

**Breast Cancer Research Council Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2007: Council Meeting – Funding Meeting  
San Francisco, CA**

**Members present:** Moon Chen, Crystal Crawford, Diane Griffiths, Amy Kyle, Angela Padilla, Gordon Parry, Mark Pegram, Klaus Porzig, Catherine Quinn, Lisa Wanzor, Maria Wetzel

**Members absent:** Anuja Mendiratta

**Staff:** Natalie Collins, Sharon Cooper, Janna Cordeiro, Mary Daughtry, Liz Day, Lyn Dunagan, Larry Fitzgerald, Stella Gonzales, Larry Gruder, Mhel Kavanaugh-Lynch, Katherine McKenzie, Joyce Price, Walter Price, Catherine Thomsen

**Guests (non-voting):** Jim Ford, Ellen Mahoney, John Morgan, Marj Plumb (consultant)

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00p.m.

**II. Minutes**

The council reviewed the minutes from the last meeting.

**MOTION:** Maria Wetzel moved (Catherine Quinn seconded) that the council approve the March 16 minutes. The motion passed with eight votes for approval and four abstentions.

**III. Programmatic Review**

The council met in closed session to discuss and set final programmatic review scores, and determined final funding recommendations for the cycle 13 applications. The programmatic review subcommittees identified \$9.3 million in worthwhile applications that met both scientific and programmatic review standards; however, only \$7.26 million is available. Due to reduced availability of funds, the council decided to reduce large awards by 10 percent. Should funds become available from declined grants, the council directed the staff to use its discretion on prioritizing restoration of the 10 percent reduction to those grants.

**MOTION:** Diane Griffiths moved (Angela Padilla seconded) that the council recommend the funding as set during the closed session. The motion passed unanimously.

The following grants were selected as tax check-off designated awardees for their particular interest to the general public:

- “Science Literacy and Breast Cancer: Clinical Trials Education”
- “Breast Cancer Risks in California Nail Salon Workers”
- “Repression of HMGA2 by BRCA1 Prevents Mammary Tumorigenesis”
- “Molecular Imaging of Metastatic Lymph Nodes in Breast Cancer”

- “Multinuclear MRI of Breast Tumors”
- “Intraductal Therapy of DCIS: A Presurgery Study”
- “Modulation of Breast Cancer Stem Cell Response to Radiation”

The grant, “Sister Survivor: African American Breast Cancer Coalition” received the designation as the Faith Fancher awardee for its focus on the underserved.

MOTION: Diane Griffiths moved (Moon Chen seconded) that the council approve the Faith Fancher and Tax check-off awardees. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **A. Council Chair and Vice-Chair Elections**

MOTION: Moon Chen moved (Maria Wetzel seconded) to elect Angela Padilla as council chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Moon Chen moved (Diane Griffiths seconded) to elect Maria Wetzel as council vice-chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

##### **B. Cycle 14**

Larry Fitzgerald presented a draft of the cycle 14 *Call for Applications*. He estimated that 25 percent of our applicants find out about the Program’s funding through this document. Most of the award types and funding amounts offered will not change; however, the translational research award, which had a flexible cap of \$750,000 last year, now has a fixed cap of \$750,000. The other change has been to reduce the number of awards that a PI can receive in each cycle to a maximum of two grants, either as PI or co-PI, and each award must be in different award types.

MOTION: Maria Wetzel moved (Angela Padilla seconded) that the council approve the draft of the *Call for Applications*. The motion passed unanimously.

The subcommittee that reviewed the Translational LOIs for cycle 13 will continue their work; Gordon Parry will take over as chair of the subcommittee, due to Mark Pegram’s departure from the council. Diane Griffiths was asked to join the subcommittee in order to balance the participation of scientists and advocates.

#### **V. Old Business**

**A. Programmatic Review Debriefing:** Council members discussed their general feelings about the programmatic review process, including some suggestions for the next cycle, such as adding the application titles to the ballots and adding the mentor’s name to programmatic review forms within the career development awards.

**B. Director’s Report – SRI update:** Mhel reported on the four in-person and two teleconference Stakeholder Meetings. Each meeting generated lots of ideas, and they were able to create a preliminary list that the Strategy Team will work from over the

summer. A summary of the stakeholder meetings is in the council packets and on the website. The timeline has been revised, due to the state of the science document taking longer than expected. Over fifty writers, reviewers, and editors around the country are working on the document. One section of the document, the Neighborhood paper, is done. Almost all of the sections have been drafted and are under review. May 30 is the current deadline for written material. Council members were invited to participate in upcoming online brainstorming, to be held from June 25 through July 2, during which time the preliminary list of ideas will be rated and prioritized. The Strategy Team is meeting in September, November, and January; council members are encouraged to attend and participate, and will be copied on emails to the Strategy Team.

**C. Symposium Update:** Katherine McKenzie reported that there are over 180 registrants and 60 posters thus far, both of which are ahead of the 2005 registration rate. The program for the symposium is still partly in flux—the outreach committee will be working over the summer to finalize the plenary posters and the Meet the Experts breakfast. Council members were reminded that they are responsible for judging posters and awarding the Hopper awards for innovation, impact, and superior presentation. She will contact council members by email to set up the judging groups. The CBCRP Listens session, which has traditionally included the council members, will this year be focused on the Special Research Initiatives by adding a second plenary session featuring Funmi Olopade and David Williams, who will speak about their work and the SRI. Katherine reminded council members that they should register for the symposium, watch for poster judging communications, and be ready to participate in the CBCRP Listens session.

**D. Calendar:**

- The June meeting has been cancelled

Tentative upcoming dates for the next council year:

- September 7-9 for the symposium
- October 19 or 26
- January 18
- March 20-22 for a SRI retreat (Thursday through Saturday)
- May 16 for the funding meeting

**E. Council recruiting and issues:** Mhel Kavanaugh-Lynch reported that Chris Bowden of Genentech has agreed to join the council. He will start in the fall. She opened discussion on the challenges that the Program has encountered in recruiting new council members, both in the time and workload involved. She also noted the issues of increased absences, early departures, and late arrivals that have disrupted the council's effectiveness. Solutions discussed included: starting on time regardless of absences or tardiness; reduce the number of meetings per year to four; eliminate programmatic review orientations and instead pack the agenda. Council members were asked to continue considering options and priorities. The matter will be raised again at a future meeting.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 3:30 p.m.