

Muscle Health Research Centre (MHRC)

Executive Meeting - October 7, 2010. 10:00am - 12:00pm
Location: R342 Farquharson Building

Executive Committee members in attendance: David Hood, Rolando Ceddia, Michael Riddell, Robert Tsushima.
Absent: Mike O'Leary
MHRC Coordinator: Ayesha Saleem

Meeting Agenda:

1. Review of MHRC progress:
 - a. MHAD - May 2010
 - b. MHRC Colloquia - Fall/Winter 2010-11
 - c. Website: equipment list, faculty contacts, images, improvements (?)
 - d. Procedure for the Yearly Report, due end-August
2. Establish MHRC hiring priorities
3. Graduate students:
 - a. Diploma in "Muscle Health Research" for graduate students
 - b. MHRC Graduate seminar series
 - c. \$750/year scholarship (MSc and PhD)
4. CSEP-sponsored events (Nov 2010 for information)
5. Possible affiliation of the MHRC with the PAD initiative
6. Adjunct Appointments

Meeting Minutes:

1a. MHAD

- DH proposed to have the Executive meeting once per term, preferably before the colloquium - approved by all.
- DH: recapped progress and asked for feedback/suggestions for improvement.
- RT: re MHAD - attendance was high at beginning/lunch but people were leaving by the end. Suggested to make it short - i.e. end the MHAD with lunch instead of dinner - RC, MR agreed.
- DH reported on the associated cost versus revenue (\$10 registration) MHAD.
- MR: suggested to increase student registration to \$15 and Faculty registration to \$20 - agreed by all.
- DH: there should be no cost for speakers - agreed by all.
- All agreed MHAD was valuable and should be held again.

- DH: cutting down the day would also mean we can cut down the number of speakers from 11 - agreed by all.
- MR: suggested to have at least one KT talk.

1b. MHRC colloquia

- DH: asked the members if having 2 colloquia per year plus MHAD sufficient for MHRC.
- RT: 3 events as noted by DH are sufficient. Should keep in mind the biology/kinesiology seminar series as well.
- MR: suggested that we can have one faculty member and a few students to speak at the colloquium.
- DH: suggested to keep using 2 faculty members/colloquia until we run out of speakers.

1c. MHRC website

- MR: Paper of Month and its archives is good.
- MR: suggested to have hyperlinks to pubmed on the articles listed for the PIs.
- DH: suggested to add links to personal website/KAHS profile for all faculty members of MHAD.
- DH: reminded for members to send pics to include on the website.

1d. Yearly Report

- MR: asked if all grants held by the members need to be mentioned/made public.
- DH: suggested that the Yearly Report can be circulated to all members, without displaying grants information so that transparency is maintained. However, it is important for MHRC progress to include the grants received information in the Yearly Report submitted to the Dean.
- MR: suggested that a separate file can be sent to each member with only their grant information and/or pub list.
- DH: suggested to send pub list at beginning of July to faculty (as generated by the coordinator) and the faculty members can add/update as they see fit - agreed by all.
- RC: suggested we don't need to circulate the Yearly Report at all if it is raising privacy concerns.
- RT: yearly report is good and should be kept on file, can be used to support vivarium.
- DH: asked if we should circulate the report or post it online or send it only if members request to see it:
 - o RC: don't circulate the report, seconded by RT,
 - o MR: should have an executive report circulated, with total number of grants/pubs by all faculty members of MHRC.

2. MHRC Hiring Priorities

- RT: a cardiac/vascular research position with CRC tier II and hospital access.
- MR: an exercise immunology position, or human muscle health position (someone like Tanja Taivassalo).

- RC: have human research + molecular aspect position. Should hire someone with an established program. Would be easier if it was a CRC position.
 - o MR suggested Stu Phillips, DH suggested Marty Gibala.
- DH proposed following: human physiologist position (with established career) as first priority, cardiac physiologist as second priority, molecular immunologist as 3rd priority.
- MR: likes the human physiologist as the first priority.
- RC: immunologist will add more breadth to the program but it may not be most strategic.
- RC: have a nutrition position (or dietician to support the human side) - can also link it with others and it is something all muscle research centers have like the one at Copenhagen.
 - o Seconded by MR.
- DH: final priority list - agreed by all
 - o 1. Human muscle physiologist
 - o 2. Human nutrition/metabolism/nutritional sciences
 - o 3. Cardiac Physiologist
 - o 4. Immunologist.
- DH: will talk to Dean as to how MHRC can get a vote on hiring priorities in the faculty.
- RC: we need to get more CRCs in Faculty of Health - if they depend on number of grants received then we should have more CRCs awarded as our FofH members have been very successful in getting grants.

