

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING #91

MEETING CHAIR: Dr. Samuel Weiss
MEETING: Executive Committee Meeting #91
DATE & TIME: November 15, 2016, 7:30 – 9:30 am
LOCATION: HBI Boardroom
ATTENDEES: Drs. Samuel Weiss, Keith Sharkey, Rajiv Midha, , Keith Dobson, Bev Adams, Wally MacNaughton, Nathalie Jette, Jong Rho, Oury Monchi, Bruce Pike, and Mr. Carlos Arenas
REGRETS: Drs. Benedikt Hallgrimsson, Cam Teskey, and Richard Walker
RECORDED BY: Ms. Brandi Chuchman

91.01 Dr. Weiss requested any comments on the minutes and meeting agenda. A motion to approve was made by Dr. Midha, and seconded by Dr. Dobson. All were in favour and there were no changes.

91.02 Dr. Weiss provided his Director’s update to the committee. Current fundraising initiatives include 8 major projects. Fundraising strategies have been developed for the Research and Education Excellence Fund (REEF) and the Mathison Centre. HBI is engaging with volunteers who have agreed to assist with moving these strategies forward. HBI development is collaborating with the Faculties of Arts; Kinesiology and the ACHF to execute the fundraising strategy for the Concussion project. HBI has hosted several donor cultivation and stewardship meetings and events with major donors since September.

In NeuroTechnologies, the HBI is ahead of the curve regarding the infrastructure and cutting-edge technologies that are beginning to be recognized as essentials for brain research by Canadian neuroscience leaders. The Optogenetics business plan has now been approved, and equipment purchasing is underway. The Advanced Microscopy plan is nearing completion. The MR guided Focused Ultrasound system for the Seaman MR Research Centre will be arriving in December, and the sabbatical of Prof. Menashe Zaaroor – who will help with the clinical launch of this program - from the Technion is now confirmed to begin March 1st and last for 3 months.

The HBI also has many upcoming events, which Dr. Weiss encouraged the committee members to take part in:

- Brain & Mental Health Town Hall on Monday, Nov 21, 12-1:30pm, Rozsa Centre.
- The Gairdner Symposium on Concussion will include a public lecture on Nov 29, followed by a scientific symposium Nov 30.
- The HBI Holiday Party is on Friday, Dec 9.
- HBI-Melbourne Epilepsy Symposium on May 1-2 in 2017.

Dr. Weiss is meeting with Dean Meddings on Friday to discuss the school’s plans for the recruitment of the next director of the HBI, in advance of the Dean’s attendance at the Dec 5 SAB meeting. The committee discussed elements important to the success of a director recruitment. Alberta Innovates is in final stages of recruiting new CEO, and are also reorganizing their organizational structure. Dr. Weiss also shared developments in national neuroscience partnerships, including work to develop an integrated Canadian Brain Research Strategy; the HBI will be playing a major

role in developing this strategy, which would also meet government priorities in mental health, concussion, and other areas.

91.03 Dr. Sharkey provided an education update in Dr. Teskey's absence. We have received 6 applications from Calgary undergraduate students to participate in the Oxford exchange. We have received 2 applications from Calgary trainees to go to the Karolinska in Sweden; advertisement at the Karolinska is just beginning. We also received 4 applications from Calgary trainees for the Melbourne exchange, and 1 application from Melbourne to come to Calgary. Internal award applications have been reviewed by a committee and awarded, and these include MSc, PhD, and postdoctoral competitions.

Dr. Sharkey next provided an update from the Strategic Research and Innovation Committee. Killam awards are going to Dr. Jaideep Bains and Dr. Michael Hill. There has been discussion of the NeuroTeams' progress at recent SRIC meetings. Every team has demonstrated progress, while also highlighting challenges. Dr. Duffy is departing, and Dr. Bulloch has started a bottom-up process to identify a new team co-leader for the Mental Health NeuroTeam. Initial discussions have begun regarding the possible development of an 'Emerging NeuroTeam' in the area of Neurodevelopmental Disorders. We have shortlisted two excellent candidates for the position of HBI Research Coordinator, and this position will play a major role in helping to support the NeuroTeam Leaders.

