

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

Wednesday, September 21, 2016
TEDCO Offices
Columbia, MD

Action Items

1. The Commission has requested that TEDCO Management modify and re-send the RFA drafts to all Commission members via email for final approval.
-

Members in attendance:

Margaret Conn Himelfarb
Sharon Krag
Debra Mathews
David Mosser, Vice Chair
Linda Powers
Ira Schwartz
Curt Van Tassell
Bo Weisheit

Staff in Attendance:

Dan Gincel, TEDCO
Sabrina Spinner, TEDCO

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

I. Approval of Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the March 2, 2016 and May 2, 2016 meetings. A motion was made and seconded to approve both meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Director Report

Dr. Dan Gincel reported the following:

A. Eighth Annual MSCRF Symposium-Update

The MSCR Commission partnered with the Tech Council of Maryland to integrate the eighth annual MSCR Symposium with the Bio+Tech16 Conference held on May 23-24, 2016 at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. The conference showcased life science, stem cell, and technology sectors, promoting collaborations between professionals in these industries. The event featured many speakers, a stem cell track that commenced in parallel to the Bio+Tech programming, many company /scientific presentations, and a poster session from the MSCRF-funded researchers. Overall, there was great feedback on the event.

B. Budget Updates

FY2018 Budget Meeting

Dr. Gincel and John Wasilisin met with David Brinkley, Secretary of Budget & Management, and members of the Administration to present and discuss the Accelerating Cure model, which was well received. Dr. Gincel will work with the Commission to synthesize additional concepts that will include an investment component and will develop an implementation plan for the new initiative.

Department of Defense Federal Grant Application

On behalf of the Fund, Dr. Gincel collaborated with several Maryland universities to submit a joint grant application for federal funding, totaling \$75M with matching obligations. Dr. Gincel will keep the Commission informed of the application status.

2016 Grant Awards

All FY2016 grant agreements have been executed and the funds are committed. Two Post-Doctoral Fellowship awards were rescinded and replaced by the Commission approved stand-by awards. The disbursement of funds for each grant agreement is currently in progress.

C. TEDCO Expansion & Stem Cell Award Manager Updates

Dr. Gincel gave a brief update on TEDCOs expansion, and the CEO search. Dr. Gincel indicated the recruitment process to fill the Stem Cell Award Manager position is in progress. A candidate has been selected and management is currently working with legal counsel to finalize the hiring process.

D. Stem Cell Meetings

Dr. Gincel organized and led several funding briefings (at Hopkins, UMB, UM College Park, and TEDCO) to provide an overview of the new funding opportunities offered through the Funds Accelerating Cure initiative.

Dr. Gincel attended the 4th Annual Midwest Conference on Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine, held September 16-17, 2016 and accepted an invitation to participate as a Speaker at the 2016 WSCS Conference, December 6 – 9, 2016 on behalf of the Fund and the Commission.

III. Accelerating Cure RFA – Discussion

The Commission thoroughly reviewed and discussed the Funds FY2017 Accelerating Cure RFAs that will replace the existing funding programs. During the discussion, a recommendation was made to change the key dates and to discontinue the requirement for a letter of intent prior to an application submission. There was a consensus to change the funding amounts for the Clinical and Post-Doctoral Fellowship RFAs and to apply additional language modifications to all RFAs prior to approval. The Commission has requested Dr. Gincel to submit the final drafts to all Commission members via email for final approval. Pursuant to the Commission approval, the new RFAs will be posted and accessible online through the MSCRF website.

IV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.