



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

**Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2020**

NOTE: CPRIT conducted this meeting by videoconference in accordance with Governor Abbott's suspension of various provisions requiring government officials to be physically present at a specified meeting location. Unless the information is confidential, the reports, presentations, and grant award information referenced in the minutes are available in the "Oversight Committee Board Packet" section for the corresponding meeting date at <http://ocmeetings.cprit.texas.gov>.

Call to Order – Agenda Item 1

With a quorum present, Presiding Officer Dee Margo called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Roll Call/Excused Absences – Agenda Item 2

Committee Members Present

David Cummings, M.D.
Ambrosio Hernandez, M.D.
Donald (Dee) Margo
Will Montgomery
Mahendra Patel, M.D.
Cindy Barberio Payne
Bill Rice, M.D.
Craig Rosenfeld, M.D.

Adoption of Minutes from the August 19, 2020 Meeting – Agenda Item 3 – Tab 1

MOTION:

On a motion by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2020, Oversight Committee meeting as presented.

Public Comment – Agenda Item 4

No member of the public requested to make public comment.

Resolution Honoring Angelos Angelou – Agenda Item 5, Tab 2

Presiding Officer Margo presented a resolution honoring former Oversight Committee member Angelos Angelou for his service to Texas and CPRIT. Mr. Angelou thanked the Board and staff.

MOTION:

On a motion by Dr. Patel and seconded by Dr. Hernandez, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the resolution.

Grantee Presentation – Agenda Item 6, Tab 2

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Scientific Research Officer Dr. Jim Willson. Dr. Willson introduced Dr. Patrick Sung, CPRIT Scholar and Professor of Biochemistry and Structural Biology at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Sung provided a presentation on his CPRIT-funded project regarding DNA repair, chromosome stability, and cancer.

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Product Development Officer Cindy WalkerPeach. Dr. WalkerPeach introduced Dr. Mei Wang, CEO and Co-Founder of CPRIT grantee Instapath Inc. Dr. Wang updated the Oversight Committee on Instapath's development of a rapid pathology evaluation system for biopsies. Instapath received a CPRIT SEED award in 2019 to support this project.

Chief Executive Officer Report – Agenda Item 7, Tab 3

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Mr. Roberts to present the Chief Executive Officer's Report. Mr. Roberts discussed the status of available grant funds and provided an update on COVID-19 related activities in the agency. He also gave a preview of the upcoming legislative session.

Chief Compliance Officer Report and Compliance Certification for the Proposed Grant Awards – Agenda Item 8, Tab 4

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Compliance Officer Vince Burgess to present the Compliance Report and Compliance Certification of Grant Award Process. Mr. Burgess updated members on the compliance program activities for the past quarter.

With no questions on compliance activities, Mr. Burgess certified that the review process for the proposed academic research awards presented for the Oversight Committee's consideration complied with all applicable state and agency requirements. He noted that he included his written certification in the proposed award book at page 25.

Chief Scientific Officer Report and Grant Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 9, Tab 5

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Dr. Willson to present the academic research program update and award recommendations.

Dr. Willson referred members to page 5-3 in the meeting book and provided an overview of the outcome of applications reviewed in FY 2020 and other academic research grantee impact data.

He also presented proposed FY 22.1 RFAs for Oversight Committee consideration, referring members to page 5-1. The proposed RFAs included Individual Investigator Research Awards, Individual Investigator Research Awards for Computational Systems Biology of Cancer, Individual Investigator Research Awards for Cancer in Children and Adolescents, Individual Investigator Research Awards for Prevention and Early Detection and Individual Investigator Research Awards for Clinical Translation.

Following the RFA presentation, Dr. Willson laid out the proposed recruitment award

recommendations, which start on page 6 of the Proposed Grant Award book. The recommendations for FY 2021 recruitment cycles 21.1, 21.2 and 21.3 include 9 awards from 2 grant mechanisms totaling \$26,000,000.

