

Minutes

New Investigator Program Workgroup of the
Medical Education and Research Committee (MERC)
April 6, 2006 at 1:00pm – 4201 HSLC

Members Present: William Busse, Paul DeLuca, John Frey, Greg Nycz

Members Absent: Lynn Allen-Hoffmann, Maureen Durkin

Staff: Tracy Cabot, Tonya Paulson, Eileen Smith

DeLuca called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Discussion of recommended changes to the New Investigator Program

The workgroup recommended the following changes to the MERC New Investigator Program Request for Proposals (RfP) and review process:

- Revise the review criteria
 - Rank with associated scoring (total of 100points)
 - Incorporate wording from Coulter Foundation call for proposals, for example:
 - The abstract should include examples of how the research relates directly to applications in health care, as well as an outcome that will benefit the people of Wisconsin. Evaluation of each proposal will be on the basis of scientific merit, and potential health care impact and significance.
 - Emphasize:
 - Innovative proposals consistent with The Wisconsin Partnership Program's vision to make Wisconsin the healthiest state
 - Translational and interdisciplinary research and education (with definitions)
 - Application and dissemination of new and existing knowledge in Wisconsin communities
 - Potential to improve the health of the residents of Wisconsin and advance the vision of making Wisconsin the healthiest state with clear explanation of efforts necessary to translate discovery to application in the clinical setting and in communities
- Implement a review process similar to Coulter Foundation
 - Pre-screen applicants using a score sheet with targeted questions based on review criteria
 - Proposals of the top-ranked applicants (approximately 10) will be discussed and those applicants will also be interviewed by the Review Subcommittee
 - Include a description of the review process in the RfP

- Maintain limit of five awards per cycle of up to \$100,000 with two cycles per year
- Eligibility remains School of Medicine and Public Health Clinician-Teacher, CHS and Tenure Track Assistant Professors within their probationary appointments
- Awards should not be categorized into clinical science/population health and basic science
- Awarded New Investigator PI's will be required to present their findings at a symposium hosted by MERC

DeLuca adjourned the meeting at 2:05pm.

Recorder, Tonya Paulson