



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

**Oversight Committee Meeting  
February 21, 2019**

NOTE: Unless the information is confidential, the reports, presentations, and grant award information referenced in the minutes are available at <http://ocmeetings.cprit.texas.gov> in the "Oversight Committee Board Packet" section for the corresponding meeting date.

**Call to Order – Agenda Item 1**

A quorum being present, Presiding Officer Will Montgomery called the Oversight Committee to order at 10:01 a.m.

**Roll Call/Excused Absences – Agenda Item 2**

Committee Members Present

Bill Rice, M.D.  
Will Montgomery  
Mahendra Patel, M.D.  
Donald (Dee) Margo  
David Cummings, M.D.  
Angelos Angelou

Committee Members Absent

Craig Rosenfeld, M.D.

**MOTION:**

On a motion by Dr. Cummings and seconded by Mr. Angelou, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the excused absences of Dr. Rosenfeld.

**Adoption of Minutes from the November 28, 2018 Meeting – Agenda Item 3 – Tab 1**

**MOTION:**

On a motion by Dr. Cummings and seconded by Dr. Patel, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the Oversight Committee meeting of November 28, 2018, as presented.

**Public Comment – Agenda Item 4**

There were no requests to provide public comment.

**Grantee Presentation – Agenda Item 5 – Tab 2**

Dr. Willson introduced CPRIT grantee, Hashem B El-Serag, M.D., MPH, Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine and Director of the Texas Digestive Disease Center, Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. El-Serag reported on the work of the CPRIT-funded Texas Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Consortium (THCCC), a multidisciplinary research project aimed at reducing the burden of hepatocellular (HCC) in Texas. The consortium includes researchers from The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Parkland Health and Hospital System in Dallas, Baylor College of Medicine, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and The University of Texas at San Antonio. Dr. El-Serag noted the inclusion of sites across Texas is to enrich the diversity and representativeness of patients, ensuring a racially and ethnically diverse cohort. Dr. El-Serag noted that prevention of HCC is the main step to reduce death and suffering and understanding the risk factors for HCC is essential for prevention. Dr. El-Serag told the Oversight Committee members that CPRIT provided an unrivaled opportunity for research and prevention of HCC.

Following his presentation, the Oversight Committee members asked Dr. El-Serag several questions regarding the development of novel biomarkers and the impact of circadian disruption as risk factor for HCC.

### **Chief Executive Officer Report – Agenda Item 6 – Tab 3**

Mr. Roberts thanked the Higher Education Coordinating Board Commissioner for allowing CPRIT to use the Coordinating Board’s location for CPRIT’s meeting.

He introduced the new Chief Product Development Officer, Cindy WalkerPeach, and reported that with Dr. WalkerPeach’s hiring, CPRIT has filled all 35 FTE positions.

Mr. Roberts discussed the newly released *2018 CPRIT Annual Report*, explaining it was an agency-wide effort headed up by Chief Prevention and Communications Officer Dr. Becky Garcia and her communications team. He noted that the report is available through CPRIT’s new website, which went live in January.

Mr. Roberts reviewed recent legislative activity affecting CPRIT, including committee hearings for Senate Finance and House Appropriations committees. He also discussed CPRIT-specific legislation, including House Joint Resolution 12, House Bill 39 and Senate Bill 200. Mr. Roberts ended his report with an update of funds available.

Presiding Officer Montgomery recognized the Communications and IT staff for their work on CPRIT’s new website, including an “honorable mention” to IT staff member Jim Hurlbut for maintaining regular IT operations during the intense focus on preparing the new website.

### **Chief Compliance Officer Report – Agenda Item 7 – Tab 4**

Mr. Burgess presented the Compliance Report for the past quarter’s activities. He stated that the number of delinquent reports started out the quarter at a larger-than-expected delinquency rate but ended the quarter with 32 delinquent reports, just above the target goal of 28 or less reports.

Mr. Burgess reported that the Compliance Program overhauled CPRIT’s annual compliance training, splitting the training into separate webinars for each of the three program areas: Academic Research, Prevention, and Product Development. Doing so allows for a more interactive experience and focus on topics specific to each program. CPRIT will hold its first training series for 2019 on March 6 and March 7.

Following his Compliance Officer Report, Mr. Burgess certified that the review process for the Academic Research, Prevention, and Product Development Research grant awards recommended for consideration by the Oversight Committee complied with CPRIT’s statute and administrative rules.

