

## Minutes of the Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission

Tuesday, January 12, 2010  
UMB BioPark, Baltimore, MD

### Action Items from September 9, 2009

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1. **The Commission requested the minutes to be amended to reflect the cancelled November 18, 2009 meeting (Dan Gincel).**
  2. **The Commission requested TEDCO management to send an electronic copy of the 2009 Calendar Year Annual Report (Dan Gincel).**
  3. **A motion was made and seconded for the Commission to continue its policy of having ethics reviews conducted by the recipient institutions and or state organizations rather than simply linking the acceptability of human embryonic stem cell lines as determined by the NIH. The motion passed unanimously.**
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#### **Members in attendance:**

Brenda Crabbs, Vice Chair  
Margaret Conn Himelfarb  
Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg  
Karen Rothenberg, Chair  
Steven Salzberg  
Ira Schwartz  
Jeremy Sugarman  
Bowen Weisheit

#### **Others in attendance:**

Dan Gincel (TEDCO)  
Sabrina Barksdale (TEDCO)

The Commission meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

### **I. Approval of Minutes**

The Commission considered the minutes of September 9, 2009. As requested, the initial draft of the meeting minutes was revised to include the November 18, 2009 meeting cancellation. The motion passed unanimously.

### **II. Administrative Report**

Dr. Gincel provided an update on administrative activities since the September 9, 2009 Commission meeting.

#### **A. New Commission Member and Resignation of a Commission Member**

- A brief introduction and background information was provided on the new Commission Member Dr. Curtis P. Van Tassell (who is a Research Geneticist with the USDA-ARS, Beltsville, MD /appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates).
- Current Commission member Joseph Capizzi has resigned from the Commission in which the Governor's Office will reappoint someone to fill the vacancy.

B. FY2010 Application & Reviewer Update

- The application deadline is January 14, 2009 and to date, several hospital organizations have applied which is more than the previous year submissions. In addition, the MSCRF has stimulated interest with many companies, nationally, who have contacted our office to inquire about their eligibility to apply.
- To date, 85% of previous reviewers have agreed to participate in this year's review session, which will be held March 14<sup>th</sup> –March 19<sup>th</sup>. Once the final number of applications is in, the reviewers will be properly assigned.

C. New SRO

In effort to reduce expenses for future SRO services, we have partnered with a large project management company, LTS Corp. and John Richters will be the SRO for the Review session.

D. FY2011 Budget Hearings

The State House budget hearing will be on February 10, 2010 and the State Senate budget hearing will be on February 19, 2010 in which Dan Gincel and Brenda Crabbs will be present.

E. Annual Report

The 2009 Calendar Year Annual report is published on line at <http://www.mscref.org> for public view. The State Library and legislators will receive their required copy.

F. Economic Analysis

Sage Policy Group, has agreed to perform a free economic analysis on the impact the MSCRF program has within the State of Maryland, which will be ready before the first February 10, 2010 budget hearing date.

G. 2009 World Stem Cell Summit

- There were 1,200 registrants, from 40 different states and 27 different Countries.
- There was great media attention and the exhibit area was extremely impressive and attracted many attention with over 240 scientific posters in which 200 were from Maryland.
- An economic analysis was preformed which concluded that the symposium helped Baltimore City accumulate over \$1 million in revenue for various services throughout the City during the conference.

H. Events and Meetings

Dan Gincel reported updates and self-participation for the following:

Representatives from the Japan Science and Technology Commission (JSTC) met with Dan to identify what is required from Japan's stem cell commitment.

- There were number of NIH and international science meetings which had at least one presentation from Maryland that the MSCRF has funded.
- MIT Enterprise has invited Dan Gincel along with 2 funded MSCRF companies to speak.

- The Phacilitate Cell and Gene Therapy international conference will be held in Washington, D.C. , in which Dan Gincel has been asked to sit on the Panel and represent Maryland.
- Meeting with representatives at NIST (National Institute of Science and Technology) regarding the Third Annual Symposium on September 22, 2010.

**\*Note\*** The 2010 Third Annual Symposium will be held at the National Institute of Science and Technology on September 22, 2010. In effort to initiate a Federal/State collaboration, NIST and the NIH (National Institute of Health) have agreed to partner with TEDCO/MSCRF and the FDA and U.S. Army have agreed to provide speakers and participants for the symposium.

### **III. ESCRO/iPS/hESC NIH approved lines**

Dan Gincel reported that the NIH developed new guidelines regarding the approval of human embryonic stem cell (hESC) lines to be used with Federal funding. Consequently, there was a question whether or not the Commission should modify its regulations regarding the need for ethics review at the recipient level. There was a consensus amongst the Commission that they should not interfere with institutional committee decisions on the approval of particular cell lines for the use of research as long as they follow State law.

A motion was made and seconded for the Commission to continue its policy of having ethics reviews conducted by the recipient institutions and or state organizations rather than simply linking the acceptability of human embryonic stem cell lines as determined by the NIH. The motion approved unanimously.

### **IV. CIRM Collaboration Discussion**

Dan Gincel reported that all of the California foreign collaborative partners committed no less than \$5 million towards collaborative projects with their researchers. Although other collaborative partners are contributing money towards research, the MSCRF is currently not able to do so. CIRM would like to offer to Maryland researchers the opportunity to participate in their funding programs, if their RFA's stimulate enough interest with the Commission members. CIRM is asking to commit an amount for each of the specified RFA's in which the Commission would like to participate.

Through discussion, there was a consensus amongst the Commission that the substance of the CIRM RFA's meets the Commission priorities however, it is impossible to integrate any new RFA's into the FY2010 funding process. The Commission would like to continue to move forward with collaborative projects with CIRM but the process will need more work due to particular concerns for the FY2011 budget. With great enthusiasm the Commission looks forward to a joint collaboration for the following years. TEDCO management will update CIRM on the Commission decision, will continue to work to find the best option for collaboration and will update the Commission sub-committee on progress.

### **V. 2010 Legislative Session Planning Updates**

As an update, Karen Rothenberg (Chair) will not be available to attend but will be able to work on the testimony for Dan Gincel and Brenda Crabbs (Vice Chair) to present during the budget hearings.

### **VI. Future Meeting Dates**

May 3, 2010 TEDCO Office 10:00am – 7:00pm

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.