



Nominations for Faculty Navigator Now Being Accepted

Washington University is committed to supporting faculty efforts to pursue entrepreneurial activities including creating start-up companies, participating in SBIR/STTR projects and working with industry partners. Holden Thorp and Jenny Lodge appointed Ralph Quatrano as chair of a faculty committee to assess opportunities for enhancing and clarifying University practices in such situations. One of the committee's recommendations is to implement a Navigator function to provide advice to faculty on how a faculty start-up company can effectively collaborate with the university. A second important recommendation is the formation of a standing Faculty Entrepreneurial Committee to advise Dr. Thorp and Dr. Lodge on new matters affecting start-up company engagement with the university. The Navigator will report regularly to this committee.

Dr. Lodge is now accepting nominations for two Navigator Positions:

- 1 Danforth Faculty member supported with one month of summer salary
- 1 Medical School faculty member supported with 10% of salary

The role of the Navigator is described below. Please submit nominations for these roles to [Aleatha Harris](#) in Dr. Lodge's office. Please include a CV for self-nominations. If you have questions about the position, please contact [Melanie Roewe](#).

NAVIGATOR DESCRIPTION

The Navigator function will advise faculty and small businesses on university policies and administrative requirements when collaborations between WU and the SBC are envisioned. These collaborations may occur through the SBIR/STTR mechanism, through unfunded research collaborations, or through research that is funded directly by the SBC. These collaborations can present a variety of challenging issues including conflicts of interest, conflicts of commitment, protection of human subjects, appropriate use of university resources, appropriate stewardship of funds, and others.

Additionally, the Navigator will identify the university offices that should be involved and engage those offices in discussions with the SBC and faculty to facilitate the collaboration. Offices that the Navigator may seek consultation from include:

- Research Ethics and Compliance Office including conflicts of interest
- Human Research Protections Office
- Joint Research Office of Contracts
- HIPAA Privacy Office
- Office of Technology Management
- Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
- Office of General Counsel

Successful Navigator candidates will have:

- Experience in proposing and managing federal grants and industry contracts
- Familiarity with the University research processes for grants management, compliance and administration
- Demonstrated mentoring skills