

**MINUTES OF THE
MARYLAND STEM CELL RESEARCH COMMISSION**

Thursday, July 18, 2013
University of Maryland Bio Park
Baltimore, MD

Action Items from July 18, 2013

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1. Dan will continue to recruit speakers for the Sickle Cell Disease workshop on September 24, 2013, and will provide the Commission ongoing electronic updates.
 2. Dan will continue to solicit sponsorships for the 6th Annual Maryland Stem Cell Research Symposium and distribute "Save the Date" post cards to promote the event.
 3. The Commission will revisit any suggestions or minor language modifications to the RFA's for FY2014 at the next Commission meeting for final approval.
 4. Dan will share TEDCO's RFP with the MSCRF Chair and Economic Impact Subcommittee, and will continue to provide ongoing updates to the Commission as information about the consultant and the study becomes available
 5. Dan will work with MGH to gain approval for use of the modified version of the CNN Stem Cell Fast Facts.
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Members in attendance:

Margaret Conn Himelfarb, Chair
Kevin Fitzgerald
Diane Hoffmann
Marye Kellermann
Sharon Krag
Debra Mathews
David Mosser
Linda Powers
Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg
Avram Reisner
Noel Rose
Ira Schwartz
Curt Van Tassel
Bowen Weisheit

Staff in Attendance:

Dan Gincel, MSCRF
Sabrina Spinner, MSCRF
Robert Rosenbaum, TEDCO

The Commission meeting was called to order at 2:06 PM

I. Approval of Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the May 13, 2013 meeting. There was a request to amend the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Commission Terms

After reviewing the Commissioners' terms of appointment, Margaret announced that three founding members (**Brenda Crabbs, Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg, and Linda Powers**) have served their maximum terms. The appointment of Suzanne's replacement is in process, and Linda will serve until someone fills her seat. Brenda resigned after the May meeting, leaving a vacant seat on the Commission. Margaret thanked each of them for their expertise, commitment, and outstanding service to the Commission. Prior to contacting the appointment offices, Dan invited the Commissioners to recommend potential nominees to the Commission.

III. Management Report

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

A. Maryland Stem Cell Research Symposium Update

 The 6th Annual Maryland Stem Cell Research Symposium will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at the JHU Medical Campus in Baltimore.

 Dan is currently recruiting speakers and soliciting sponsorships for the event.

 "Save the Date" post cards will be distributed to promote the event.

B. FY2013 Grant Awards

The TEDCO Board approved the 31 research awards recommended for funding by the Commission (including the 2 additional contingency grants that will be funded in the event that an award is rescinded). Award breakdown by category: 1 Pre-Clinical; 10 Investigator Initiated and 1 contingency; 10 Exploratory and 1 contingency; and 10 Post-Doctoral Fellowship. All FY2013 grant agreements have been signed and the funds are committed. The disbursement of funds for each grant agreement will be executed once the required compliance documentation has been submitted.

C. Stem Cell Meetings

Dan provided a brief report on the Annual ISSCR meeting that he attended in Boston on June 12-15, 2013 and the NIH/NEI Conference on June 24, 2013 on behalf of the Fund and the Commission.

IV. Discussion of the Sickle Cell Disease Workshop

During the 2013 General Session, many legislators expressed great interest in supporting treatment and cures for sickle cell disease. To further support this effort, the Commission is partnering with the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America to host a half-day workshop for sickle cell awareness, research, and treatment in the State of Maryland. This initiative will **(a)** emphasize how human stem cell research is uniquely applicable to a large variety of diseases, therapies, and cures for countless medical conditions including sickle cell disease; **(b)** highlight some of the current advances in regenerative medicine, therapies and cures for sickle cell disease through human stem cell research and MSCRF-funded projects; **(c)** promote the current MSCRF funding opportunities. The workshop will be held on September 24, 2013, from 12:00 – 4:00pm at the BWI Airport Marriott Hotel. Dan is currently recruiting speakers for the event and will provide the Commission ongoing electronic updates.

V. Discussion of RFAs for FY2014

Dan provided a brief overview of the current funding mechanisms and recommended retaining the existing RFA's, the current funding amounts, and the term durations for all programs this year. After a brief discussion, there was consensus to retain the current funding amounts and term durations. The Commission will revisit any suggestions or minor language modifications at the next Commission meeting for final approval.

VI. Economic Impact Study Update

During the May 13, 2013 Commission meeting, Dan reported that TEDCO Management agreed to conduct a broader analysis of all TEDCO programs, including the MSCRF program. The MSCRF Economic Impact Subcommittee will work with TEDCO management to help develop the criteria for this economic impact study and to determine an effective approach to utilize and present the

resulting information. Management has released an RFP to solicit proposals from economic analyst consultants and expert economists to assist with this task. The proposal deadline is August 16th. Management will select and contract a consultant by August 30th. Dan will share the RFP with the MSCRF Chair and the Economic Impact Subcommittee and continue to provide ongoing updates to the Commission as information becomes available.

VII. Stem Cell Fast Facts

Margaret found an article entitled “Stem Cell Fast Facts,” posted on the CNN Library Web site, which provides a brief overview about stem cells, stem cell research, related scientific advances, and a political/historical timeline. She distributed an edited version of this document to the Commission that includes other significant information, such as the establishment of the MSCRF and additional key historical events and innovations in the field. There was consensus among the Commissioners that this document is an excellent resource. Kathleen Shaffer of MGH agreed to assist the Commission in seeking CNN's permission to use the modified version of this Fact Sheet.

VIII. Nominations and Election of Officers

Margaret presented a brief summary of the MSCRF's growth and recognition during the three years she served as Chair, which included an ongoing collaboration with CIRM, a new clinical and pre-clinical RFA targeting biotech companies, the receipt of a national award, and surpassing the \$100 million mark in total State funding. With great gratitude, Dan thanked Margaret for her dedication, guidance, expertise, and invaluable service during her three one-year terms as Commission Chair. Dan opened the floor for nominations to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair. The nominees, **Avram Reisner, Chair**, and **David Mosser, Vice-Chair**, agreed to serve.

A motion was made and seconded to elect the officers nominated for a two-year term, from July 18, 2013 to July 2015. The motion passed unanimously

IX. Future Meeting Dates

September 24, 2013 – 10am to 12pm (BWI Airport Marriott Hotel, Linthicum, MD)

November 20, 2013 – 3pm to 5pm (Location TBD)

January 30, 2014 – 2pm to 5pm (UMB BioPark, Baltimore, MD)

May 1, 2014 – 9am to 5pm (TEDCO Offices, Columbia, MD)