

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

Monday, July 1, 2019
TEDCO Offices,
Columbia, MD

No Action Items

Members in attendance:

Scott Bailey
Margaret Conn Himelfarb
Diane Hoffmann
Haig Kazazian
Debra Mathews, Vice Chair
David Mosser, Chair
Linda Powers
Avram Reisner
Ira Schwartz
Curt Van Tassell
Bowen Weisheit

Staff in Attendance:

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

The Commission meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the May 6, 2019 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Director Report

Dr. Gincel presented the Executive Director's Report, which focused on the following:

A. FY 2020 RFAs (1st Funding Cycle Only)

The FY'20 RFAs for the validation, commercialization, and clinical programs were released (1st funding cycle only). The application deadline is July 11, 2019. The Scientific Review Committee will review the applications on August 6, 2019 and the Commission Review meeting will be held in Sept. 2019.

B. Award Agreement Updates

FY'19 Awards

The awards for the FY'19 second funding cycle were announced in May 2019. The Grant Agreements were drafted and released. With the exception of 1 pending Discovery Grant Agreement, 23 Grant Agreements have been executed and the funds are committed.

FY'19 Pending Award

Prior to full execution of the Discovery Grant Agreement, 1 awarded PI accepted a new faculty position, effective Aug. 1, 2019 at different institute within Maryland. A decision was made to approve the award transfer and the Agreement was modified to support the transition. The Agreement is currently pending full execution.

Past Award Update

2017 Clinical Award for Kolon TissueGene has been cancelled due to a long clinical hold by the FDA. All awarded funds disbursed to Kolon TissueGene were returned to the Fund and a Termination Agreement was issued and fully executed.

C. Marketing

Dr. Gincel provided an update on continual efforts to promote the Fund and brand awareness through various platforms such as guest blogs, scientific papers/journal, conference panels, and podcasts. Management will continue to apply a focused effort towards strengthening and forging partnerships with local/global organizations within the industry.

Since the launch of the new website, Google analytics reported steady website traffic with a moderate percentage of mobile users. In an effort to generate an increased level of web traffic and mobile accessibility, Management partnered with a mobile app development company to create an integrated, informative, and interactive mobile app that will be an extension of the MSCRF website. Dr. Gincel will keep the Commission updated on the progress.

D. Past/Future Meeting Updates:

Since the May 2019 Commission meeting Dr. Gincel and Dr. Jaishankar indicated their participation, collaboration and/or attendance for the following conferences on behalf of the Fund and the Commission:

Past Events:

- NIH Stem Cell Symposium (May 2019, Bethesda, MD)
- ARM Cell & Gene Forum (May 2019, Washington, D.C.)
- Stem Cell and Genetic Dev. Seminar (May 2019, Baltimore, MD)
- Bio-Trac Stem Cell BioPanel (June 2019, Germantown, MD)
- International BIO (June 2019, Philadelphia, PA)
- ISSCR (June 2019, Los Angeles, CA)

Future Events:

- NIH symposium event (date to be set)
- Harvard Stem Cell Institute, BRM 2019 Conference (July 2019, Boston, MA)
- ARM Meeting on the Mesa (October 2019, Carlsbad, CA)
- MD. Tech Council, Bio Innovation Conference (October 2019, Bethesda, MD)
- TEDCO Expo (1-2 Stem Cell/Life Sciences/Reg Med Tracks) – (Oct. 2019, College Park, MD)
- WSCS/Phacilitate (January 2020, Miami, FL)

III. Program Evaluation Sub-Committee – Update

The Sub-Committee met in May 2019 and held a focused discussion regarding the future direction of the Post-Doctoral Fellowship program. Dr. Gincel highlighted some of the top mission-focused ideas, particularly the option to modify the Fellowship program to support one or a few newly proposed initiatives. Dr. Gincel will continue to work with the Sub-Committee to synthesize the concepts and will develop a recommendation for Commission review and feedback.

IV. Statement for Closing the Meeting

A motion was made and seconded that the Commission go into closed session. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission went into a closed session at 3:15 p.m. The motion stated the following:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

State Government Article §10-503(a)(1)(i):

This subtitle does not apply to ... a public body when it is carrying out ... an administrative function.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

The discussion will concern the implementation of the Commission's duty, under statute and its existing Bylaws, to elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair from among its appointed members.

REASON FOR CLOSING:

The Commission believes that confidentiality is essential to enable the most candid Commission discussion of the qualifications and willingness to serve of any candidates for election to the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair.

State Government Article §10-508(a)(1)(ii):

A public body may adjourn an open session to discuss "any . . . personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals".

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

The discussion will include the performance of one or more individuals in helping the Commission carry out its duties as regards the MSCRF.

REASON FOR CLOSING:

The Commission believes that confidentiality is necessary to enable candid discussion of the performance of the aforementioned individual(s).

A Hiring & Compensation Committee

After excusing staff, the Commission discussed the formation of a Committee to review, and make recommendations to the full Commission regarding resuming responsibility for, the hiring, retention and compensation MSCRF staff. Pursuant to the Bylaws the Chair determined to form such a Committee, to include Commissioners Himelfarb, Kazazian, Mathews, Mosser and Schwartz.

B. Elections

Following the return of staff, the Commission discussed the nominations of Commissioner Mathews and Commissioner Van Tassel to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, and unanimously voted to approve both nominations.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.