

SEAMO POLICY

**Subject: Strategic Research Development Fund
Terms of Reference**

Number: 10-03-A

Approved by: SEAMO Governing Committee

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1. Background

SEAMO has established as an academic priority the significant expansion of its clinical research enterprise. By their endorsement of the Report and Recommendations of the 2010 Task Group on Allocation System Review, SEAMO Governors created a Strategic Research Development Fund to finance the pursuit of this objective through investment in new clinician scientist positions. The budget of the fund is \$1.8M in fiscal year 2011 and \$3.6M per annum thereafter.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the Strategic Research Development Fund (SRDF) is to expand the clinician scientist research capacity of SEAMO. To achieve these objectives, the SRDF will support the following initiatives:

- i. New Clinician Scientist Program (NCSP)
- ii. Clinician Scientist Development Program (CSDP)

i. New Clinician Scientist Program Guidelines

- a. The purpose of the NCSP is to establish new clinician scientist positions that will be filled primarily by external recruitment.
- b. The budget of the NCSP will be \$3.6M per annum and the program will be implemented in fiscal year 2012.
- c. The awarding of NCSP funding to departments will be governed by a competitive, peer-review process to which all departments will have equal access.
- d. The performance of the NCSP will be measured against a set of specific research metrics.

ii. Clinician Scientist Development Program Guidelines

- a. The purposes of the CSDP are to develop new clinician scientists within the current pool of SEAMO physicians and to enhance the productivity of active SEAMO clinician scientists.
- b. The CSDP will have a one-time-only budget of \$1.8M and the program will be implemented in fiscal year 2011.
- c. The awarding of CSDP funding to departments will be governed by a competitive, peer-review process to which all departments will have equal access.
- d. The performance of the CSDP will be measured against a set of specific research metrics.

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3. Administration and Accountability

- i. The Strategic Priorities and Recruitment Committee, a committee of SEAMO Governors, will have responsibility, authority and accountability for the management of the SRDF and the programs it supports.
- ii. The Clinician Scientist Program Committee, an advisory subcommittee of the Strategic Priorities and Recruitment Committee, will be delegated the responsibility for managing the NCSP and CSDP application processes and making recommendations regarding candidate funding.

4. Desired Outcomes

As SEAMO's objective is to stimulate the growth of clinician scientist research, the success of the SRDF will be determined by the extent to which the programs it supports lead to increases in the following metrics:

- i. Number of operating grants from major external peer-reviewed agencies held by SEAMO physicians as Principal Investigators.
- ii. Total operating research funding from major external peer-reviewed agencies generated by SEAMO physicians as Principal Investigators.
- iii. Number of SEAMO physicians holding operating grants as Principal Investigators from major external peer-reviewed agencies.
- iv. Number of SEAMO physicians leading sustained independent or collaborative research programs.