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Date: April 18, 2012

To: Dr. Lance Perryman, Dean

From: Dr. Quinton Winger
Chair, College Research Council

Re: 2011-2012 Annual Report

Members of the College Research Council for 2011-2 were:

Dr. Quinton Winger, Biomedical Sciences
Dr. Jozsef Vigh, Biomedical Sciences
Dr. Lutz Goehring, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Nicole Ehrhart, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Jennifer Peel, ERHS
Dr. Susan Bailey, ERHS
Dr. Paul Avery, MIP
Dr. Ramesh Akkina, MIP
Dr. Sue VandeWoude- Associate Dean – ex officio

Our primary activity was to solicit, evaluate and recommend funding of the CVMBS College Research Proposals. In 2011, the CRC call for proposals was posted on the web, with an e-mail message to all CVMBS faculty on December 20, 2011 for a submission deadline of March 21, 2011. The evaluation form was similar to the form used in previous years. Investigators who had received previous CRC awards were asked to provide short progress reports on their previous grants and discuss how results from earlier proposals had generated other grant submissions or funding opportunities.

The committee received and reviewed 55 proposals, a decrease of 8 compared to 2010-2011 Thirteen proposals were evaluated in relation to Animal Health and Disease/Agriculture Experiment Station funds, 15 were evaluated for funding from Colorado Racing Commission funds and 17 were evaluated for MIKI Society and other Foundation funding. The remaining applications were evaluated for funding from undesignated funds from the college. The overall quality of all the proposals was

commendable. All proposals received two reviews with each CRC member reviewing 16 proposals. Proposals were reviewed and scored using criteria that were explicitly stated on the review sheets. Reviewers provided brief summaries listing the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal. These comments were made available to investigators for aid in improving future submissions. Statistical analysis was performed to obtain a least-squares mean score for each proposal based on adjusting for differences in scoring among the reviewers.

Funding was available for 28 proposals. This is a funding percentage of 51% which represents a decrease from a funding percentage of 59% in 2010-11. Five fund sources were available, including the Shared Research Program funded directly by the Dean and the Department heads. The other funding sources include The Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Animal Health and Disease Formula Funds, the Colorado Racing Commission and the Foundation Societies, with a total funding amount of $588,000. The funding percentage was highest for the Experiment Station proposals, next highest for Animal Health and Disease projects, followed by the SRP projects, then the Colorado Equine Racing Commission proposals and the Foundation proposals. Differences in funding percentages among categories are derived from the funds available in each category in comparison to the requests that are appropriate for consideration in each of the funding categories.

The committee reviewed candidates for the Pfizer Award for research excellence. The 2011 award recipient was Dr. Shane Hentges from the Department of Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Mark Zabel from the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology was recently selected as the 2012 recipient. Dr Hentges provided the keynote speech at the 2012 CVMBS research day and Dr Zabel will do the same at the 2013 meeting. The committee also reviewed pre-proposals submitted by college faculty for programs that restricted the number of submissions from the University. In such cases, the submission of pre-proposals by the College for consideration at the University level is also restricted. When more than the restricted number of pre-proposals was received by the College, the CRC evaluated those proposals and provided a recommendation to the Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Education concerning which ones should be forwarded for further consideration by the Vice President for Research.

The format for CRC review was significantly revised for 2012 and is currently underway. The proposal deadline was March 19, 2012. Ten proposals were received for AES and AHD supplemental fund consideration, and 50 proposals were received for Racing Commission, Foundation, AH&D research and SRP awards. A new “Translational Medicine Award” was also solicited. Scoring criteria was updated, proposals were provided in electronic form and ad hoc reviewers were solicited to provide additional depth to the review process. The committee is also providing strengths/ weaknesses and impact score to facilitate provision of comments to investigators. Awards letters will be sent by the first week in May.