3a. MHRC diploma/grad - requirement, cost, value, what constitutes it

- DH: first question is whether this is a good idea. Grad student members of the MHRC can get a diploma for being members of the MHRC.
- RT: likes the idea. It is comparable to others offered by other programs/universities. Attendance at the colloquium or MHRC grad seminar series can go toward the requirement for getting the diploma.
- RC: agrees with RT. Suggested to select specific things that the student already does to constitute the requirements for the diploma.
- DH: can have intensive course as well + students can learn lab techniques.
- MR: don't want students going through lab space - would be nice to have a common student lab space in the new building where demos can be given on lab techniques.
- RC: students will not learn a technique in just one day. They may not even be interested in learning the technique that is being taught.
- DH: can revisit this idea again. Asked if he has permission to look into this further (January 2011) and circulate his findings - agreed by all to look further into a possible diploma for MHRC grad student members.

3b. Grad seminar series

- MR: like lunch-series/brown-bag series. Or get some pizza that attendees can eat as they watch someone talk.
- RT: make it mandatory and take attendance. Can count towards the MHRC diploma.

- DH: event doesn't have to be on a weekly basis.
- RC: can be a bi-weekly event.
- DH: cautioned that this would be on top of the KINE/bio seminars already in place. Suggested we could make it into a course.
- MR: it would be tricky to say that MHRC members won't go to KINE seminars but would attend the MHRC series.
- RC: suggested that we should try to do it so students in MHRC can attend only the MHRC talks and not the KINE ones .
- TR: will be good to have 2nd year MSc and 2nd year PhD students present.
- MR: suggested to keep the KINE seminar as is, and one day MHRC sponsored talks where MHRC grad members present.
- RC: lots of people don't attend the KINE talks, we should voice our opinion of it.
- DH: credit allocated to KINE seminar series should be removed. Would be good to schedule so that there can be an 'MHRC' day at the KINE seminars.
- MR: suggested that DH bring this issue up with Tara Haas - agreed by DH.

3c. Scholarship

- Only MHRC grad student members would be eligible to apply.
- Can be given to 1 MSc and 1 PhD student per year.
- MR: what will be the criteria for it? Suggested it could be given as an abstract/poster award at the MHAD. Suggested it should not be based on GPA/academics.
- DH: suggested award can be given to those who don't have any funding.
- RT: likes the idea of a poster award.
- AS: can have one award for oral, and one for poster at the MHAD.
- DH: likes poster/oral award, agrees it should not be based on academics. Award can be \$500 per recipient.
- RT/MR: like poster award idea.

4. CSEP

- DH: MHRC is sponsoring the John Holloszy seminar on Saturday, the KT symposium and providing loot for bags.
- Having a \$60 one-day registration fee for graduate student members of the MHRC.

5. PAD (Physical Activity and Diabetes) Initiative

- MR: described the PAD initiative: unit made of epidemiologists, physiologists, doing human research, counseling + medical education program.
- DH: should PAD be distinct from MHRC or should they join forces
- MR: PAD can be extended to PA and chronic diseases and then it can be associated with the MHRC.
- MR: PRE-PAID (website) associated with PAD. Are recruiting pre-diabetics for the camp. PAD itself has no space to do any exercise evaluations, therefore trying to get \$\$ from sponsors.
- www.stopdiabetes.ca → link to website on MHRC website and vice versa.

6. Adjunct Appointments

- DH: should we building adjunct members for the MHRC? Reminded that the MHRC Exec committee voted yes to get pre-existing adjunct members (Tom Hawke, Ira Jacobs) to pay and continue their membership.
- RT: MHRC must offer more in return than just potential collaborations as they can do the collaborations for free as well.
- MR: does it help with the Yearly Report i.e. does having more adjunct members looks good on the report? Then it might be advantageous to recruit more members.
- MR: at Sick Kids - adjunct members should hand in CV and letter of intent. Member perks: get a badge, name on website, can put this on CV, and get invited to attend seminars/lectures.
- DH: admin likes having a broad group, will investigate what other ORUs do.
- RT: maybe a token fee can be charged.
- DH: \$250 is a nominal fee for a faculty member.
- RC: recruit speakers at the 1st MHAD as adjunct. Agreed that fee could be a detractor, but from a political standpoint, having more members would give MHRC more clout.
- MR: suggested to distribute a newsletter and charge \$50 as administration fee.
- RT: it is a good idea to have membership in groups for personal development.
- DH: can entice labs the MHRC members are already in collaboration with, and get those PIs to become adjunct members.
- DH: asked if people think it is a good idea to increase adjunct appointments, independent of whether adjunct members should pay the membership fee - yes! (agreed by all).
- MR: should get letters of support + CV → executive committee should decide whether application gets accepted—agreed by all.
- MR: Fee should be nominal i.e. \$50.
- RT: wanted to know if student members of adjunct Faculty members would be eligible for the scholarship award. DH replied in affirmative.
- DH: will meet again to decide on fees.

Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.