

## QCB Trainer's meeting

September 29, 2023, 9am

Attending: Nikki Pohl, Ken Mackie, Charles Dann, Peter Hollenhorst, David Giedroc, Mike Van Nieuwenhze, Dan Tracey, JP Gerdt, Jared Lewis, Clay Fuqua, Marc Morais, Kay Choi

### Agenda

1. Update on fellowships and awards, May 2023 competition
  - a. New QCB Ambassadors: Morgan Nyman (Dann) & Basia Walenkiewicz (Van Nieuwenhze).
  - b. Basia represents a change to ambassadors. Individual not paid by the program but a grad student in one of the trainer labs. Trying to engage all students in Trainer labs.
  - c. We want to support more 2<sup>nd</sup> year students than 3<sup>rd</sup> year students. 2023 application are even between the two groups.
  - d. *Can we open the College matching slots to non-US students?* David will check with the NIH once renewal has been awarded.
  - e. *Should we reboot QCB recruiting since some departments are not actively recruiting?*
    - i. Jared listed covered meetings: NOBCChE, ACS, ? Still need coverage for regional meetings.
    - ii. Nikki will be at ?? next month. Requested a slide for her presentation.
    - iii. Need centralized materials. Tracy (College)
    - iv. Social media buzz needed. Ambassadors in charge of this. Which applications: Instagram and Snapchat? (Cannot use TikTok. NIH does not want federal funds associated with this application. May progress to use of TikTok will result in forfeiture of funding.) Need to post publications. Mike on point for this issue. Emma a possibility.
  - f. Reviewed composition of cohort.
    - i. Socioeconomic disadvantaged – *Maria to draft what we did for renewal. David to follow up with Dean Dalake.*
  - g. Reviewed outcomes.
    - i. Attrition a red flag for reviewers.
    - ii. Publication rates dropping.
2. May 2023 renewal information (1 page update is ready)
  - a. Kept same number of slots
  - b. Have enough slots to support 2<sup>nd</sup> year
  - c. Dropped Physics
  - d. Succession plan – Mike to replace David after renewal is awarded
  - e. Site visits? No longer happening due to budget constraints.
3. Review and recap of programmatic changes
  - a. Mandatory F31 Fellowship, or equivalent, application guidelines
    - i. In student's 3<sup>rd</sup> year
    - ii. Implement with awarded renewal
    - iii. NIGMS does not fund F31s?
    - iv. How does this impact non-US students if they can utilize College slots

- v. More about the process of applying than the award

Sample requirement wording when a trainer agrees to accept a trainee:

*Trainees supported on this T32 are required to submit an Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (F31 mechanism) or equivalent for support. This would typically occur during the second year of T32 support (typically in the third year of their graduate program). This requires a substantial investment on the part of PI.*

**Justification:** In a renewal of the T32 we are required to track this information, even if the F31 submission is not successful. In addition, an F31 or similar award would be a highly significant honor for a trainee's graduate career, and it would ensure continued support for your research free of teaching obligations until the PhD is completed. Applying for an F31 also provides an excellent early experience to learn about NIH grantsmanship. The PI, QCB Steering Committee members, or members of the academic committee will educate the trainee on the F31 mechanism. In the event that a trainee's timeline for completion of the Ph.D. does not align with this expectation, a waiver of this requirement can be requested (two years of funding is typical).

- b. Progress report meeting with SC members
    - i. Living document the trainee keeps current.
    - ii. Use this form for all NIH reporting: annual reports, renewal, NIH student termination
    - iii. Required 4<sup>th</sup> year committee meeting implemented when renewal is awarded
  - c. Annual Surveys (contact information needed). Follow students for 15 years post-graduation.
  - d. Annual update on Table 8 information – all students in your group and their funding (last column)
  - e. Liaison contacts are missing for many groups. Please confirm with Maria.
4. Upcoming Events
- a. Watanabe Symposium in Chemical Biology 9/30, Saturday
  - b. QCB Evenings (ongoing efforts to eliminate the “secret handshake” view of these events)
  - c. 2024 Retreat (preparations)
    - i. Reserved Switchyard Park to allow for a bigger audience that includes Trainers
    - ii. May go to a Friday/Saturday format
5. Citing support by the training program (T32 GM131994): Important!!!
6. Other Business
- a. Train the Trainer session coming