

Voting Members Present: Ernie Canalis, Emily Germain-Lee, Brenton Graveley, Pedro Mendes, Carla Rash, David Steffens, Anthony Vella

Non-Voting Members Present: Michael Centola, Victor Hesselbrock

Dr. Germain-Lee called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

1. **Approve Minutes** - Upon a motion made by Dr. Mendes seconded by Dr. Vella, the Council members voted unanimously in favor to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023 meeting.
2. Dr. Germain-Lee welcomed Dr. Brenton Graveley, Professor and Chair, Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences, to Research Council. Dr. Graveley serves as the basic science department chair representative.
3. **Recruitment and Advertising of Research Subjects** – Dr. Hesselbrock stated that the University does in fact have a policy governing such advertising by an outside entity. He also conferred with the Office of the General Counsel, Communications, and our Chief Administrative Officer about outside entities advertising on campus for research studies. The following criteria are needed to advertise at UConn Health:
 - Strict vetting of each advertisement by the Dean, or his designate(s), and the Clinical Team. Advertisements must adhere to all rules applied to our faculty.
 - Lifeline cannot be used for outside entities to advertise for research participants.
 - Approved advertisements must include a disclaimer that the study is not sanctioned by UConn Health/UConn.

Research Council agreed that we have clear criteria for determining which studies could be approved.

4. **Strategic Planning** – Dr. Vella reported that the University of Connecticut Strategic Plan was recently approved by the Board of Trustees. The plan incorporates several cross-cutting initiatives, one being research.

Dr. Graveley, Co-Chair on the Implementation Group, noted that they will begin moving this plan forward in January.

5. **Fringe Rates** – Dr. Mendes noted investigators, when using start-up or DCAA funds to pay postdoctoral fellows or technicians, are charged the actual fringe rate, which in some cases could be over 100%. He questioned whether the institution could help mitigate the burden for investigators. After some discussion, Research Council suggested that Dr. Mendes reach out to Ms. Julie Schwager, Executive

Director for Operations and Associate Vice President for Research Finance, to discuss this matter.
Research Council plans to revisit this issue at an upcoming meeting if needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Holden