Research and Contracts Strategic Planning Workgroup Charges
2013-2014

The Research and Contracts Strategic Planning Workgroup is asked to address the following:

1. What infrastructure changes do we need at the Mailman Center to expand/grow our research enterprise, both in terms of funded research and peer-reviewed publications?
   a. What operational changes should we consider to improve these outcomes?
   b. How can our existing resources be realigned to support our research mission?
   c. What additional resources are needed, and how can these be funded?

2. How should we prioritize or research efforts and resources to demonstrate expertise and impact? What specific things should we do to implement research content priorities?

3. How can we improve our mentorship process and structure to help young and mid-career faculty develop more quickly and effectively?

4. What strategy should we use that both supports individual research interests and also provides us with synergies that can lead to U- and P- type center grants, specifically a U01 NICHD Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Center Grant?

5. What modifications do we need to make to support successful research applications in the area of health services research and patient-reported outcomes?

6. Should we limit the number of applications/amounts of funding we submit that have indirect costs rates that do not cover our actual costs (approximately 18%-19%). For grants or contracts that fall below the actual cost level, what specific things should we do to cover the gap? Do we need a specific policy? If so, what does the Workgroup recommend?

7. What steps should we take to be competitive for industry-sponsored clinical trials?

8. Are there aspects of our research program that have technology transfer (patent) potential? What should we do to increase the potential for research that leads to commercialization in the area of developmental disabilities and special needs?

9. What formal could/should a research RVU mechanism take, both for accounting for faculty effort and productivity, and for incentivizing success?

10. Should we create a single research infrastructure for the Department of Pediatrics, combining the research of the Mailman Center, BCRI, clinical trials at Holtz and in the outpatient centers, etc? If so, what barriers can be anticipated and what recommendations can the Workgroup make to overcome them?

11. If we identify and obtain funds for recruitment of new clinician-scientists at the Mailman Center, how should we prioritize these recruitments for maximum impact?

As you consider each of these charges, evaluate your recommendations for innovation, realistic potential for impact, and identify the connections that will be needed and that will benefit from implementation of a successful plan.

The Work Group will be expected to prepare a report upon completion of the strategic planning process. The report should be focused and utilize bullets, tables, and figures as much as possible. The recommendations and plan should be supported by evidence as much as evidence is available. A timeline for implementation and measurement of outcomes needs to be included.