

Agenda Item II.a.

ICR Governing Board Minutes

April 23, 2025 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Meeting By Zoom: <https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/91807976090>

In Attendance: Dr. Gail Makin, Dr. Jon Reuter, Dr. Melissa Reynolds, Dr. Joanna Zeiger, Ms. Elyse Contreras, Dr. Cinnamon Bidwell, Mr. Michael Hennesy, Mr. Michael McMaster Mr. Dieter Raemdonck, (Emma and Dieter left at 1:10), Dr. John Williamson, Dr. Jeff Smith , Ms. Wendy Fairchild, Dr. Chad Kinney

Absent: Dr. Malik Hasan, Mr. Sherard Rogers, Mr. Scott McWhorter, Dr. John Harloe

Meeting Minutes:

- I. Welcome (1:00-1:02pm) Dr. Reuter
- II. Consent Agenda (1:02-1:05pm) Dr. Reuter
 - a. March 19, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes – **Correct Dr. Joanna Zeiger's name** then approve, Dr. Gail Mackin seconded – all approved minutes, motion passes.
 - b. Fundraising Subcommittee - Advancement Dinner – Event Debrief Summary
 - c. Conference Subcommittee - CRC – Mechoulam Lecture
 - d. Research Subcommittee – Important Dates and Reminders
 - e. Research Scientist – Search Update
 - f. Marketing and Communication - Executive Summary
- III. Government Relations Update (1:05-1:10pm) Emma Hudson and Dieter Raemdonck
 - Ms. Emma Hudson – Complete process of state budget – marijuana tax cash fund significantly over budgeted –money from cash fund to cover variety of areas – reduced cut from what was proposed from \$950,000 to \$725,000 -bad budget year, not for lack of support or interest in the ICR
 - Mr. Raemdonck – Dr. Reuter asked about cannabis labeling bill – was this tabled? Yes
- IV. Budget Subcommittee – FY26 Preview (1:10-1:25pm) Drs. Bidwell and Kinney
Revised Draft FY26 Draft Budget (pre-read)
 - a. Board Discussion
 - Dr. Kinney – new projects and questions
 - Previously awards continuing into next fiscal year are listed with a 6% reduction, nothing listed for editor in chief, we should receive refund from Springer Nature to pay for EiC and the new JCR sponsorship account later this fiscal year – these changes help create about \$300000 for new projects.
 - Key things to consider – offer initially accepted by new public health research has since declined, now working with second candidate – board needs to consider funding and overall budget before making a formal offer.
 - Dr. Reuter – we haven't committed yet, represents long-term funding for the next several years, and immediate future for the state budget doesn't look good – he suggests considering pausing this position.
 - Dr. Zeiger – given that hiring hasn't happened, maybe place a hold here – has concerns about a who not have a lot of research connections at the ICR and CSU Pueblo – consider not filling this position.
 - Dr. Reuter – lots of moving parts, so likes flexibility since we are on a rocky boat with our budget.

- Dr. Kinney – CSU Pueblo does not have a school of public health; but the School of Nursing is engaged in public health research including cannabis related research.
- As set of projects will conclude at the end of the next fiscal year (\$750,000), and those funds are not obligated beyond the next fiscal year - so we will have these dollars freed up.
- Dr. Bidwell – expand external funding was the idea with position, and wonders about second candidate's experience with seeking and finding funding.
- Ms. Contreras – okay with cancelling this position – her position is to provide opportunities in public health to the ICR – we aren't losing public research options as we have this in place via her position – reconsider later.
- Dr. Mackin – put search on hold until next year and reassess.
- Mike Hennessey – feels future is uncertain and may not be able to grow into roll so press pause and see what we are doing in the future.
- Dr. Kinney- It is important that a budget be adopted during the April meeting – necessary for research agreement amendments for continuing project as are notifications of award decisions for the current RFA - looking for a motion to move this forward for a vote.
- Dr. Zeiger – motions to pause hiring of new faculty and move those resources into new research projects, Mr. Hennessey seconded.
- Vote – all in favor of this motion and passes as an approved budget.
- Dr. Kinney will share the final draft with these changes reflected to the board soon.

