

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
Policy Committee  
Committee on Research Annual Report  
2007-2008**

**The members of this year's Committee on Research (COR) included:**

	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b><u>Basic Scientists:</u></b>	
Jay Dean, PhD*	Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology 2009
Carmelina Gemma, PhD	Neurosurgery 2009
Min You, PhD	Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology 2009
Kersti Linask, PhD (Co-Chair)	Pediatrics 2008
Kenneth Ugen, PhD (Co-Chair)	Molecular Medicine 2008
<b><u>Clinical Scientists:</u></b>	
Morna Dorsey, MD	Pediatrics 2009
Maya Guglin, MD, PhD	Internal Medicine 2009
Kenneth Zuckerman, MD*	DIO 2009
Sarah Cowgill, MD	Surgery 2008
Kathleen Rockefeller, PT, MPH	Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Sciences 2008
<b><u>Dean's Appointments (At Large):</u></b>	
George Blanck, PhD	Molecular Medicine 2009
Gabor Legradi, PhD	Pathology and Cell Biology 2009
Mary Zhang, PhD	Pathology and Cell Biology 2009
Diane Straub, MD	Pediatrics 2009
Xue-Zhong Yu, MD	DIO 2009
Denis English, PhD	Neurosurgery 2008
Svetlana Garbuzova-Davis, PhD	Neurosurgery 2008
Esteban Celis, MD, PhD	Interdisciplinary Oncology 2008
TBD (1)	
<b><u>Other Committee Members:</u></b>	
Abdul Rao, MD, MA, DPhil	Vice Dean for Research (ex-officio, non-voting)
Jessica Banko, Ph.D.	Research Office (ex-officio, non-voting)
Jo Ann Moore, MA	Research Office (ex-officio, non-voting)

**\*Reappointment**

The Committee shall be composed of five members from Basic Science Departments, five members from Clinical Science Departments, one member from the School of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Sciences, and nine at-large members appointed by the Dean of the College of Medicine in consultation with the Faculty Council.

The Committee on Research is composed of one member from each Department of the College and the senior administrative officer responsible for research affairs. Students are ex-officio members.

The first meeting took place in August 2007. The Committee on Research (COR) decided upon issues to be addressed in the upcoming academic year's committee meetings. These included: (1) research compliance issues. It was decided to invite representatives from both IRB and Biosafety/Biohazard offices to future meeting. (2) Postdoctoral concerns that relate to developing a Guide for Postdoctoral fellows, the creation of an employment webpage that will post postdoctoral positions, lab research positions, and student research positions. (3) It was decided that a focus of the COR for the academic year will be to invite to future meetings various USF College of Medicine staff who deal with different aspects of COM to open up dialogue and to develop together means and processes that will facilitate and enhance the USF research environment. A number of staff members were invited (see list below). The invitees usually presented a PowerPoint presentation to provide an overview of the office. This presentation was followed by a question and answer period.

### Staff Members Invited 2007-08:

August 2007: Sidney Fernandez and Mary Striby, IT Office, demonstrated the new faculty research directory and took comments and suggestions from the Committee on how to make the directory even more useful to faculty members.

September 2007: Caroline Fultz Carver, Interim Director, Division of Research Integrity and Compliance provided a worthwhile overview of compliance issues.

January 2008: Pat Emmanuel, Director of Clinical Research: She addressed the COR on the CTSI strategic plan and the CTSA planning initiatives.

April 2008: Rod Casto, Associate Vice President, USF Foundation  
Valerie McDevitt, Director of USF Patents and Licensing (P & L)

The above staff members provided an overview of P&L. Discussion centered on how the P&L can keep faculty better informed about where their invention or MTA may be in the period of evaluation or processing. A webpage is being designed where forms and information can be quickly accessed. If processing of applications is to take over 2 weeks, the PIs are to be formed. On both sides, it was felt this was a constructive meeting to initiate new policies.

May 2008 Charles Szekeres, Core Facilities: Fees for services, development of core facilities, and a new website were discussed

June 2008 Michael Barber, Graduate Program  
A thorough overview of the graduate programs was provided the Committee. The emphasis on marketing the graduate programs has resulted in a record number of applicants, both for the Master's programs and Ph.D. The COM would like to see more clinical department involvement with graduate students. The college has standardized graduation requirements to help make the experience more uniform for the students. Postdoctoral fellow issues were discussed and issues as fringe benefits, that a postdoctoral level position be designated at USF, payscale, creation of training classes in grants-writing, research ethics, alternative career information were among topics discussed.

Overall these dialogues were found to be successful: COR faculty members were able to provide input and suggestions for improvement of services and where applicable, for streamlining paperwork or facilitating communication between the respective office and faculty.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, Dr. Linask of the COM-COR attended the Research Cabinet meetings, chaired by Dr. Rao. She attended the Cabinet meetings and provided COR regular updates on issues discussed at Cabinet meetings and in turn brought to the Cabinet issues of concern to the COR faculty. This new initiative on behalf of Dr. Rao was very beneficial to maintain a dialogue on COM research related matters at all levels and to provide transparency of issues that face the University.

Jessica Banko, ex officio member of COR, from Dr. Rao's office provided regular updates to the Committee on the development of College of Medicine's Core facilities and the list of items of equipment that were being purchased. Dr. Linask also attended the Core Facilities Planning Committee meetings during the course of 2007-2008.

Jo Ann Moore, ex officio member, from the Research Office provided regular updates and solicited discussion on organization of the Research Day 2008 that is held annually in February. Keynote Speaker for this year's Research Day was James R. Baker, M.D. from the University of Michigan. As in the past, the faculty on the COR helped with organization of Research Day and judging posters.

At the end of the 2008 academic year, Dr. Linask was asked and agreed to serve 2 more years on the Research Committee, but resigned from the Chairperson position to provide other members the opportunity to initiate new directions for the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Kersti K. Linask, Ph.D.  
Co-Chair of Research Committee  
2007-2008

