

## **Breast Cancer Research Council Meeting Minutes**

### **June 13, 2025: Council Funding Meeting**

**Members Present:** Argelia Flores, Sharon Pitteri, Bryan Goldner, Hisashi Tanaka, Lori Petitti, Christopher Clinton Conway, Erika Bell, Maura Dickler (Zoom), Salma Shariff-Marco, Thomas Jascur, Svetlana Popova,

**Members Absent:** Wendy Shurelds, Svasti Haricharan, Lesley Taylor, Barbara Perry

**Staff:** Katherine McKenzie, Lisa Minniefield, Senaida Poole, Sharima Rasanayagam

**I. Call to Order:** Erika called the council to order at 9:06 am.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** The council reviewed the minutes from the March meeting.

MOTION: Argelia moved (Bryan seconded) that the council approve the March meeting minutes with the one edit. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Cycle 31 Funding:** Katie presented the resource allocation, reviewing the available funding and how the funds are allocated. Then she reviewed the council's procedures for selecting which grants to fund. The council discussed rationales for their scoring, changed scores based on the discussion, viewed the scientific scores and made recommendations for funding. Council members also designated the Faith Fancher and Tax Check-Off awards. The group had a thorough discussion on the grants that were selected to be funded. All the grants that council approved were able to be funded.

MOTION: Lori moved (Salma seconded) to fund four Pilot and three IDEA awards that were recommended for funding. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Program Initiatives Funding:** Sharima presented the CLASP-BC Phase 2 and Local Level Needs Phase 2 grants slated for funding. The council discussed rationales for their scoring, changed scores based on the discussion, viewed the scientific scores and made recommendations for funding.

MOTION: Christopher moved (Thomas seconded) that the council fund the top five recommendations for the CLASP-BC Phase 2 grants. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Bryan moved (Argelia seconded) that the council fund one Local Level Needs Phase 2 grant. The motion passed unanimously.

**V. Vice Chair Vote:** At the March council meeting, Bryan Goldner was nominated to be the next Chair, and he accepted the nomination. He will be the new Chair of council. Lori Petitti and Lesley Taylor were nominated to be the next Vice Chair. They both accepted their nominations. Lori and Lesley submitted nomination statements, and the council voted for their choice. Lori Petitti was elected to be the next Vice Chair.

**VI. Cycle 32 Draft Call for Applications:** Katie presented a brief overview of the Call that it

is essentially the same as the Cycle 31 Call except that the program will offer the Full CRC Awards instead of the planning grants as well as proposing to add fellowship awards. Katie asked the group if there were any recommended changes.

**VII. Fellowship Proposal:** Salma presented a proposal by the ad-hoc Fellowship Committee for how the program can address research gaps created by the changes to federal research funding priorities by developing fellowship opportunities for the CBCRP Cycle 32 Call for Applications. She defined the design structure, priorities, award types, qualifications, budget, and scoring criteria for the proposed awards. The committee recommended adding Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships and Bridge Funding for Fellows.

**MOTION:** Bryan moved (Sharon seconded) to approve adding Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships and Bridge Funding for Fellows to the Cycle 32 Call for Applications. The motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Evaluation Committee:** Lori reported on the early planning of the March 2026 PI-4 Council Retreat. The meeting will guide the future of RFA/RFQs focused on environment, disparities, and population level breast cancer prevention. The committee reviewed the plan and timeline for its work. They brainstormed data and information the council will need and discussed potential presentation topics. More information to come at the fall and winter council meetings. Sen asked the council to contact them with any questions.

**IX. Director's Report:** Sharima reported on the release of the latest Policy proposal, Pesticide Regulation in California, and what can be done to make the health assessments consider breast cancer risk that the Department of Pesticides does on any pesticide that gets licensed in California. She also reported on the success of the Grantee Convening. Grantees from three PI-3 Initiatives in the topic environmental contributors in breast cancer gathered, collaborated and shared ideas and resources from their projects. She summarized the activities and takeaways from the meeting. Lastly, she briefly reported on the report to the Legislature that's due every 5 years on the money the program spent.

**X. Announcements:** none

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27pm.