Fairview University Research Oversight Committee (FUROC)

February 3, 2016  Meeting Summary

Attendees:  Brooks Jackson (co-chair), Beth Thomas (co-chair), Debra Cathcart, Daniel Weisdorf, Brian Herman, Jill Cordes, Levi Downs.

The meeting began with introductions, a review of the minutes and a review of the purpose of FUROC for new members.  The group reviewed a draft charter. That document will be revised and brought back to the next meeting. The members also decided to meet every other month.

Overall, the purpose of FUROC is to provide a place for review of research issues/challenges and to work to ensure that the research performed at Fairview and M Health is meeting clinical and regulatory standards, and to improve communication between the researchers and clinical staff. The group also discussed the possibility of more proactive communication about research at Fairview and M Health. The goal is a robust, ethical, collaborative clinical research enterprise.

The members discussed the reports that Fairview/M Health currently receives about research done at Fairview facilities by FV, M Health and UM personnel. Currently Fairview/M Health receives a quarterly report. It was suggested that it would be helpful to also share PAR reports, CTSI monitoring reports, and reports from the new Research Compliance Office. The group also discussed that with implementation of the electronic IRB, reporting will be easier and OVPR will have better ability to provide information particularly about Fairview sites, and particularly about high-risk research. OVPR will also share the twice a year OIC report with Fairview Research and M Health Research leadership.

The group going forward will discuss information from those reports, as well as issues brought to members attention.

The second major priority is developing policies to be more inclusive of clinical staff in research and to enhance communication and training. A small group will consult with faculty and staff and present a proposal at the next meeting.

For transparency, the group’s meeting summaries will be posted on the Advance HRP website: research.umn.edu/advancehrp. Questions can also be submitted through that sites email address: advancehrp@umn.edu.