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June 30th, 2014

Dear Dr. Cupples,

For your consideration, please accept our attached proposal for the formation of the Centre for Cell Biology, Development, and Disease (C2D2).

C2D2 is a collaborative endeavour established within the Faculty of Science that includes the Departments of Biological Science, Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, Chemistry, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, and Physics. The proposed Centre is geared towards establishing greater cohesion and visibility for researchers whose focus is on cell and developmental mechanisms of human, animal, and plant diseases. The research interests of the Centre perfectly complement those of other SFU scientists in the area of bioinformatics, genetics, genomics, and biochemistry. Furthermore, C2D2 aligns with and promotes one of the central pillars of the SFU Strategic Research Plan: Health and Biomedical Sciences. C2D2 also strives to capture the SFU motto of

by focusing on student research opportunities, research collaborations, and ultimately outreach to the greater research and lay communities in the Lower Mainland.


With your approval, C2D2 will initially be co-directed by Michel Leroux, PhD, Professor in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry and myself.

Please feel free to contact us for any further information.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Silverman



Michel Leroux

Charter

The Centre for Cell Biology, Development, and Disease

A collaborative venture established within the Faculty of Science including the Departments of Biological Science, Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, Chemistry, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, and Physics

June, 2014

1. Purpose

1.1 The Centre for Cell Biology, Development, and Disease (C2D2) is an interdisciplinary research unit, whose goal is to promote cell and developmental biology research and education as it relates to health and disease. Our members are broadly interdisciplinary with research areas including cell and developmental biology of plants and animals, host-pathogen interactions, microbiology, molecular physiology, neurobiology, and toxicology.

1.2 The institute is affiliated with the Faculty of Science at Simon Fraser University and conducts its activities in such a way as to enhance the reputation and the programs of the Faculty and University.

1.3 C2D2 has four major functions:

1) Foster interactions and collaborations:

The primary goal is to foster interactions among its members to enhance the intellectual climate of the University to the benefit of faculty, trainees, and other associated members. This will be achieved by facilitating collaborative research projects, joint grant applications, co-supervision of trainees, an active seminar series, and an up-to-date web page with C2D2 events and member accomplishments.

2) Help coordinate acquisition of infrastructure:

With the recent shift in federal funding to support large, multi-user facilities and/or projects, it is to the advantage of individual PIs to coordinate the submission of applications for major research infrastructure. C2D2 will actively pursue new opportunities to benefit its research.

3) Provide a focus and support for faculty hiring in cell and developmental biology.

4) Create and support educational opportunities at the undergraduate and graduate level:

C2D2 will create educational opportunities including, but not limited to an active seminar series, hosting an annual research day for members and trainees, and coordinating courses at all levels to facilitate optimal offerings.

2. Governance

2.1 C2D2 is constituted as a research Centre at Simon Fraser University under the terms of SFU Policy R 40.01, comes under the direct authority of the Dean of Science and conducts its affairs in accordance with all other University policies. The term of the Centre is five years as per SFU Policy R 40.01.

2.2 In accordance with University requirements, an annual report on the Centre's activities and financial status from April 1 to March 31, including the current membership of the Centre will be submitted to the Dean of Science by June 30th of each year.

2.3 Membership will include individuals who identify with research themes of C2D2. Candidate members will be asked to submit a brief cover letter to the Centre director(s) describing their research and interest in joining the Centre. This will be reviewed by the directors(s) and voted on by C2D2 members.

2.4 The director of the Centre is an SFU faculty member elected by C2D2 and appointed by the Dean of Science. The Dean's office will send out a call for nominations to C2D2 members and then run the election/ratification. To maintain continuity among the directorship, upon formation C2D2 will have two co-directors serving three- and four-year

3. Funding:

3.1 C2D2's formation does not require any financial support. However, maintaining an active Centre will require funds to support seminar speakers and research days, for example, and we anticipate that C2D2 will apply for funds for such events through the participating Departments, the Dean of Science, the University, and potentially corporate sponsors.

4. Charter membership list

Biological Sciences

Sherryl Bisgrove
Julian Guttman
Harald Hutter
Allison Kermode
Carl Lowenberger
Margo Moore
Zamir Punja
Gordon Rintoul
Michael Silverman

Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology

Charles Krieger
Damon Poburko
Peter Ruben
Glen Tibbits
Amandio Vieira

Chemistry

Bingyun Sun
David Vocadlo

Physics

Nancy Forde

Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Christopher Beh
Jonathon Choy
Sharon Gorski
Nick Harden
Nancy Hawkins
Michel Leroux
Lynne Quarmby
Esther Verheyen