB 0036

PB 0172

JB 0118

C. Exceptional Request

The Council reviewed and discussed the request from Pangene, Inc. to provide an additional year of funding for their current grant to explore exciting and promising findings. The Council was enthusiastic about the results of the current grant and the direction of the planned work. On the other hand, the Council was concerned about the precedence and

potential unfairness of providing funds outside the established process. They discussed the possibility of developing a new policy/mechanism to invite and evaluate such requests.

MOTION: *Judy Luce moved that the Council decline to consider a request outside the yearly funding process at this time, and decline to adopt a policy/mechanism at this time. The motion was seconded by ?? and approved unanimously.*

The Council left open the possibility of revisiting this issue in the future.

- D. Debriefing on Portfolio of Grants and Future Changes to Call
A general discussion and brain-storming session was held. No decisions were made.

- E. Debriefing on Second Tier Review Process
The Council discussed the Programmatic Review procedure. Overall, it was agreed that using the new procedure greatly improved the quality and tenor of the Council's deliberations. The following suggestions were made:
 - add the "career plan" page, "responsiveness to additional criteria" pages, and "distinction from other funded work" page to the Council's abstract book
 - remove responsiveness and additional criteria from the scientific review and leave it to the Council
 - there are no criteria that should be added or deleted
 - the advocacy criterion should be highlight only if it is exceptional
 - the additional criteria should be highlighted only if exceptional
 - in instructions to the Council, suggest that the programmatic review be done BEFORE looking at the scientific merit scores
 - use "underfunded" criterion only as exceptional or not (until NCI starts classifying their grants on an ongoing basis)
 - try to bring materials and provide instructions at meeting prior to May meeting

IV. Director's Report

- A. Breast and Cervical Master Plan
Mhel described the DHS effort to develop a master plan for Breast and Cervical Cancer control in CA, and her role in it. She asked the Council to provide input to draft materials that she will be sending as they become available.

- B. Breast Cancer Alliance of California
The Council discussed an invitation for the Program to join the Breast Cancer Alliance of California. It was suggested that the Program not join at this time, but re-consider after the organization has established itself.

- C. Update on Council Recruitment
Interviews of nominees is underway.

- D. Announcement of Vice President Hopper's retirement
Cornelius Hopper has announced his plan to retire as Vice President for Health Affairs in Spetmeber, 1999.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Symposium Planning Committee

PIs have registered to attend and present their research. There will be about 45 presenters at the technical day, and about 62 at the full day. As staff review annual progress reports, others may be recruited.

Sandra Steingraber and Graham Colditz have agreed to present at the plenary session on prevention. Staff are still recruiting speakers on chemoprevention and approaches for implementation.

Mrs. Clinton's office has responded that they will not be able to provide a firm answer until 6 weeks prior to the event. An invitation has been issued to Dr. Angelou. There was no consensus on who should be the next choice.

Breakout sessions will be moderated by both a scientist and an advocate, who will together give a 10-minute introduction. This will be followed by 15-minute talks by BCRP investigators. There will then be 30 minutes for questions and discussion.

VI. New Business

A. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair

The floor was opened for nominations. Barbara Brenner nominated Floretta Chisom, who declined. Mary Ann Jordan nominated Judy Luce, who accepted. Shelley Adler nominated Bobbie Head, who declined. Shelley Adler nominated Anne Wallace, who accepted. The floor was then closed to nominations for Chair and opened for nominations for Vice Chair.

Anne Wallace nominated Floretta Chisom, who accepted. Barbara Brenner nominated Anne Wallace, and then withdrew the nomination. The floor was then closed to nominations.

The Council waived the requirement for Floretta to submit a written statement.

B. Cycle VI Call for Applications

The Council discussed changes to the Call for Applications for Cycle VI. The following suggestions were made:

- add a section describing the programmatic review and revise the application forms so that applicants address all of the programmatic review criteria in one place
- it was suggest that the TRC Award (pilot and full) be reviewed and revised by a committee (Barbara Brenner, Anne Wallace, Michele Rakoff, Bob Erwin), possibly looking at the model of the EPA grants
- a committee was formed to initiate evaluation of what we have done in the past cycles and what has happened (Floretta Chisom, Arlyne Draper, Judy Luce)
- the Council would like to consider having another advisory meeting to see what people think the needs are
- merge Etiology and Prevention into one area
- continue the Socio-cultural priority
- there was debate over what to do with early detection
- continue postdoctoral fellowships

VII. Announcements

June 8, CABCO and NBCC are having an educational session for legislators in Sacramento. Lunch is included.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.