



Ferris State University Senate Faculty Research Grant (SFRG) Committee
Minutes from Spring 2021, Grant Review
March 5, 2021 12pm-2pm Zoom

Committee Members in Attendance:

Michael E. Klepser (Chair, College of Pharmacy, Pharmacy Practice)
Evan R. Watts (College of Arts, Sciences, and Education, Department of Humanities)
Jonathan J. Taylor (College of Arts, Sciences, and Education, English, Literature, and World Languages)
Cecil Queen (College of Business)
Sonali Kurup (College of Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Science)
Alison M. Konieczny (FLITE)
Anne Hawkinsbadge (Laboratory Safety, Ex-Officio)

- 12:00pm Welcome and Introductions
- Robust discussion regarding committee appointments. It was noted that Matt Moresi, Jonathan Taylor, Alison Konieczny, and Gordon Reynolds were not listed on the Committee website. Until clarification is obtained, individuals would be allowed to provide comments regarding the proposals they had reviewed; however, they would not provide a score or vote on funding decisions.
 - Four committee members participated in voting
- 12:20pm Discussion of proposal “Comparison of BinaxNOW and BD Veritor SARS-CoV-2 antigen tests among asymptomatic individuals” by Daniel de Regnier.
- Michael Klepser recused himself owing to a conflict of interest.
 - All of the reviewers agreed that this was a very well-written grant. The application was concise, and the methods were focused and specific. The proposal did not clearly identify the potential for future research. However, the project results could play a role in determining which test is used by athletes at FSU moving forward and could guide similar decisions at other athletic programs. The grant did not address COVID-19 compliance. The reviewers felt that COVID-19 compliance was inherently addressed since the grant focused on COVID-19 testing for athletes who must follow NCAA COVID guidelines. A portion of the grant funds focused on publication costs. The reasons for the high publication costs were not clarified and did not appear necessary for the success of the project. The methods section could have also included a description of the role for the different investigators.
 - Scores were favorable. A motion to fund the proposal was made and passed unanimously.
- 12:40pm Discussion of proposal “Vaccination trends during COVID-19” by Emmanuel Jadahv.
- Overall, the proposal was reviewed favorably. It was noted that COVID-19 safety measures were not addressed; however, owing to the nature of the research the risk was deemed to be low. Comments related to the redability and organization of the proposal were made. There was some concern and discussion regarding the budget and lack of explanation over budget items related to office supplies and publication costs.

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- Overall scores were favorable. A motion to fund the proposal (Queen/Kurup) was made and passed unanimously.

1:05pm Discussion of proposal “Comprehensive Testing of Autonomous Vehicles open source package OpenPilot” by Mohamed Abusharkh.

- Overall, the Committee thought that the proposal outlined an interesting and exciting project. A number of concerns were raised over the organization and lack of detail provided in the methods section. Specifically, it was unclear if the project would be completed virtually or if a car would be used to test the software. This uncertainty raised numerous safety, logistical and COVID-19 related questions.
- Owing to the points raised, the Committee determined that although the project was fundable (Watts/Queen – 4/4), it required attention by the PI prior to an award being made (Queen/Watts – 4/4). The PI will be asked to provide clarification on the following:
 - Will the project involve a real car? If so, details related to this activity should be provided. Additionally, a hazard assessment must be requested and approval for use of a University car should be provided.


1:35pm Discussion of proposal “Dual EGFR/AURK inhibitors for resistant lung cancers” by Sonali Kurup.

- Sonali Kurup recused herself owing to a conflict of interest.
- The Committee thought that the proposal was well-written and provided a good outline of the proposed research and justification for the items requested in the budget.
- Overall scores were favorable. A motion to fund the proposal (Queen/Watts) was made and passed unanimously (4/4).

1:45pm The committee members agreed that a second round of funding this fiscal year was desirable. Michael Klepser was asked to determine the proper steps for this. Additionally, the members requested to have a post-award Committee meeting to discuss the existing scoring rubric and requirements.

The meeting was concluded at 1:55pm by chair prerogative.

Respectfully,



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