**Chief Scientific Officer Report and Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 8 – Tab 5**

Chief Scientific Officer James Willson presented the Academic Research Program, referring members to pages 5-1 and 5-2 of the Oversight Committee board packet. Following up on a request from the Oversight Committee, he also provided an overview of CPRIT’s recruitment of outstanding cancer researchers to Texas (page 5-3 – 5-5 of the Oversight Committee board packet.)

Dr. Willson then presented the Academic Research Program award slates recommended by the CPRIT Scientific Review Council (SRC) and the Program Integration Committee (PIC) (Proposed Grant Award book, pages 12-26.) The slates include 42 awards from seven grant mechanisms totaling \$52,856,653. He noted that 19% of the awards supported childhood cancer research projects. Dr. Willson also reported that the PIC recommended to defer action until August for ten applications recommended by the SRC with overall scores of 3.0 and higher to ensure that there are enough funds for the Academic Research Program awards for 19.2 cycle.

***Cycle 19.1 Recommended Academic Research Awards***

App ID	Award Mechanism	Meeting Overall Score	Application Title	PI	PI Organization	Recommended Budget
RP190067	IIRACT	1.1	Improving T-Cell Therapy of Neuroblastoma With a Novel Cytokine Modulator: A Phase 1 Clinical Trial	Rooney, Cliona M	Baylor College of Medicine	\$1,499,252
RP190417	IIRA	1.2	Decoding the Pathogenic Roles of Noncoding Variants in Hematopoietic Malignancies	Xu, Jian	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$900,000
RP190049	IIRACT	1.2	Noninvasive Detection and Assessment of Therapy Response in Multiple Myeloma Using Whole-Body MRI	Madhuranthakam, Ananth J	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$1,189,577
RP190451	IIRA	1.3	Comprehensive Evaluation of Functional Enhancers in Breast Cancer Risk Susceptibility Loci	Hon, Gary C	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$896,892
RP190022	IIRAP	1.4	A Randomized, Controlled Trial Comparing the Immunogenicity of 2 Doses Versus 3 Doses of the 9-Valent HPV Vaccine in Males and Females 15 to 26 Years of Age	Berenson, Abbey B	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	\$1,491,473
RP190207	IIRA	1.9	Understanding the Role of FBXW7 as a Defining Driver of Uterine Carcinosarcoma	Castrillon, Diego H	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$881,433
RP190012	IIRA	1.9	Berberine in Prevention of Biochemical Recurrence	Kumar, Addanki P	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	\$900,000

RP190400	IIRACCA	1.9	Utilization of Imaging and Serum Biomarkers to Predict the Development of Cardiac Dysfunction in Childhood Cancer Survivors	Noel, Cory V	Baylor College of Medicine	\$1,192,412
RP190043	IIRA	2.0	Mitochondrial Metabolism and RNA Methylation in Cancer	Aguiar, Ricardo	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	\$900,000
RP190398	IIRA	2.0	Targeting the Mechanism of Hyperactive FOXA1 in Transcriptional Reprogramming Toward Endocrine Resistance and Metastasis in Breast Cancer	Schiff, Rachel	Baylor College of Medicine	\$899,566
RP190019	IIRA	2.0	Lymphatic Delivery of Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitors for More Effective Immunotherapy	Sevick, Eva M	The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	\$900,000
RP190278	IIRA	2.0	Investigating Brain Tumor Drug Delivery by Optical Modulation of Blood-Brain Barrier Using Plasmonic Nanobubbles	Qin, Zhenpeng	The University of Texas at Dallas	\$900,000
RP190192	IIRA	2.1	Pharmacological Targeting of the IRE1/XBP1 Pathway for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Therapy	Koong, Albert	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$900,000
RP190236	IIRA	2.1	Role of PARP-1 in Estrogen Receptor Enhancer Function and Gene Regulation Outcomes in Breast Cancers	Kraus, W. Lee	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$899,397
RP190279	IIRAP	2.2	Mechanisms of Prevention of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH)-Mediated Lung Carcinogenesis by Omega-3 Fatty Acids	Moorthy, Bhagavatula	Baylor College of Medicine	\$899,151
RP190160	IIRACT	2.2	Interleukin-15- and -21-Armored Glypican-3-Specific CAR T Cells for Patients With Hepatocellular Carcinoma	Heczey, Andras	Baylor College of Medicine	\$2,400,000
RP190107	IIRACB	2.3	Digital Pathology Analysis for Lung Cancer Patient Care	Xiao, Guanghua	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$885,185
RP190256	IIRA	2.4	Role of SIPR1 in Exercise-Induced Tumor Vascular Remodeling	Schadler, Keri	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$899,992
RP190301	IIRA	2.4	Biophysical Mechanisms of Human Microhomology-Mediated End Joining	Finkelstein, Ilya J	The University of Texas at Austin	\$900,000
RP190077	IIRA	2.4	Molecular Action of Phospho-BRD4-	Chiang, Cheng-Ming	The University of Texas	\$864,000**