Scientific Review Council and Program Integration Committee Recommendations for Recruitment Cycles FY 21.1, 21.2 and 21.3

Rank	App. ID	Mechanism	Candidate	Organization	Budget	Overall Score
1	RR210012	RFTFM	Furqan Fazal, Ph.D.	Baylor College of Medicine	\$2,000,000	1.0
2	RR210018	RFTFM	Guy Nir, Ph.D.	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	\$2,000,000	1.0
3	RR210016	RFTFM	Jihan Osborne, Ph.D.	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$2,000,000	1.0
4	RR210005	RFTFM	Xiaoli Sun, Ph.D.	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	\$2,000,000	1.0
5	RR210007	REI	Bissan Al-Lazikani, Ph.D.	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$6,000,000	2.0
6	RR210013	RFTFM	Jeanine Van Nostrand, Ph.D.	Baylor College of Medicine	\$2,000,000	2.0
7	RR210006	REI	Peter Van Loo, Ph.D.	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$6,000,000	2.0
8	RR210008	RFTFM	Pavan Bachireddy, M.D.	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$2,000,000	2.0
9	RR210017	RFTFM	Mauro Di Pilato, Ph.D.	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$2,000,000	2.0

REI- Recruitment of Established Investigators, RFTFM- Recruitment of First-Time Tenure Track Faculty Members

Conflict of Interest Notification

Presiding Officer Margo noted for the record that no Oversight Committee members reported conflicts of interest with any proposed academic research awards.

Academic Research Award Approval

Presiding Officer Margo called for a vote on the award recommendations.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the PIC’s recommendations for the two award slates: recruitment of first-time tenure track faculty members and recruitment of established investigators.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT's CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

Approval – Cycle 22.1 Requests for Applications

Presiding Officer Margo called for a vote on the proposed fiscal year 2022 Academic Research RFAs that CPRIT will release for the first cycle of fiscal year 2022.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the proposed fiscal year 2022, cycle 1 RFAs.

Chief Prevention Officer Report – Agenda Item 10, Tab 6

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Prevention Officer Ramona Magid to provide an update on the prevention program. Ms. Magid gave an overview of the first cycle of grant applications for fiscal year 2021 and the RFAs that were recently issued for the second cycle. Ms. Magid highlighted the additional prevention program priority for fiscal year 2022 that the Oversight Committee's Prevention subcommittee recommended for approval.

Ms. Magid also gave a presentation on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the number of cancer screenings and diagnostics provided by current CPRIT Prevention program grantees. Ms. Magid explained that CPRIT programs experienced an overall 40% decrease in the number of screenings and diagnostic tests as compared to the previous year. She highlighted the work that grantees are undertaking now to encourage the public to continue with their preventive health care.

An Oversight Committee member asked for clarification on the time covered by the presentation and the dip in numbers in the third quarter of 2019. Ms. Magid explained that the data varies between quarterly reporting periods, often reflecting the initiation or conclusion of various projects. After more discussion about data collection, an Oversight Committee member indicated that he would follow up with Ms. Magid after the meeting.

Chief Product Development Officer Report – Agenda Item 11, Tab 7

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Product Development Officer Dr. Cindy WalkerPeach to present the Product Development Program update. Dr. WalkerPeach provided an update on the timeline and plan for the current fiscal year 2021 application cycle.

FY 2022 Program Priorities – Agenda Item 12, Tab 8

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Mr. Roberts to present the fiscal year 2022 program priorities. Mr. Roberts explained that the priorities are the same as the fiscal year 2021 priorities except for one addition to the prevention program priorities. He noted that each program subcommittee recommends approval of the proposed priorities.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the fiscal year 2022 program priorities.

