

ICR Governing Board Meeting - Minutes

September 10, 2021 10:00 – 1:30 pm

Grant-Humphreys Mansion (770 Pennsylvania St Denver, CO 80203;

<https://www.historycolorado.org/grant-humphreys-mansion>)

In attendance: Dr. Cinnamon Bidwell, Dr. Chad Kinney, Mr. Scott McWhorter, Dr. Sue Sisley, Dr. Timothy Mottet, Dr. Maureen Leehey and Ms. Wendy Fairchild (Mr. Sal Pace was on the phone for part of meeting)

Meeting Minutes:

- Welcome (10:00-10:05am) Dr. Bidwell
 - Wendy –roll call
- Consent Agenda (10:05-10:10am) Dr. Bidwell
 - a. minutes from 08/20/2021
 - b. summary operational/personnel review – budget subcommittee
 - c. webinar survey results
 - Good data and feedback with critique
 - 30-100 attendees on average
 - Past Webinars: These are all on our website
 - Great attendance and questions at last webinar
 - d. annual report – feedback from Board to accompany report

Consent agenda was approved by all attending Board members. Dr. Kinney is to pursue the electronic approval from enough of the Board members not in attendance for it to pass. Dr. Reuter and Mr. Lord approved the consent agenda by email on 9/14/21 and 9/16/21, respectively.

- Recognition of Board Members whose terms are concluding (10:10 – 10:20pm) Dr. Bidwell
 - Dr. Leehey awarded honorary plaque presented by Dr. Bidwell.
- Student Research Awards (draft in Executive Summary; 10:20 -10:40am) Dr. Kinney
 - a. Funded by savings realized for the CRC 2021
 - Dr. Kinney and Dr. Bidwell drafted language
 - b. Name of Program
 - Emerging Scientist Award or Emerging Student Scientist Award – all agree to this
 - c. Discuss and revise program description and criteria
 - Dr. Kinney - Developing young researchers
 - d. Review and award
 - Review by ICR Staff (Ms. Lopez, Dr. Williamson, and Dr. Kinney)
- Lobbyist – Short List (10:40-12:00pm) Dr. Bidwell
 - a. Review candidates – narrow to shortlist
 - Narrowed to 3 candidates – Proposals ranged from \$27,000-\$30,000

- Target contract for October 1, 2021 to end of June 2022
- Goal – review candidates, interview, and move on to contracting process
- Following interviews Drs. Bidwell and Kinney will summarize a recommendation that will be distributed by email for approval from the Board to move forward with.
- Dr. Mottet talks best practices
- b. Priorities/questions for short interviews
 - Dr. Mottet – criteria should include content knowledge, legislative knowledge
 - Dr. Bidwell says group can determine this
- c. Interview participants/volunteers
- d. Priorities for lobbying activities
 - Mr. Pace says relationship with JBC and staff is most important, relationships within industry not beneficial as could be conflict of interest
 - Dr. Bidwell states if candidate working currently with industry client, this may raise concerns
 - Dr. Mottet suggests asking getting input from legislators
 - Dr. Kinney , Dr. Sisley, and Dr. Mottet - communication skills and diversity both high priority
 - Dr. Kinney and Dr. Bidwell will interview together
 - Dr. Kinney – start before the legislative session, which begins at the beginning of the calendar year, and continue past the legislative session to allow time for the representative to debrief with the board.
 - Dr. Kinney will work with Dr. Bidwell to develop a set of questions together
- Lunch Distribution and Short Break (12:00-12:15pm)
Will be a working lunch after distribution
- Update Strategic Plan and Goal (12:15-1:20pm) Dr. Bidwell
 - Roadmap for moving Forward
 - Dr. Bidwell discussed edits/editions
 - Dr. Kinney discussed the RFA which would require a timeline revised timeline this fiscal year based on when budget information will be available – budget request that was submitted in July with double appropriation next year if funded – this would require timeline to be adjusted – projects may start in September or October rather than start of the fiscal year - The ICR will move to RFA once it has a reasonable indication that the budget request is moving forward – will likely require a two month shift in the RFA timeline – Hopefully the ICR will be in a position to hold an annual RFA
 - Dr. Bidwell says this is what we want and big step in terms of our reputation
 - Dr. Mottet asks if the customer (the State) is happy with us – Dr. Bidwell thinks important to engage customer in this question – Likely a role for the Gov. Rel. Rep. to assist in
 - Dr. Mottet - State needs to develop policies around cannabis testing and work place regulations – research is needed to inform state wide HR policies for cannabis testing, use and impairment – Perhaps next RFA can prioritize this – impacts employment opportunities
 - Maureen – Supports the next RFA prioritizing this

