Andy Hill Cancer Research Endowment Board Meeting Minutes

1100 Fairview Ave N, Seattle, WA | Wednesday, December 12, 2018 3:00–5:00 p.m.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Yale Building, J5-102

The following board members, constituting a quorum, were present:
Elaine Albert, Leslie Alexandre, Frederick Appelbaum, Thomas Brown, David Byrd, Weihang Chai (phone), Carol Dahl (phone), Eunice Hostetter, Jennifer Kampsula Wong (phone)

Board Members Absent: Steve Harr, Jim Hendricks

CARE Staff Attendees: Peter Choi, Laura Flores Cantrell

Guest Attendees: Sandra Adix, WA Assistant Attorney General (phone); Julia Terlinchamp, WA Dept. of Commerce; Thomas Bates, Insight Strategic Partners; Sarah Lyman, Empire Health Foundation; Jan Glick, Jan Glick & Associates; Laura Hitchcock, Jan Glick & Associates; Chelsea Hager, Insight Strategic Partners

1. Welcome (Fred Appelbaum)  
A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m.

Fred Appelbaum introduced Julia Terlinchamp, the new Director of Economic Development for the Life Science & Global Health Sector at the Department of Commerce. Julia will be managing the CARE Fund contract beginning in January 2019.

2. Consent agenda  
A motion to approve the consent agenda of the October 22, 2018 Board meeting minutes and the Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report was made by David Byrd, seconded by Elaine Albert, and unanimously approved.

3. Breakthrough Research Program Award Decisions  
Fred Appelbaum introduced the agreed upon grant award decision-making process that generally the board will follow the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) reviews and that AAAS ratings of “highly recommended,” “recommended,” and “worthy of consideration” are eligible for CARE funding.

Peter Choi presented potential multi-year funding scenarios for awarding one to four Breakthrough Program applications based on the four highest scoring applications at the full funding level requested in the applications.

There was discussion regarding the following:
• The funding scenarios and CARE’s commitment and obligation to awarded applications beyond the first year
• Whether the Board might consider awarding more grants than CARE would be able to fund for the full five years and whether the assumption that all the awarded grants would merit funding for the full five-year period is appropriate
• The potential innovation and impact of the Breakthrough proposals and whether there was a significant difference among the top scoring applications
• Flexibility of developing other grant programs in the future
• Evaluating the outcomes of the research awarded for funding beyond Year 1
• The number of applications to fund in the current cycle

A motion to award the top two scoring proposals at the requested funding level, Institute for Systems Biology (PI: James Heath) and University of Washington (PI: Andre Lieber), was made by Carol Dahl, seconded by Eunice Hostetter. Board members disclosed potential conflicts of interest and the nature of the potential conflict as follows:

• Tom Brown is a co-investigator on the application from Institute for Systems Biology, proposal number 201801-05. Tom Brown recused himself from the vote.
• David Byrd is employed by University of Washington, proposal number 201801-02. David Byrd recused himself from the vote.
• Fred Applebaum is a Professor at University of Washington, proposal number 201801-02. Fred Applebaum recused himself from the vote.

The remaining voting board members unanimously approved the motion. As part of the contracting process, grantees will be notified that outyear funding is contingent upon appropriation of funds from the state.

4. Strategic Planning – Consultant

Jan Glick introduced breakout group discussion process. The three groups discussed the following:

1. Group 1 Envisioning. Facilitated by Sarah Lyman. The group discussed: What human problems does the CARE Fund exist to solve? If the CARE Fund fulfills its purpose, what will be different?
2. Group 2 Value/Benefit. Facilitated by Laura Hitchcock. The group discussed: What is the value of the CARE Fund for different stakeholders?

Each group provided a summary of its discussions. Jan Glick reported that the consultants may reach out to individual board members, but that they now have most of the raw materials to begin developing a strategic plan.

5. Legislative Update
Thomas Bates provided a brief legislative update. The Governor’s budget will be released on December 13, 2018. Thomas may communicate with individual board members by email, as appropriate.

6. CARE Update
Laura Flores Cantrell provided a CARE Program update.
- There were no bidders to the CARE Performance Audit RFP. The Department of Commerce is in the process of potentially identifying an auditor through the State Auditor’s office.
- At CARE’s request, the AAG provided an advisory memo regarding compliance with state gifting limitations. The memo is included in the board materials. The Board may request a formal Attorney General’s Opinion (AGO). Board members were asked to please contact Laura if an AGO would be helpful.
- The Distinguished Researchers Cohort 3 application is now closed. Four applications were received from two organizations. All four applications will be sent to AAAS for review. In accordance with the Board’s independent, expert, scientific review panel appointment process, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed to appoint the eligible reviewers. David Byrd and Elaine Albert volunteered to serve as the Ad Hoc Committee members.
- All Breakthrough Research Program applicants will be notified of the award decision on December 13, 2018. By consensus, the Board agreed that each applicant will be provided its individual written AAAS evaluation in order to support capacity-building for cancer research.

7. Adjourn
With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Approved this date: 9/3/2019

Eunice Hostetter, CARE Board Secretary