			Targeting Compounds in Breast Cancer		Southwestern Medical Center	
RP190435	IIRA	2.4	Modulating Cardiomyocyte DNA Damage in Response to Genotoxic Stress	Sadek, Hesham	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$900,000
RP190295	IIRA	2.4	Targeting Hypomethylating Resistance in Myelodysplastic Syndromes	Colla, Simona	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$900,000***
RP190326	IIRA	2.4	Therapeutic Potential of T Follicular Helper Cells for Melanoma Treatment	Nurieva, Roza	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$900,000
RP190218	IIRA	2.5	Deciphering the Underlying Biology and Translational Relevance of PD-L2	Curran, Michael A	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$900,000
RP190252	IIRA	2.5	A Novel Therapy Targeting Prostate Cancer-Induced Aberrant Bone Formation	Lin, Sue-Hwa	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$900,000
RP190210	IIRAP	2.5	Improving the Quality of Smoking Cessation and Shared Decision-Making for Lung Cancer Screening: A Cluster Randomized Trial	Volk, Robert J	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$1,499,527
RP190132	IIRACCA	2.5	Multiomeric Biomarker Discovery for Therapy-Related Neurocognitive Impairment in Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia	Brown, Austin L	Baylor College of Medicine	\$1,187,006
RP190385	IIRACCA	2.6	Growth Signaling in Ewing Sarcoma	Shiio, Yuzuru	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	\$1,200,000
RP190360	IIRACT	2.6	Immunotherapeutic Targeting of SLC45A2 for Treatment of Uveal Melanoma	Yee, Cassian	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$2,399,991
RP190029	IIRA	2.7	The EZH2 Deubiquitinase ZRANB1 as a Therapeutic Target in Breast Cancer	Ma, Li	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$900,000
RP190131	IIRA	2.7	Neoadjuvant Treatment Response Monitoring of Breast Cancer With Molecular Photoacoustic Imaging	Bouchard, Richard	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$895,907
RP190235	IIRA	2.8	Role of Long Noncoding RNAs in Breast Cancer: Identification, Characterization, and Determination of Molecular Functions	Kraus, W. Lee	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$899,747



RP190002	IIRACCA	2.8	Development of a Precision Drug to Target STAG2 (SA2)–Mutant Ewing Sarcoma	Pati, Debananda	Baylor College of Medicine	\$1,189,218
RP190233	IIRACCA	2.8	Improving Safety and Efficacy of Amino Acid Depletion Therapy for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Using Translatable Nanotechnology	Lux, Jacques	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$1,200,000
RP190454	IIRA	2.9	Characterization of CTCF-Mediated 3D Genome Organization and Transcriptional Regulation in Metastatic Prostate Cancer	Mani, Ram S	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$900,000
RP190211	IIRA	2.9	Assessments of Tumor Perfusion With Dynamic Contrast–Enhanced Multispectral Optoacoustic Tomography	Pagel, Mark D	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$886,927

An Oversight Committee Member noted that only one award in this cycle targets liver cancer. Dr. Willson updated the members on CPRIT’s *Collaborative Action Program to Reduce Liver Cancer Mortality in Texas* RFAs that closed January 30. He explained that in May the review panels will evaluate the applications submitted in response to these targeted RFAs and he will bring recommended awards to the Oversight Committee in August.

***Recommended Recruitment Awards***

Rank	App ID	Candidate	Mechanism	Organization	Budget	Overall Score
1	RR190023	Uri Ben-David, Ph.D.	Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure Track Faculty Members	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$2,000,000	1.0
2	RR190025	Julian West, Ph.D.	Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure Track Faculty Members	Rice University	\$2,000,000	1.6
3	RR190020	Sangeetha Reddy, M.D.	Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure Track Faculty Members	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$2,000,000	2.0
4	RR190027	Joshi Alumkal, M.D.	Recruitment of Rising Stars	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$4,000,000	2.0
5	RR190029	Ravikanth Maddipati, M.D.	Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure Track Faculty Members	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	\$2,000,000	2.2
6	RR190021	Di Zhao, Ph.D.	Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure Track Faculty Members	The University of Texas M. D.	\$2,000,000	2.8