b. Decision

V. Discussion of top Applications to ICR Funding Opportunity (1:25-1:52pm) – Dr. Kinney

a. Board driven discussion of applications

- Dr. Reuter – had difficulty with making changes/editing. Currently form not available for the Board to view.
- Dr. Kinney will have the form corrected and available on Monday and will share his screen to facilitate the discussion during the meeting.
- Ms. Contreras asks if due date will now be Monday – Dr. Kinney – deadline about 24 hours after new form released.
- Dr. Reuter – wonders about duration of grants – has concerns and wonders about other's thoughts.
- Dr. Zeiger – spread this out to more grants – small and meritorious grant apps and would like to see these funded when possible – putting all eggs in one basket may not be best idea.
- Dr. Kinney – does not think making a change is the allowable budgets now would be appropriate. Applicants responded to the guidelines that were part of the RFA
- Board discussed top applications based on scoring by the review panels. Discussed in order of the assigned application number. Board members offered insights on the merits and potential impact of the proposed projects.
- Dr. Reuter has a scoring question – fitting with mission of the ICR? How do we qualify to separate these out? Dr. Kinney says one of the first two: Impact but not mission; Mission (Adherence) can be reflected here –
- Dr. Bidwell – we can give Dr. Kinney discretion to handle the broad budget decisions.
- Dr. Kinney asks that if discussion has an impact on your scoring decision, the

form will be made available soon so you can make changes

- The form you resubmit will not contain your earlier comments – Dr. Kinney can send your original comments separately to you – he will eliminate forms if COI.

- b. Funding Strategy – distribution of available funds
 - c. Gov. Board Scoring Rubric Due end of day April 23, 2025
- VI. Annual in person board meeting planning (1:52-1:55) – Dr. Reuter
- a. Location
 - b. Dates
 - c. Agenda ideas
 - Dr. Reuter – suggests Doodle poll or similar – Dr. Kinney and Dr. Reuter will work on dates
- VII. Public Comment (1:55-2:00pm) Dr. Reuter

Agenda Item II.d.

ICR Personnel Updates:

Operations Assistant – Wendy Fairchild’s last day with the ICR is May 30, 2025. We are pleased to announce that Julie Powell has accepted the offer to fill the role vacated by Wendy. Julie’s first day with the ICR is May 20, 2025, which means that she will have almost two weeks of overlap with Wendy. We anticipate this will allow for a very smooth transition from Wendy to Julie.

Grants Manager – This position was formerly held by Mr. DuShunte Carmon, which he vacated at the end of April. A slightly revised position description was finalized the week May 12th, and we hope that the position announcement will go out in the very near future.

Agenda Item II.e.

ICR Certificate:

The 16 credit ICR Certificate of Foundational Studies in Cannabis, a collaboration of the ICR with CSU Pueblo’s Extended Studies recently received final approvals from the Colorado Commission of Higher Education as well as accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The Certificate is set to launch fall 2025.

Agenda Item II.f.

Marketing and Communication - Executive Summary

Blakely + Company

Marketing Report — April 2025

Podcasts and Guest Articles:

Kyle continued contacting cannabis industry websites to inquire about guest articles from the ICR. Do not have anything scheduled yet.

Also continued contacting podcasts to inquire about having someone from the ICR on as a guest. Do not have anything scheduled yet.

Communications:

Developed a list of cannabis regulatory agencies to which we can market the ICR's webinars.

Fundraising:

Researched Celebrity foundations or philanthropic causes — focusing on celebrities who support Alzheimer's issues; No luck connecting with anyone

Industry Connections:

Contacted Mike Hennesy about connecting the ICR to CO LEADS to see if they will distribute the ICR newsletter and what other ways the ICR can communicate with the organization.

Resource Documents:

Continued working on the first three resource documents for the website — Best Practices in Cannabis Research, Where to Source Quality Products for Research and Cannabis Degree and Certificate Programs in Colorado