

## MINUTES

### TELEPHONE MEETING

**University of Connecticut Board of Trustees  
Committee for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation  
Thursday, February 23, 2023**

Committee Trustees: Philip Rubin, Sandy Cloud, Jr., Marilda Gandara

Other Committee Members: Konstantine Drakonakis, Richard Vogel

University Senate Representatives: Edward Weingart

University Staff: Pamir Alpay, Abhijit Banerjee, Kimberly Fearnery, Nicole Gelston, Michael Glasgow, Amy Gorin, Victor Hesselbrock, Jeffrey McCutcheon, Isaac Moss, David Noble, Rachel Rubin, Daniel Schwartz, Julie Schwager

Vice-Chair Rubin convened the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

1. Public Participation

No members of the public signed up to address the Committee.

2. Minutes of the Meetings of December 13, 2022

On a motion by Committee Member Drakonakis, seconded by Trustee Gandara, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of December 13, 2022.

Vice Chair Rubin thanked everyone for the participation in the previous discussion regarding the formatting and agendas of future meetings, including the participation of faculty.

3. Research Updates - Pamir Alpay, Interim Vice President for Research, Innovation, & Entrepreneurship

Interim Vice President for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Pamir Alpay discussed the three current openings in the Office at the Associate Vice President level: Research Development, Research Security and Research Compliance and Integrity. Dr. Alpay introduced Julie Schwager, Associate Vice President for Research Finance, and Dr. Victor Hesselbrock, Interim Vice President for Research Integrity & Regulatory Affairs.

Associate Vice President Schwager gave a brief update on the backlog of the Institutional Review Board (IRB). Dr. Hesselbrock spoke on changes in the regulatory policies from several agencies and the need for a multi-pronged response.

4. Update on Department of Orthopedic Surgery - Isaac Moss, Professor, Gray-Gossling Endowed Chair in Orthopedic Surgery, Co-Director UConn Musculoskeletal Institute Comprehensive Spine Center

Dr. Moss discussed the successes and innovative qualities of his associated Department and Centers, and noted his nationally recognized residency program, the innovative work of his team, and issues related to the success of the surgery practice. He discussed the different labs, biomaterials, and current research and development under way, while further investment is required to move things forward.

University Senate Representative Edward Weingart asked how the Krenicki Arts and Engineering Institute could provide feedback regarding medical devices from an industrial design standpoint and the prospect of a partnership with UConn Health.

5. Update from Department of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering - Jeffrey McCutcheon, Professor, Executive Director, Connecticut Center for Applied Separations Technologies (CCAST)

Dr. McCutcheon shared his experience with a faculty affiliated spin-out company and sought to start a broader conversation around how to improve entrepreneurial activity on campus. An overview of the technology and timeline to commercial product was presented to the Committee.

Dr. Alpay stressed the importance of the research community's commitment to complying with all rules and regulations related to Federal funding along with supporting faculty in their efforts in managing compliance regulations.

Trustee Gandara noted the difficulty for large institution to manage compliance. If a cultural change at the University level is necessary, it will take time to implement.

Vice-Chair Rubin noted that the burdens of this type of the funding has grown over time in innovation and commercialization. The barriers are also everywhere in terms of faculty, funding mechanisms, and timing. There are certainly mechanisms in places with a longer history of commercialization to expedite this process.

6. Executive Session (as needed)

There was no Executive Session.

7. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

8. Adjournment

On a motion by Committee Member Rich Vogel, seconded by Trustee Gandara, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Committee adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole E. Barkley  
Secretary to the Committee