				Anderson Cancer Center		
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Compliance Certification and Conflict of Interest Notification

Presiding Officer Montgomery reminded members that Mr. Burgess had certified the proposed Academic Research Program award slates. He noted that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict of interest with any applications under consideration.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Angelou and seconded by Mr. Margo the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the PIC’s recommendations for the following Academic Research Program grant award slates:

- Recruitment of First-Time, Tenure-Track Faculty Members
- Recruitment of Rising Stars
- Recruitment of Established Investigators
- Individual Investigator Research Awards
- Individual Investigator Research Awards for Cancer in Children and Adolescents
- Individual Investigator Research Awards for Clinical Translation
- Individual Investigator Research Awards for Computational Biology
- Individual Investigator Research Awards for Prevention and Early Detection

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT’s CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

**Chief Prevention and Communications Officer Report and Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 9 – Tab 6**

Chief Prevention and Communications Officer Becky Garcia updated members on the Prevention Program activities and presented the seven Prevention Program projects, representing three grant mechanisms, recommended by the Prevention Review Council and PIC totaling \$12,328,462. Dr. Garcia reported that all the recommended applications address one or more of the Prevention Program priorities.

**Cycle 19.1 Recommended Prevention Program Awards**

App. ID	Mech	Application Title	PD	Organization	Score	Rank Order	Budget
PP190009	TCL	Expanding Tobacco Use in Northeast Texas	Prokhorov, Alexander V	The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	2.1	1	\$1,499,956
PP190027	TCL	Engaging Oral health Providers for Evidence-Based Tobacco Cessation	Jones, Daniel L	Texas A&M University System Health Science Center	2.7	2	\$1,499,871
PP190004	EPS	Partnering with schools and clinics to expand a highly successful HPV vaccination program for 9 - 17-year-olds from Medically Underserved Areas	Berenson, Abbey B	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	1.5	3	\$2,499,411
PP190021	EPS	Access to Breast and Cervical Care For West Texas (ABC24WT)	Layeequr Rahman, Rakhshanda	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	1.6	4	\$2,430,998
PP190023	EPS	School-based Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Program in the Rio Grande Valley: Continuation and Expansion to Hidalgo County	Rodriguez, Ana M	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	1.9	5	\$1,969,731
PP190014	EPS	Expansion of cervical cancer prevention services to medically underserved populations through patient outreach, navigation & provider training/telementoring	Schmeler, Kathleen M	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	2.6	6	\$2,128,529
PP190041	DI	Adolescent Vaccination Program: Online Decision Support for Adoption of Evidence-Based HPV Vaccination Strategies by Texas Pediatric Clinics	Shegog, Ross	The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	2.0	7	\$299,966

EBP: Evidence-Based Cancer Prevention Services

EPS: Expansion of Cancer Prevention Services to Rural and Medically Underserved Populations

TCL: Tobacco Control and Lung Cancer Screening

DI: Dissemination of CPRIT-Funded Cancer Control Interventions

An Oversight Committee member asked about the success reported by Dr. Berenson’s previous project. Dr. Garcia attributed the high completion rate for the HPV vaccination series to several factors including that patients are seen in a system of clinics that implemented standing orders as well as intensive patient follow-up efforts.

An Oversight Committee member asked for data relating to cancer precursors and cancers detected resulting from Dr. Rahman’s project. Dr. Garcia indicated that she did not have the information immediately accessible but would follow up after the meeting. [Dr. Garcia provided the following information to the member after the meeting: In the first year of the project (September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2018), 1,736 women received breast screening and diagnostic services and 334 women received cervical screening and diagnostic services. During this year, the screening and diagnostic services detected 12 breast cancers, one cervical cancer and 23 cases of cervical cancer dysplasia.]



## Compliance Certification and Conflict of Interest Notification

Presiding Officer Montgomery reminded members that Mr. Burgess had certified the proposed Prevention Program award slates. He noted that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict of interest with any applications under consideration.

### **MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the PIC's recommendations for the following Prevention Program award slates:

- Tobacco Control and Lung Cancer Screening
- Expansion of Cancer Prevention Services to Rural and Medically Underserved Populations
- Dissemination of CPRIT-Funded Cancer Control Interventions.

