

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

Monday, September 11, 2017
TEDCO Offices,
Columbia, MD

Action Items

1. A recommendation was made to allocate 1% of the Fund's fiscal budget per funding year for marketing activities. A motion was made a seconded to approve the 1% marketing budget as recommended. The motion passed.
 2. The Commission reviewed the applications for the Validation and Commercialization programs first funding cycle. The Commission awarded 2 applications from each funding category..
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Members in attendance:

Rachel Brewster
Margaret Conn Himelfarb
Diane Hoffmann
Haig Kazazian
Sharon Krag
Debra Mathews, Vice Chair
David Mosser, Chair
Linda Powers
Avram Reisner
Ira Schwartz
Curt Van Tassell

Staff in Attendance:

Dan Gincel, TEDCO
Amritha Jaishankar, TEDCO
Sabrina Spinner, TEDCO
Tammi Thomas, TEDCO

The Commission meeting was called to order at 12:07 a.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the July 10, 2017 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes as modified. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Director Report

A. Validation & Commercialization Application - Update

The FY2018 RFA was released for the first round of funding and the application deadline was July 14, 2017. Overall, 12 applications were submitted (4-Commercial, 8 Validation). The Scientific Peer Review Committee reviewed the applications on August 8, 2017. The application critiques and summary statements were prepared for the Commission for final review and approval.

B. Federal Activities - Update

FDA announced a crackdown on medical facilities offering illegal stem cell treatments or products.

In addition, Dr. Gincel provided an update on potential federal bills that would regulate stem cell research. Dr. Gincel will keep the Commission informed as more info becomes available.

C. State Funding Disbursements

Due to program changes, the old disbursement system the State implemented for TEDCO was problematic for the stem cell award payment schedules. Exec. Mgmt. was able to work out a faster and more efficient process for receiving fiscal funds from the State. In result, TEDCO will no longer receive the Funds' fiscal budget in quarterly disbursements and will now receive the entire fiscal budget in 1-2 disbursements at the beginning of each fiscal period. To date, TEDCO has received the remaining balance of FY16, FY17 budget.

D. Ninth Annual MSCRF Symposium

The ninth Annual MSCRF Stem Cell Symposium will be integrated the with the TEDCO Entrepreneur EXPO Conference at the Hilton Baltimore Hotel, October 25, 2017. The conference will showcase life science, stem cell, and technology sectors, promoting collaborations between professionals in these industries. The event will feature many speakers, and will have a stem cell track that will commenced in parallel to EXPO programming. More info will be provided as it becomes available.

E. Stem Cell Meetings

Dr. Gincel traveled to South Korea to attend the last few days of the trade and diplomatic mission led by officials from the Maryland Department of Commerce, accompanied by the First Lady, Yumi Hogan. During the trip a Dr. Gincel attended a reception that featured a check presentation by the First Lady and Maryland Deputy Secretary of Commerce to TissueGene, Inc., a MSCRF funded company.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore hosted and organized a MSCRF funding briefing led by Dr. Gincel, to provide an overview of funding opportunities offered through the Fund.

Dr. Gincel recruited a professional moderator for the monthly post-doc roundtable sessions. The first session was held in August at TEDCO and the second meeting is scheduled September 2017 to be held at Hopkins. Dr. Gincel will keep the Commission updated on the progress.

Dr. Gincel is traveling to speak at the Annual Midwest Conference on Cell Therapy & Regenerative Medicine, held in Kansas (September 15-16, 2017).

F. 2017 Meeting Schedule (2 p.m. – 5 p.m.) Monday, November 6, 2017.

III. MSCRF Marketing Plan Report

Ms. Tammi Thomas, *VP, Marketing*, indicated the importance of launching a marketing campaign, utilizing various media platforms, to promote the Fund (vision, mission, programs, success stories/accomplishments, events, etc.). A recommendation was made to allocate 1% of the Fund's fiscal budget per funding year for marketing activities.

A motion was made a seconded to approve the 1% marketing budget as recommended. The motion passed with 1 opposed.

IV. **FY18 Validation & Commercialization Application Review** (*First Funding Cycle*)

The Commission agreed to allow two (2) funding cycles per funding year for the Validation and Commercialization programs, beginning FY2018. After releasing the RFA for both programs, twelve (12) applications were submitted (4-Commercial, 8-Validation) for the first funding cycle.

The Commission reviewed the scientific peer review ranking of, and key information about, the applications recommended for funding. All applicants' names and affiliated institutions had been redacted. The Commission focused on applications that received competitive, meritorious scientific scores, giving priority to applications that included collaborations, regenerative medicine, translational research, and underfunded areas of research.

The Commission awarded two (2) applications from each funding category. The four (4) awarded applicants will not be eligible to reapply for additional funding during the second funding cycle (Jan. 2018).

RFA Type	Recommended Awards	Budget
Validation	2	\$460,000
Commercialization	2	\$600,000
Total	4	\$1,060,000

Validation Awards – university based work to validate market and product on Intellectual Property (IP):
Zambidis (JHU)– new media to expand undifferentiated cells in GMP-like conditions
Kwon (JHU)– scale up amounts of iPSC-derived mature cells

Commercialization Awards:

LifeSprout, LLC - Delivery of MSCs to Enhance the Replacement and Regeneration of Soft Tissue.
RoosterBio Inc - Closed Systems Enabling Commercially-Viable Stem Cell Manufacturing.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm