

COMCOR Annual Report

2009-2010

Cesario V. Borlongan, Chair



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
Policy Committee

Committee on Research 2009-2010

		Term Expires
Basic Scientists:		
Kersti Linask, PhD	Pediatrics	2010
Gianluca Del Rossi, PhD	Orthopaedics	2010
Eric Bennett, PhD	Molecular Pharmacology & Physiology	2011
Cesar Borlongan, PhD	Neurosurgery	2011
Min You, PhD*	Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology	2011
Clinical Scientists:		
Mary Lien, MD	Dermatology	2010
Melissa Loscalzo, MD	Pediatrics	2010
Diane Straub, MD, MPH*	Pediatrics	2011
Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann, MD	Pediatrics	2011
David Estores, Jr., MD	Internal Medicine	2011
SPTRS:		
Kathleen Rockefeller, PT, ScD	Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Sciences	2010
Dean's Appointments (At Large)		
Chad Dickey, PhD	Molecular Med / Byrd Inst	2010
Svetlana Garbuzova-Davis, PhD	Neurosurgery	2010
Esteban Celis, MD, PhD	Oncologic Sciences	2010
David Birk, PhD	Pathology	2011
John Carter, MD	Internal Medicine	2011
Javier Cuevas, PhD	Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology	2011
John Mayer, PhD	SPTRS	2011
Michael White, PhD	Molecular Medicine	2011
Theresa Zesiewicz, MD	Neurology	2011
Other Committee Members		
Phillip J. Marty, PhD	Associate Vice President USF Health Office of Research	Open

*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.

October 2009

- Nomination and election of COMCOR chair
- FY 09-10 COMCOR initiatives
- Research Day 2010 plans
 - Date and venue for the 20th Annual USF Health Research Day were announced on Friday, February 19, 2010 in the USF Health Rotunda. Research Day planning commenced with emphasis on student and trainee research project posters and presentations, a Keynote speaker and an award ceremony/reception. Dr. Marty started working on finding a Keynote speaker. Committee members provided input into the plans for Research Day.
- Executive Committee on Research and Education-ECRE
 - The establishment of ECRE was relayed to COMCOR. ECRE is a committee tasked to report to the Dean. The chair of the COMCOR will sit on this committee, interact with the department chairs and provide input on research and educational matters to the Dean.

November 2009

- Announcement of new COMCOR Chair, Dr. Cesar Borlongan
- COMCOR update, overview of committee charge and FY 08-09
- Request recommending naming campus events and venues after persons who contributed significantly to the research mission of the college
- Research Day 2010 news updates including proposed symposium speaker and give-away materials
- Invited speakers for future COMCOR meetings
 - The committee was asked to suggest possible invitees from USF divisions. With recent queries on postdoctoral issues, it was thought representatives from the graduate school, human resources and the postdoctoral office could provide guidance on the current status of USF research fellows.
- New discussion items
 - Dr. Marty spoke on the Vice Dean for Research search and the Executive Committee for Research (ECRE), Dr. Borlongan was assigned to sit on this committee, interact with the Dept. chairs and provide input on research and educational matters to the Dean. Dr. Marty and Dr. Deschenes met to discuss research infrastructure, mentioned possible funding opps. from NIH and NCRR to pursue. Also pursuing a USF VAH collaborative for a joint research bldg on campus that would benefit from COMCOR involvement.

December 2009

- Post doctoral issues addressed by Dr. Karen Liller, Eric Andersson, and Diane Laya

COMCOR received guidance on the following issues:

- Wages and benefits for postdocs to be comparable to those offered experienced technical staff.
 - Soft benefits such as library and gym access for PD family members.
 - Representation from the Sciences on PD planning committees.
 - Flexibility in benefits packages that can be offered .
 - Postdoc orientation- formation of a Post doc association.
 - Request HR assistance with Professional Development of senior PDs with job searching, interviewing, funding opportunities.
- Update on Grad student/MD student GPA's provided by Dr Michael Barber
 - Discussed the need for obtaining a training grant, need to find a niche to fill by determining our strengths in our teaching mission such as educational areas like Infectious Diseases
 - Outstanding issues related to USF Research Day Planning tabled for next mtg
 - Update on motion to rename USF Health Research Day in honor of Dr. J. Krzanowski.
 - Discussion with group about having Public Affairs put on a seminar for faculty on how to present research findings to the public
 - Finalize requests for speakers for future meetings

January 2010

- Update on motion to rename USF Health Research Day in honor of Dr. J. Krzanowski
 - Dr. Krzanowski was contacted and was pleased to have the honor of having the Invited Graduate Student Oral Presentations Session on Research Day named for him. He confirmed his presence at the session on Research Day, during which his recognition and a plaque commemorating this event would take place.
- Follow-up on proposed postdoctoral handbook circulated by Diane Laya
- Discussion with group about having Public Affairs put on a seminar for faculty on how to present research findings to the public
- Finalize requests for speakers for future meetings
- Request for Faculty to serve as judges on Research Day

May 2010

- Guidance from Dr Marty moving forward with COMCOR
 - Suggested using COMCOR as a sounding board for agenda items for ECRE

- Strategic plan on how best to represent the COMCOR on the ECRE

- Finalize next speaker to invite for COMCOR's next meeting with emphasis on current faculty issues with IRB and IACUC
 - Three possible speakers identified: Cheryl Byers, Jay Dean, Burt Anderson

- New Business
 - Internal reviewers were identified for selection of a senior medical students for the 2010-2011 Martin and Ruth Silbiger Scholarship. Dr. Borlongan volunteered at the meeting, and Dr Saporta and Dr. Pross also volunteered via email.
 - Dr. Marty gave the committee draft copies of the Proposed simplified AIMs Research Criteria process for comments.
 - Dr. Marty also gave the committee the proposed model for the Research Faculty Salary Enhancement Policy for comments.
 - Next year's Research Day 2011 has been scheduled for February 11, 2011

2009-2010 Summary of COMCOR Achievements

- Successful hosting of USF Health Research Day, highlighted by recognition of Dr. Joseph Krzanowski
- COMCOR role in ECRE becoming recognized, in particular COMCOR efforts to improve the status of USF postdoctoral fellows
- A more active role is expected from COMCOR moving forward with opportunity to present urgent faculty issues at ECRE meetings
- COMCOR remains a sounding board for faculty including IRB and IACUC concerns. To this end, responsible USF parties will be requested to present their views at COMCOR meetings in resolving pressing faculty issues. Resolutions will then be proposed at ECRE meetings.