### **MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT's CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

## Proposed Plan for RFAs for FY 2020 Cycle 1

Dr. Garcia presented the FY 2020 Cycle 1 RFA release schedule and timeline (page 7-2 in the Oversight Committee board packet) for consideration. The proposed RFAs in the schedule include Evidence-Based Cancer Prevention Services, Expansion of Cancer Prevention Services to Rural and Medically Underserved Populations, Tobacco Control and Lung Cancer Screening, and Dissemination of CPRIT-Funded Cancer Control Interventions.

### **MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the Prevention Program's plan for proposed RFAs for the first cycle of FY 2020.

## Communications Report

Dr. Garcia reported that CPRIT received three proposals for the 2020 CPRIT conference venue. She also introduced a video of CPRIT highlights from 2018.

## **Chief Product Development Officer Report – Agenda Item 10 – Tab 7**

Interim Chief Product Development Research Officer Kristen Doyle provided an overview of the Product Development Research Program activities and the grant award recommendations for FY 2019 Cycle 1 (19.1). She referred members to her memo included in the Oversight Committee board packet at Tab 7.

In her presentation of the five award recommendations from the 19.1 review cycle, Ms. Doyle noted that three companies recommended for awards, Allterum Therapeutics, Icell Kealex Therapeutics, and Cell Medica, must address specific IP issues prior to executing award contracts. Ms. Doyle also

reported that the Product Development Review Council has not taken final action on two companies that underwent due diligence in the 19.1 review cycle while the companies provide more information.

***Cycle 19.1 Recommended Product Development Program Awards***

Rank	App ID	Mech.	Company Name	Project	Maximum Budget	Overall Score
1	DP190027	RELCO	Hummingbird Bioscience Pte. Ltd	A First-in-Class Anti-VISTA Monoclonal Antibody for the Treatment of MDSC-Mediated Suppression of Antitumor Immunity in Solid Tumors and Lymphomas	\$13,116,095	2.0
2	DP190025	SEED	Allterum Therapeutics, LLC	Preclinical Development of a Novel T-ALL Therapeutic Antibody	\$2,912,313	2.2
3	DP190020	SEED	Icell Kealex Therapeutics, LLC	Development of a Novel Oncolytic Vaccinia Virus Varian Suitable for Systemic Delivery	\$3,000,000	2.5
4	DP190021	TXCO	Cell Medica	Off-the-Shelf CAR-NKT Cells for Treatment of Solid and Hematological Malignancy	\$8,742,509	3.1
5	DP190018	RELCO	Instapath Inc.	Rapid Pathology Evaluation System for Biopsies	\$3,000,000	2.2
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$30,770,917</b>	

RELCO: Relocation Company Product Development Research Award  
 TXCO: Texas Company Product Development Research Award  
 SEED: Seed Awards for Product Development Research

**Compliance Certification and Conflict of Interest Notification**

Presiding Officer Montgomery reminded members that Mr. Burgess had certified the proposed Product Development award slates. He noted that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict of interest with any applications under consideration.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Angelou and seconded by Mr. Margo, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the five PIC recommendations for the following grant award slates:

- Texas Company Product Development Research Awards
- Company Relocation Product Development Research Awards
- Seed Awards for Product Development Research

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT’s CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Dr. Rice and seconded by Mr. Margo, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted pursuant to the General Appropriations Act, Article IX, Section 4.03(a) to authorize CPRIT to disburse grant funds via advance payments to DP190027, DP190025, DP190020, DP190021, and DP190018 upon execution of the award contracts and the successful completion of tranches.

Following the vote to approve the award recommendations, Ms. Doyle presented the proposed FY 2020 RFAs, which include the Texas Company, Relocation Company and Seed Company Awards for Product Development Research.

**MOTION:**

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the proposed fiscal year 2020 Cycle 1 RFAs and timeline as recommended by Ms. Doyle.

**Advisory Committee on Childhood Cancer Annual Report – Agenda Item 11 – Tab 8**

Dr. Willson introduced Dr. Stephen Skapek, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Childhood Cancer (ACCC). Dr. Skapek is Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Division of Hematology/Oncology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Dr. Skapek presented the ACCC FY 2018 annual report and recommendations to the Oversight Committee (Tab 8 in the Oversight Committee board packet) and provided an overview of the ACCC's mission and member representation. He discussed the success of CPRIT's commitment to childhood cancers, as evidenced by the funding of 152 research projects focused on childhood cancer with grant funding exceeding \$250 million dollars, representing approximately 12% of the total CPRIT funding. Dr. Skapek highlighted notable examples in the past year that included projects focused on childhood brain tumors, leukemia, and bone and soft tissue sarcomas, all diseases for which a better understanding of the disease biology can lead to breakthroughs in the clinic. He noted that CPRIT awarded grants to institutions across the state. Additionally, Dr. Skapek noted that in 2018 CPRIT's recruitment awards brought two new pediatric researchers to Texas, Dr. John Powers (The University of Texas at Austin) and Dr. Kenneth Chen (The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center). Dr. Skapek applauded CPRIT for supporting childhood cancer research which continues to position Texas to lead the nation.

**Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committee Appointments – Agenda Item 12 – Tab 9**

Mr. Roberts presented his ten new appointments to CPRIT's Scientific Research and Prevention Programs Committees. Mr. Roberts noted that CPRIT included the appointees' bio sketches in the meeting materials and explained that the Nominations Subcommittee recommended that the Oversight Committee vote to approve the appointments.

**MOTION:**

On a motion by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the new Scientific Research Program Committee appointments.

**University Advisory Committee Appointments - Agenda Item 13 – Tab 10**

Mr. Roberts informed members that Southern Methodist University appointed Dr. Steven Currall to the University Advisory Committee.

## **Internal Auditor Report – Agenda Item 14 – Tab 11**

Presiding Officer Montgomery recognized CPRIT’s internal auditor, Alyssa Martin with Weaver and Tidwell. Ms. Martin presented the internal audit reports on state reporting and budget and planning as well as the State Auditor’s Office (SAO) follow-up report on performance measures. She reported there were no findings from the budget and planning internal audit and two findings from the state reporting audit. In addition, Weaver concluded that all three findings from the SAO’s 2017 Audit Report on Performance Measures were fully remediated.

Ms. Martin noted that the audit team will proceed with performing field work and testing for the four follow-up audits with open findings (Information Security, Communications, Post-Award Grant Monitoring and Procurement and P-Cards) in March and April and report on progress at the next committee meeting. She directed the committee’s attention to the Internal Audit Tracking Schedule on page 11-3 of the Oversight Committee board packet and noted that there has been great progress in closing findings by CPRIT staff.

### **MOTION:**

On a motion by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the Internal Audits and Follow-Up Report.

## **Amendments to 25 T.A.C. Chapters 703 – Agenda Item 15 – Tab 12**

CPRIT Staff Attorney Cameron Eckel presented the final order approving amendments to Chapter 703 that the Oversight Committee provisionally approved at the November meeting. Ms. Eckel also presented proposed changes to the agency’s administrative rules in Chapter 703 for publication in the *Texas Register*. She noted that the Oversight Committee will consider the proposed changes for final approval in May.

### **MOTION:**

On a motion by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Patel, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the final orders adopting rules changes to the Texas Administrative Code Chapters 703.

### **MOTION:**

On a motion by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Patel, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the publication of the proposed changes to the Texas Administrative Code Chapter 703 in the *Texas Register*.

## **Chief Operating Officer Report – Agenda Item 16 – Tab 13**

Chief Operating Officer Heidi McConnell directed members to tab 13 in the Oversight Committee board packet and presented her report.

## **Subcommittee Business – Agenda Item 17**

Presiding Officer Montgomery informed members that he resigned as a member of the Audit Subcommittee via a letter to the Presiding Vice Chair Margo. He noted that the Oversight Committee voted to appoint Dr. David Cummings to the Audit Subcommittee in November.

**Compliance Investigation Pursuant to Health & Safety Code 102.2631 – Agenda Item 18  
Consultation with General Counsel – Agenda Item 19**

Presiding Officer Montgomery announced the committee would go into closed session pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act Section 551.071 and Texas Health and Safety Code Section 102.2631 to discuss an ongoing compliance investigation and to receive advice from counsel.

Closed session at 12:28 pm.

Reconvened in open session at 12:58 pm.

**Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Agenda Item 20**

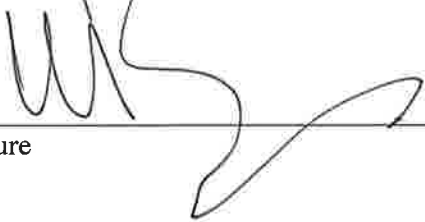
The Oversight Committee will meet Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**Adjourn – Agenda Item 21**

**MOTION:**

There being no further business, the Oversight Committee unanimously approved Presiding Officer Montgomery's motion to adjourn that was seconded Mr. Angelou.

Meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.



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Signature

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Date