



Media Contacts:

Laura Crovo
(410) 902-5058
lcrovo@mghus.com

Morag Muirhead
(410) 902-5051
mmuirhead@mghus.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEDCO Announces Appointees to the Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission

COLUMBIA, Md. (July 6, 2006) – The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) formally announced today the membership of the Maryland Stem Cell Research Commission. Established as an independent unit within TEDCO, the Commission will establish criteria, standards and requirements to ensure that stem cell research financed by the newly established Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund complies with state law. Of the 15 Commission members, four are appointed by the Governor, two each are appointed by the President of the State Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the University System of Maryland and The Johns Hopkins University also have appointed three members each. The Attorney General or a designee holds an ex-officio position.

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has made the following appointments:

- Bowen P. Weisheit, Jr., Board member of the Maryland Chapter of Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and lawyer with the Law Office of Bowen Weisheit, Jr. (patient advocate).
- Dr. Jack C. Chow, former assistant director-general of the World Health Organization who has extensive experience in global health policy (biotechnology expert).
- Joseph Capizzi, Professor at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. (expert in biomedical ethics as it relates to religion).
- Rabbi Joel Zaiman, Rabbi Emeritus of Chizuk Amuno Congregation, and Jewish scholar at the Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies (expert in biomedical ethics as it relates to religion).

“I am proud to support this stem cell research initiative, which can solidify Maryland’s reputation as a national leader in medical research, attract and retain companies and researchers to Maryland, and offer hope to millions of Americans suffering from debilitating diseases,” said Governor Ehrlich. “This is a groundbreaking initiative for Maryland, so I have made every effort to ensure that my appointees are recognized leaders within their fields and constituencies, and meet the highest ethical standards. I am confident these four individuals will offer invaluable and diverse insight as they work together with their colleagues to put Maryland at the forefront of stem cell research. As we lay the seeds for Maryland’s global technology dominance, I am especially pleased that TEDCO will lead this important, science-driven endeavor.”

Appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates are:

- Brenda Crabbs, previous chairwoman of the Maryland chapter of the National Arthritis Foundation and member of the organization’s Medical and Scientific Council (State Senate patient advocate).
- John Kellermann, a Parkinson’s sufferer who has advocated for the passage of the Stem Cell Research Act (House of Delegates patient advocate).
- Gloria Marrow, vice chair of the Board of Trustees of the Transplant Resource Center of Maryland and lecturer at Morgan State University (House of Delegates biotechnology representative).
- Linda Powers, managing director of Toucan Capital, an early and active supporter of biotech companies (State Senate biotechnology representative).

Appointed by the University System of Maryland are:

- Dr. Suzanne Ostrand-Rosenberg, professor of biological sciences and the Robert and Jane Meyerhoff Chair of Biochemistry at UMBC's Department of Biological Sciences (USM representative).
- Karen Rothenberg, dean and Marjorie Cook Professor of Law at the University of Maryland School of Law (USM bioethicist).
- Dr. Steven Salzberg, director of the Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, and the Horvitz Professor at the University of Maryland, College Park's Department of Computer Science (USM representative).

Appointed by The Johns Hopkins University are:

- Dr. Diane Griffin, professor and chairman of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHU representative).
- Dr. Murray Sachs, professor and director of the Biomedical Engineering Department at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (JHU representative).
- Dr. Jeremy Sugarman, professor at the Johns Hopkins Bioethics Institute (JHU bioethicist).

Jack Schwartz, Assistant Attorney General and Director of the Health Policy Department, will represent the Attorney General on the Commission.

“TEDCO is looking forward to utilizing our vast expertise in the areas of technology transfer and commercialization to oversee the work of the Commission and Committee,” said Renee Winsky, interim executive director at TEDCO. “This is a very exciting time for the State’s stem cell researchers as well as all Marylanders residents.”

The Commission, working through TEDCO, will appoint an independent scientific peer review committee (Committee) composed of scientifically recognized experts in the field of stem cell research. The Committee will review, evaluate, rank and rate research proposals for State-funded stem cell research based on procedures and guidelines established by the Commission and in a manner that gives due consideration to the scientific, medical, and ethical implications of the research. The Committee will then make recommendations to the Commission, based on the ranking and ratings awarded to each research proposal and according to its scientific merit.

For more information, please visit www.MarylandTEDCO.org.

The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO), an independent entity, was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1998 to facilitate the creation of businesses and foster their growth in all regions of the State. TEDCO's role is to be Maryland's leading source of funding for seed capital and entrepreneurial business assistance for technology transfer and development programs. TEDCO connects emerging technology companies with federal laboratories, research universities, business incubators and specialized technical assistance. For the third consecutive year, TEDCO was recognized as the most active early/seed stage investor in the nation in the July 2006 issue of *Entrepreneur Magazine*. For more information on TEDCO and its programs and resources, visit www.MarylandTEDCO.org.

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