In recruitments, a comprehensive table was provided to the committee members of all active and upcoming recruitments, which currently number 16. There was a recent addition of a Cardiovascular Exercise Physiologist in partnership with Libin and Physiology & Pharmacology, and the HBI has been asked to contribute to the startup package for this recruit. Dr. Elizabeth Condliffe has been recruited at the Children's Hospital and will be involved in neurostimulation research; she is a physiatrist. The remaining CSM 25 positions will not be discussed again until spring 2017, so positions like the IPS cell biologist will be on hold until then. There is a new requirement at PPC that letters of support to advertise new positions must include dollar ranges, to guarantee that institutes have funding in place before new positions go forward. Ms. Angela Krawetz has put together a list of all currently ongoing recruitments across the CSM (approximately 42 positions). The committee discussed the space needs of the incoming recruitments. The committee discussed that a model of partnering researchers to share resources and access to shared infrastructure may be a model that the institute needs to adopt moving forward. This item will be discussed further at the Executive Retreat.

91.04 Mr. Arenas provided the Q2 financial statements for the 2016/17 fiscal year. Complete statements were provided to members. In Research, projections for 2016/17 forecast above budgeted amounts due to new contributions to a clinical research partnership between the Mathison Centre and the Sheldon Kennedy Centre, however note a new influx of unallocated donor directed dollars will cover this difference. In Education, investments have supported studentships and fellowships, REALISE training modules, and RHISE international trainee exchanges, with forecasts below budgeted amounts. In Community & Partnerships, investments have supported international research visits, with contributions from the partnering institutions. There were no questions, and the committee thanked Mr. Arenas for a very clear report.

- 91.05** The HBI has completed a highly comprehensive assessment of space used by all HBI members and their associated trainees and staff occupying space within the Foothills campus. Using this data, the HBI will work to ensure all space is used to maximum productivity, to ensure the Institute can continue to grow despite space shortages. The Institute is also in discussions with the CSM for a new space in the basement of the HSC, with plans to use this space for a new animal behaviour and optogenetics facility. The ongoing space needs of the Institute will be discussed further at the Executive Retreat.
- 91.06** The committee discussed a concern regarding the AHS ethics approvals process for clinical research. This is now required by any clinical researchers using AHS facilities, regardless of other AHS involvement and despite UCalgary ethics approvals. AHS is currently 5-9 months behind in their ethics approvals, causing significant research delays. The Institute leaders will be taking this important issue to the Dean and representatives at AHS.
- 91.07** The committee discussed the draft agenda for the Executive Retreat, taking place December 8, 2016. The committee was in agreement on the importance of Session 1, which will focus on strategies to better engage the Institute's members. For Session 2 which will be on recruitment, the committee agreed to focus on reviewing the recruitment strategy and discussing what this strategy should look like over the next 5-10 years. The committee agreed to focus Session 3 on space issues. Dr. Paul Schnetkamp, who leads the school's Space Committee, will also be invited to provide input on broader space usage and needs across the CSM.
- 91.08** Dr. Weiss reviewed the new draft evaluation strategy for the Institute, which was provided to committee members. Input on this strategy will also be sought from the HBI Strategic Advisory Board before finalizing the strategy.
- 91.09** The committee reviewed the full HBI membership application for Dr. Adam Kirton, a full member of ACHRI and long-time collaborator on neurodevelopmental disorders, stroke, and leader of the Non-invasive Neurostimulation Network (N3). Dr. Bev Adams made a motion to accept his application, and this motion was seconded by Dr. Wally MacNaughton. All were in favour. A second application for associate membership from Dr. Kent Hecker from Veterinary Medicine and Community Health Sciences was discussed. Dr. Hecker is interested in applying neuroimaging technologies to study learning and reasoning in education. Following discussions, Dr. Raj Midha made a motion to approve, and this was seconded by Dr. Bruce Pike. All were in favour. The meeting was concluded.