- Dr. Kinney –should be allowable but doesn't exclude other areas – helpful to have lobbyist gauge interest
- Employers telling Dr. Mottet that they can't hire people due to testing
- Reputation should be strategic goal as could be easily eroded if not continually maintained (#2)
- Action items – some believe ICR supports cannabis industry – need to address this directly and share the list of currently funded projects – ICR research is public health focused and driven by key scientific questions
- Dr. Mottet says some in community (Pueblo) are connecting ICR to what is seen on corners
- Dr. Bidwell –maybe reach out to media and specific legislative groups for larger audience - communications that are focused on our research portfolio - funded projects highlighted
- Dr. Kinney does not know how well ICR is known about in the State – not likely well known in the larger population centers
- Scott – nobody knows about most research centers in region – just do good work and make sure customer is satisfied – would love to have an intern and research availability
- Dr. Kinney says we have been working towards this for a while – fee for service – external funding source will allow us to pay for staffing to complete research
- Dr. Bidwell – customer is the State – other funding sources are available but we haven't put a lot of energy on this to date – wants to gauge group on this
- Dr. Sisley – Colorado industry hesitant to support research as may not always put cannabis in favorable light – but maybe industry would be open to partnerships involving observational studies relevant data
 - Dr. Bidwell – do we want to position ICR this way? Important for the science to drive the research needs and carefully manage the bias of potential funders.
 - Any company we partner with must have the R&D license
 - Dr. Kinney – it is possible to partner but flow of resources can be a challenge and may be scrutinized
 -
 - Dr. Kinney thinks this might harm ICRs reputation – ICRcould instead help to connect businesses with potential researchers
 - Dr. Mottet – there is a need for this type of research
 - Mr. McWhorter – but tying ourselves to this approach may be harmful
 - Lots of further discussion about the pros cons of this idea
- Dr. Mottet – Surface transportation safety issues– Pueblo Test Track - Funding source that may apply to ICR as we have relevant expertise to contribute - ICR should be in the mix
- Dr. Kinney will talk to John about this
- Dr. Kinney -If special need for special project we have the tools to manage this – legislators need to be reminded of this – targeted RFA
 - First this goes to legislators via lobbyist along with Annual Report
- Dr. Mottet says Senator Garcia would be interested – he has asked about potential projects – recommends Chad ask what research questions do they need answered from a legislative process and as related to funding

- Dr. Leehey – Tax relief in December - maybe contact celebrities
- Dr. Mottet recommends Todd Kelly to assist
- a. New fundraising ideas and opportunities available with new relationship with CDHE
- b. Incentivizing public health-driven industry collaborations
- c. Cannabis Research Discussion Forum to promote collaborative applications for external funding
- d. Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications – Resources held with CDHE available to support this
- e. Other updates/discussion
 - Advocacy – Dr. Mottet says what we have done is significant in short amount of time
 - Dr. Sisley – suggest the ICR should create PowerPoint that is shared
 - Chad – information video for website to share with groups who have questions – adds that students could be part of this video – use Center for Creative Media
 - Dr. Leehey says CTCRC <https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu/resources/ctrc> could advertise all webinars – they would like to be involved – says they do collaborate – unite researchers in Colorado
 - Dr. Sisley - resources for researchers awareness of services outside of Mississippi could be helpful
 - Dr. Bidwell pleased with very productive Consent Agenda discussion – asks that any edits or additions be sent to the Governing Board – we will post completed agenda to website
 - Dr. Bidwell moves to pass Consent Agenda – Drs. Leehey, Mottet and Mr. McWhorter agree
 - Dr. Bidwell says once we select a candidate as lobbyist, get approval to move forward on selection, send summary to board and ask for selection approval.
- Public Comment (1:20-1:30pm) Dr. Bidwell
- Adjourn
 - 12:35

ICR Emerging Scientist Award:

The following email was distributed to the PIs that were awarded research funding as part of the most recent RFA. Following the email is a copy of the document that accompanied the email as an attachment.

From: CSU-Pueblo Institute of Cannabis Research

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 11:51 AM

To:

Subject: Additional Funding - Institute of Cannabis Research Emerging Scientist Award

Dear ICR Grant Awardees,

We would like to take this opportunity to touch base and let you know that the ICR team is here to help in any way we can. We would also like to inform you that ICR has set aside additional funds to help encourage student involvement in awarded projects through a student research fellowship program. A copy of information about the new Institute of Cannabis Research Emerging Scientist Award is attached to this email. Included in the information are Eligibility and Application Requirements for this program.

Please ensure that applications for this new program are submitted by 5:00 pm on Nov. 1th, 2021. Please submit application materials to ICR@csupueblo.edu.

The ICR anticipates that up to 5 awards in the amount of \$5,000 will be made.

