Purdue Center for Cancer Research (PCCR) Membership Guidelines

Membership Description

Full members* will meet at least two of the following criteria:

- Principal or co-investigator (% effort) on peer reviewed, cancer-related grants from external agencies
- Collaborative within the Center and contributes scientific value to current cancer-related projects
- Investigators performing cancer-relevant research and active in the process of seeking cancer-related funding from external agencies
- Investigators with a history of cancer-related publications within the last two years
- Value-added collaborative complement to cancer-related research such as, but not limited to: pathology, radiology, comparative oncology, cheminformatics, bioinformatics, biostatistics, and behavioral/psychosocial.

Associate Members* will meet one of the following criteria:

- Potential for collaborative, cancer-related research
- Potential for developing cancer-related research activity and can apply their research to generate cancer-related publications and grant submissions.
- Current faculty or retired/senior faculty (i.e. Emeritus) who contribute to the overall mission of the Center and are active participants in PCCR activities. These faculty retain interest and participation in PCCR activities.

External Affiliate Members*

Engaged in cancer-related research as documented by a strong record of peer-reviewed publications of direct relevance to cancer in direct collaboration with a full member. This membership will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will include those at other NCI-designated cancer centers. If the evidence of strong collaboration dissipates, then the membership of the candidate will be evaluated.

*All membership categories require academic appointments (Research (must demonstrate independent research), Clinical, or Tenure Track) at Purdue University or from a member at an NCI-designated Cancer Center.

Application Process

Consideration for membership in the Purdue Center for Cancer Research can be initiated by nomination of a Full member, department head or by recommendation from the appropriate Center Program Leader. Individuals applying for full membership should submit an application form, available from Center Administration or the Cancer Center Website, to the Managing Director. The application should include:

1. the nominated letter of support
2. a statement describing the scope and relevance of the individual's cancer-related research
3. proposed affiliation with one of the Purdue Center for Cancer Research programs
4. a current NIH biographical sketch with current/recent completed grant support

The application will be reviewed by a Program Leader and/or Co-leader and the program leadership will meet with the applicant. The Program leadership will provide a recommendation including justification of fit into the respective program and the Center to the executive committee for the applicant. Final vote for membership will be proposed to the executive committee by the Center Director.
Responsibilities of All Members

There is significant reporting associated with the CCSG grant; therefore, program leaders, senior leaders and administration will periodically ask for information related to your research direction, grants, shared resource use and publications. Our effectiveness and continued designation as an NCI-designated cancer center is measured by the research successes of its members; the productivity and value-added research support of our core facilities; and inter-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary collaborations among our members. Active participation in center events and symposia are expected as they are great ways to promote new collaboration, a key element of an NCI-designated Cancer Center.

Committees within the Center are appointed by members of the executive committee, for example the internal pilot grant committee. Other ad hoc committees may be formed for certain purposes and program leaders or senior leaders may call upon members to participate.

Membership Privileges

Full Members
- Center supported rates when using PCCR Shared Resources
- Access to PCCR internal peer reviewed funding mechanisms
- Committee service privileges

Associate Member
- Access to PCCR internal peer reviewed funding mechanisms
- Committee service privileges

External Affiliate Member
- Committee service privileges

Membership Review

Center Members will be reviewed every two (2) years by the Executive Committee. Full members will be expected to meet PCCR membership criteria for their respective membership category, as evidenced by continued productivity in cancer-related research (peer-reviewed publications; currently active, cancer-related peer reviewed grants; training activities in cancer; national and community service including study sections, consultation to NCI etc.) and service to the PCCR (administrative contributions; PCCR committees, in house peer-review activities; community/educational activities). At the discretion of the Executive Committee and Center Director, previously funded and productive investigators with cancer-focused research programs, who no longer have external funding but remain productive and are seeking support, may be retained as full members. Full members may be placed in associate member status by the executive committee at any time. A letter of change in membership status will communicated to the member by the director's office.

Associate members will be evaluated every two (2) years for their participation, contribution to the Center and interest in cancer-related research. Associate members can be promoted to full members, on an ad-hoc basis, prior to the two-year review.

Affiliate members will be evaluated every one (1) year. If the evidence of strong collaboration dissipates, then the membership of the candidate will be evaluated immediately.

Those members who do not qualify as an affiliate and have left the University or those members whose activities no longer meet the requirements for membership of the PCCR will have their membership terminated.

If any member is not participating in the Center on a variety of levels (i.e. responsiveness to program leaders, participation and research collaboration) as determined by the executive committee, a letter is issued to the member by the director's office stating that their membership is under review. There will be a 12-month probationary period. At the end of that period, a follow-up review will occur utilizing the same guidelines and a determination of continued membership will be made and communicated to the member.