Internal Auditor Report – Agenda Item 12, Tab 9

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Dan Graves, a partner with Weaver & Tidwell, CPRIT’s internal audit contractor. Mr. Graves presented the internal audit status report, an audit advisory report on disaster recovery and business continuity planning, the internal audit report on board governance and the FY 2020 Annual Internal Audit Report. He noted that the State Auditor’s Office granted CPRIT a filing extension request to allow CPRIT to submit the fiscal year 2020 internal audit report after the Oversight Committee approved it at this meeting.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Planning Audit Advisory Report and the Internal Audit Report over Governance.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Dr. Patel, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the FY 2020 Annual Internal Audit Report.

**Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committee Appointments – Item 14, Tab 10
Advisory Committee Appointments – Item 15, Tab 11**

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Mr. Roberts to take up agenda items 14 and 15 together. Mr. Roberts presented his eight appointments to the Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committees and the Presiding Officer’s appointment to the Prevention Advisory Committee. Mr. Roberts informed members of two new University Advisory Committee members, Dr. Subhash Chauhan (The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley) and Dr. Giulio F. Draetta (The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center).

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve Mr. Roberts’ eight appointments to CPRIT’s Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committees.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve Dr. Abbey Berenson’s appointment to the Prevention Advisory Committee.

Amendments to 25 T.A.C. Chapter 703 – Item 16, Tab 12

Presiding Officer Margo recognized CPRIT assistant general counsel Cameron Eckel to present two proposed rule changes to Chapter 703. Ms. Eckel reviewed the proposed rule changes relating to

publishing the minimum level of effort requirements for certain key grantee personnel in a request for applications and the allowability of professional association fees paid by a grantee.

MOTION:

On a motion by Dr. Patel and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the publication of the proposed changes to Texas Administrative Code Chapter 703 in the *Texas Register*.

Chief Operating Officer Report – Agenda Item 17, Tab 13

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Chief Operating Officer Heidi McConnell to present the Chief Operating Officer’s Report. Ms. McConnell reported on the FY 2020 fourth quarter operating budget, performance measures, and debt issuance and highlighted that CPRIT received more than \$947,000 in revenue sharing payments in fiscal year 2020.

Communications Report – Agenda Item 18, Tab 14

Presiding Officer Margo recognized Senior Communications Specialist Chris Cutrone to present the communications update. In his presentation Mr. Cutrone highlighted the launch of a page featuring projects CPRIT funds in liver cancer.

Subcommittee Business – Agenda Item 19

Compliance Investigation Pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 102.2631 – Agenda Item 20

Consultation with General Counsel – Agenda Item 21

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Agenda Item 22

The Oversight Committee did not take up these items.

Adjournment – Agenda Item 23

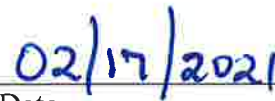
MOTION:

There being no further business, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion to adjourn made by Presiding Officer Margo and seconded by Mr. Montgomery.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.



Signature



Date

John Young 11/20/19
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Academic Research Recruitment Grant Award Recommendations

Rank	Application ID	Candidate	Mechanism	Organization	Budget	Score
1	RR190108	Guise, Theresa	REI	The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$6,000,000	1.5
2	RR200014	Steidl, Ulrich G	REI	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$6,000,000	1.6
3	RR200005	Liu, Chang	RRS	Rice University	\$4,000,000	2.0
4	RR190084	Welin, Eric	RFTFM	The University of Texas at Dallas	\$2,000,000	2.0
5	RR200016	You, LingChong	REI	Rice University	\$6,000,000	2.0
6	RR200009	Echeverria, Gloria V	RFTFM	Baylor College of Medicine	\$2,000,000	2.2
7	RR200023	Ligorio, Matteo	RFTFM	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$2,000,000	2.7
8	RR200007	Drapkin, Benjamin	RFTFM	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$2,000,000	2.8
9	RR190063	Aja-Franklin, Caroline M	REI	Rice University	\$6,000,000	2.8
10	RR190110	Ward, Michelle	RFTFM	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	\$2,000,000	3.0

RFTFM: Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure-Track Faculty Members
 REI: Recruitment of Established Investigators
 RRS: Recruitment of Rising Stars