

**MINUTES OF THE  
MARYLAND STEM CELL RESEARCH COMMISSION  
Monday, June 25, 2012  
Teleconference, 12:30 PM**

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**No Action Items**

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**Members in attendance:**

Brenda Crabbs  
Margaret Conn Himelfarb, Chair  
Marye Kellermann  
David Mosser  
Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg  
Linda Powers  
Avram Reisner  
Noel Rose  
Ira Schwartz  
Curt Van Tassell  
Bowen Weisheit  
Kevin Fitzgerald

**Others in Attendance:**

Dan Gincel, TEDCO  
Sabrina Barksdale

**The Commission meeting was called to order at 12:35 PM**

**I. Approval of Minutes**

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the May 7, 2012 meeting. There was an amendment request to add Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg's name to the list of attendees at the May meeting as her detailed notes on the grants reviewed were referenced throughout the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Management Report**

Director Dan Gincel welcomed and introduced new Commission member, Dr. David Mosser, appointed by the University System of Maryland (Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics, University of Maryland, College Park).

Dan Gincel presented the Administrative Report, which focused on the following items:

**A. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual MSCR Symposium Update**

- The 2012 MSCR Symposium will be held October 4 and 5, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, in Annapolis Maryland.
- Dan is currently recruiting and soliciting sponsorships for the two-day event.
- The Agenda draft is currently in development.

- Several representatives from the USM, KKI, and JHU have agreed to serve on the Scientific Committee to assist with the scientific presentations. The symposium will include an opening reception, a keynote address, speakers, scientific talks, ethics discussions, poster presentations, an exhibitor showcase, and interactive workshops.
- The registration Web site is currently under construction.
- The post card and Web invitations are in production and will be distributed to promote the event.

**B. FY2012 Grant Awards**

The TEDCO Board approved the 40 awards recommended for funding by the Commission (9 Investigator Initiated, 17 Exploratory, and 14 Post-doctoral Fellowship). All FY2012 grant agreements will be signed by June 30, 2012 and the funds will be committed. The disbursement of funds for each grant agreement will be executed once the required compliance documentation has been submitted.

**C. International Bio Meetings**

Dan Gincel provided a brief report on the Annual International Biotechnology Convention that he attended in Boston on June 18 -21 on behalf of the Fund and the Commission.

**III. Discussion of RFAs for FY2012**

Dan Gincel opened the discussion by providing a brief overview of the current funding mechanisms and recommended to retain the existing RFA's, the current funding amounts, and term durations for all three programs. After a brief discussion, there was consensus to retain the current funding amounts and term durations. Margaret Conn Himelfarb, Chair, and Dan Gincel will review each RFA and will present any suggestions or minor language modifications at the next Commission meeting for final approval.

**IV. Closing the Meeting to the Public**

**Statement for Closing the Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded that the Commission go in to a closed session. The motion stated the following:

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION**

**State Government Article §10-503(a)(1)(i):**This subtitle does not apply to ... a public body when it is carrying out ... an administrative function.

**TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

The discussion will concern the implementation of the Commission's previously adopted policies concerning the mechanical and administrative process by which it reviews applications for grants from the MSCRF.

**REASON FOR CLOSING:**

Paralleling the NIH process for considering funding applications (as is required of the Commission by statute), the Commission believes that confidentiality is essential to enable candid discussion of whether its current review procedures regarding, *inter alia*, what information from applications is necessary to a proper review and what sort of redaction is appropriate, best enable it to invest its limited resources

The motion passed unanimously. The Commission went into closed session at 1:06 PM.