CORPORATE RESEARCH AT DUKE

Ross McKinney, Jr, MD – Duke University
Data from 2011

- Duke University had $215M in corporate research
- Next largest university: MIT $110M
- Total research budget ~$1B
- 75% of corporate research through the DCRI for clinical trials
- $7.5M was total corporate research outside the School of Medicine (<1% of the total research budget)
Duke Clinical Research Institute

- An academic contract research organization
- 1,100 employees, 200 faculty (most part-time)
- Founded in 1969
- Challenges:
  - Academic, but works on corporate projects
  - Requirement that DCRI holds, and can analyze and publish from, a complete data set
  - Main lures are experienced faculty and an independent perspective
Issues

- Institutional Conflict of Interest
- Right to publish
- Right of first refusal on new IP
- 30 day review
- Faculty as trial PI – may be independent consulting
  - Creates limits in Duke role
  - Can compete with DCRI in its mission
Conflict of Interest

- Does the relationship create bias
- Might the relationship be perceived (or in fact) put human subjects at risk
- Is the research being done consistent with the university mission
- Are there concerns for personal or corporate inurement
Within those bounds

- Encourage faculty-industry interaction
- Encourage corporate research
- Provide clear boundaries for the faculty
  - Reporting at $5K
  - Limitations of PI-ship at $25K or any options/private equity