

BMS Graduate Program Committee

February 22, 2017

RGE-330

2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Present: Alexander Galazyuk, Sam Crish, Lisa Cooper, Bill Lynch, Gary Meszaros and Margaret Weakland (support)

Meeting called to order.

Minutes were not ready for review/approval for our previous January meeting. Margaret was asked to send out the November 2016 meeting minutes to be commented/voted on electronically.

Discussed new cohort of students for 2017/2018; BMS Recruitment Day was held on Saturday, February 18th and it went well. NEOMED had 11 students on campus interviewing and looking at labs and an additional 4 students who were communicated to via Skype. In or around 10 days from now the Executive Committee will meet and decide upon offers; 6 offers will come from KSU funds and 3 offers from the NEOMED funds; there is a possibility of adding an additional student.

Alex discussed a recent meeting he had with administration at KSU, more specifically Melody Tankersley, Ph.D., Dean of Graduate Studies. Melody instructed her staff to contact staff at NEOMED stating all KSU students will be registered on our campus.

Discussed a bus service that can be utilized to and from the KSU and NEOMED campuses; it would contain a total of about 6 round trips per day and the cost would be \$70,000 and be split between both campuses. Alex stated, after talking with Steve Schmidt, NEOMEDs administration will discuss how the NEOMED part of the cost (about \$35,000) will be distributed between NEOMED BMS funds and NEOMED administration.

Last year KSU had enough dollars to accept 14 new students which were supported from the KSU BMS funds during year 1 of their education. This year they can accept/support only 6 students. Alex offered Kent State 3 more fully supported students during year 1 from NEOMED BMS funds. If so, total 9 students will be accepted to the BMS program during year 2017. Question from one of our committee members which Alex will ask at upcoming Executive Committee meeting, "How will the acceptance of these students be formulated." Kent State is expecting to make offers in about 10 days from now and students will be able to accept or decline 2-3 weeks after that. Alex said currently we have about \$277,000 in the BMS committee budget. KSU will likely inflate the number of students in labs.

Discussed re-election (replacement) of two BMS committee members; terms are up for two of our

current members. One of the 4 candidates, Chris Vinyard, is out of the country and will work on his letter stating his interest in serving on the committee when he returns.

Discussed the draft policy of monitoring student progress towards their degree completion. Bill will send Margaret the draft document and then it will be sent to faculty for their feedback/comments. After we get feedback the committee will review and make necessary changes. After more discussion, we decided we'd give faculty till March 31, 2017 to give us their feedback.

Miscellaneous:

Sam Crish shared with us the information he received from Sequoia Wellness regarding our BMS students having a membership. Typical enrollment fee for Sequoia is \$200, but the student rate is \$195/3 months and no enrollment fee. The student must actively renew at the end of their 3rd month otherwise his/her membership will lapse. Sam will send an email to Margaret so she can notify students of this. The cost that Ernie Freeman puts towards the KSU Rec Center for the students is \$25/30 and Ernie said he will cover that amount for the Wellness Center at NEOMED and we'll be responsible for approximately \$105/student ($\$195 - 30 \times 3 = 105$). Will need to give Sequoia a list of our BMS graduate student. Sam Crish motioned to approve and review this in a year, seconded by Lisa Cooper, all in favor, unanimous approval.

Alex stated we have a substantial amount of funds in our account and would like for the committee to share some ideas on how we can use it. Lisa Cooper stated using funds to pay for field work or learning a specific technique; these funds would be highly competitive. Also discussed was the idea of using funds to bring in a speaker. Lisa Cooper added using dollars for day-care for those students who have children. Comment was made to look back over the last couple years over some of the issues we've had come up. We don't want to fund things that should be coming out of the PI's grant.

Meeting Adjourned.