Additionally, here is the current timeline that we hope to adhere to in order to maintain the execution additional funds for current FY22 projects:

- Sept 27th – Announcement of Emerging Scientist Award Opportunity
- Nov 1st – Request for Additional funds for New Student Investigator Due to ICR
- Nov 10th – Award Notifications
- Dec 10th – Target Date for Completion of Amended Agreement

We recognize that this timeline is relatively tight, and have tried to keep the application process and requirements reasonable. Please let us know as soon as possible if you anticipate any barriers with respect to the dates above.

Thank you for your time – we look forward to working closely with you to support your project. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at ICR@csupueblo.edu with any additional questions or needs.

Sincerely,

ICR Program Staff

The Institute of Cannabis Research

ICR@csupueblo.edu

www.csupueblo.edu/institute-of-cannabis-research





Institute of Cannabis Research Emerging Scientist Award

An important goal of the Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR) is to see the development of student researchers through its funding of cannabis research throughout Colorado. To support this goal the ICR is pleased to notify you that funds have been set aside to support a new Student Research Fellowship program. This program can be used to add a promising student researcher (undergraduate or graduate) to join the research group of current projects supported by the ICR.

Awards of up to \$5000 in direct student support (student salary/stipend) are available to add a student researcher to your research team for the period of January 2022 – May 2022. If well justified in the budget, some of the funds could be budgeted to support student training or travel opportunities as well as supplies. Indirect costs are not allowable as part of this award. These funds are intended to supplement the award you have received to add a student researcher to the project that would not otherwise have been supported. Awards will be made on a competitive basis.

Eligibility:

- A student enrolled at your institution with an education background appropriate to contribute to the project.
- A research mentor that is an existing member of the ICR funded research project team.
- The student applicant must be in good standing with the university/college with a minimum GPA: graduate (3.5) or undergraduate (3.0).

Applications Requirements:

- Letter of interest from the potential student researcher addressing how participating on the project will impact their academic and career goals
- Student's Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Current transcripts (unofficial transcript is acceptable)
- Description of the research project with a clear indication of the role of the student researcher (2 page max). Given that the overall research project has already undergone peer review, the key with this component of the application is to clearly highlight what aspects of the project the student researcher will contribute to. Any references cited will not be included in the page limit
- Letter of support from the mentor that includes a mentoring plan for the student researcher (2 pages max).
- Budget and Justification (1 page max)
- All required documents should be saved as a single PDF document in the order listed above.
- Text size should be Times New Roman (12 point font).
- Deadline for full consideration is November 1, 2021 by 5:00 pm MT.

**Selection Criteria:**

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by ICR Staff using the following criteria:

- Student's previous academic record and quality of letter of interest.
- Quality of the mentoring plan.
- Probability the student fellow will be able to complete the portion of the project outlined in the project description during the award period.

ICR Strategic Goals: Please find a draft of the Strategic Goals that were “cleaned up” and revised following input from the Sept. 10th Board Meeting. With approval of the Consent Agenda, the Strategic Goals will be added to the ICR Website.



1. **Conduct, Support, and Fund Innovative and Significant Cannabis Research** - Increase and expand research expertise and funding across the topical areas specified in HB19-1311.
 - a. Annual RFAs that fund and seed innovative cannabis research projects
 - b. Incentivize collaborative research and research training across CO institutions
 - c. Provide funds for competitive post-doctoral, graduate, or undergraduate training fellowships to support research
 - d. Secure Roll Forward authority for 25% of research funding

2. **Expand Funding Capacity & Reputation**
 - a. Increase annual appropriation to \$5.4 million by FY23-24 (needed to support an annual research funding competition)
 - b. Establish scientifically-significant collaborations with industry
 - c. Develop and submit federal and non-profit grant proposals that can be used as leverage with other funding sources to support collaborative work across CO institutions
 - d. Pursue opportunities for intellectual property or other sources of revenue to support ICR initiatives and mission
 - e. Research the option of educational pursuits (e.g., certificate programs) be utilized as a revenue source
 - f. Broadly distribute the ICR Annual Report to promote an understanding of the ICR and its activities
 - g. Engage the State in support of unbiased, rigorous cannabis research
 - h. Establish sustained and stronger public relations and media presence
 - i. Highlight ICR supported research as well as quality cannabis research supported by other organizations and agencies

3. **Advocate for unbiased cannabis science, research, and infrastructure at state and national levels**
 - a. Provide statutory support for cannabis education programs at Colorado institutes of higher education.
 - b. Disseminate cannabis research – e.g. through the annual ICR conference, increased engagement with other cannabis researchers nationally and internationally, and through promotion of the Journal of Cannabis Research
 - c. Establish sustained and stronger public relations and media presence
 - d. Engagement with cannabis research institutes at other institutes of higher Ed.
 - e. Engagement with local and national regulatory groups