Researchers Forum
First planning in-person meeting
10/18/2022; W-502
Minutes taken by Robin MacDonald; reviewed by K. Ravid

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Meeting #1 - in-person
Tuesday, October 18, 2022
1:00 - 2:00 pm
700 Albany St, room W502 (CVI Conference room)

Meeting #2 - via Zoom
Thursday, December 8, 2022
3:00 - 4:00 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
https://bostonu.zoom.us/j/97192619214?pwd=WC9VYW5nVEVtSHFaa203eTBiYXhLUT09
Meeting ID: 971 9261 9214
Passcode: 417636

Meeting opened by: Katya Ravid, Barbara E. Corkey Professor of Medicine, Director, Evans Center for Interdisciplinary Biomedical research

Today's objective: Selecting leadership for the Researchers Forum and just listening to input

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K. Ravid began by explaining the proposal for this initiative → Researchers Forum  

- Purpose is to discuss and address issues unique to *opportunities* and challenges as researchers.
A survey indicated that there may be several issues we can raise up from this group to be heard and handled constructively.

This forum was proposed by the Evans Center for Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research, so we will help with administrative details and organization, but we don’t lead it. I will provide mentoring, insights and guidance as needed.

Leaders must be chosen from within, by the group.

Topics of discussion and action will be determined by the group.

Regular meetings will be determined by the chosen leadership, with input of faculty.

It is suggested to consider an Advisory Team within the group, in addition to a Senior Advisory Board consisting of K. Ravid, D. Slant and the group’s choice of an additional senior faculty.

The group expressed enthusiasm for the proposal, and initiated vibrant discussions, highlighting advantages of having such a Forum:

- Research Community Building
- Expanding Research’s VOICE
- Advocacy was raised as an important function of this Forum
- Opportunity for Growth from Cross-Pollination
  - Brainstorming Ideas
- Problem Solving / Resources
- Crystalize Challenges towards possible solutions
  - E.g., BU/BMC MED/CRC

Leadership: The following were nominated and have agreed to lead the Forum, representing different ranks and lines of research: Drs. George Murphy, Karen Jacobson, Allan Walkey

Other points:

- Karen Jacobson stated that this group must identify its core participants, those who will attend and participate with regularity and purpose.
- George Murphy pointed out the value of in-person meetings.
- Francesca Seta pointed out that K. Ravid raised with her the idea of a DoM Researchers Forum/Organization over two years ago, and she very much supported a need for it.
- Katya Ravid informed the group that funding will be available to the leadership for things such as awards, lunches, seminars, invited speakers – whatever is deemed to serve and enhance the Forum’s progress.

Action Items:

- The group convened at this meeting represents faculty who volunteered (in response to a Survey) to serve as the Internal Advisory Team for the Researchers Forum.
- Dr. Francesca Seta who took part in past Researchers Luncheon meetings years ago, will serve as a fantastic resource person going forward.
- The next meeting will be held by Zoom, during which time the group will decide about frequency, where etc.

K. Ravid adjourned the meeting by pointing out that if the suggested new “experiment of faculty-led and DOM/Center-supported Researchers Forum succeeds,” not only will it help our faculty, but it might also serve as example for other DoMs to follow (“we did it with ARCs we can do it again”). Hence, with time, goals and metrics might be defined.