

Connecticut Stem Cell Research Peer Review Committee
Connecticut Department of Public Health
April 10, 2014, 2:00 PM, EDT
Minutes

A meeting of the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Peer Review Committee (Peer Review Committee) was held on April 10, 2014. Peer Review Committee members participating in the review of proposals for the following grant type categories participated in the meeting: ESTABLISHED INVESTIGATOR Grant Proposals, DISEASE-DIRECTED GROUP Grant Proposals, GROUP Grant Proposals, and CORE Grant Proposals. Additional attendees included staff from the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering (CASE). The meeting was attended telephonically by:

Members Present: Chair, Gary Stein; Co-Chairs Majlinda Lako, Linheng Li, Martin Pera, Jeffrey Spees; and Reviewers: Jose Cibelli, Jeremy Crook, Stephen Dalton, Dieter Gruenert, Ales Hampl, Anjana Jain

Members Absent:

DPH Staff: Marianne Horn

CASE: Rick Strauss; Terri Clark

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM, EDT

Introductory Remarks

Rick Strauss welcomed the Peer Review Committee members to the meeting. Marianne Horn thanked the committee for their efforts on behalf of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health, Jewel Mullen the Chair of the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee (SCRAC). Gary Stein, Chair also thanked the committee members for their efforts in reviewing proposals for the Established Investigator, Group, Disease-Directed Group, and Core Facility grant type proposals.

Public Comment

The public was offered an opportunity to make comments. No members of the public were present, and no comments were offered.

CT Stem Cell Research Peer Review Process

Rick Strauss outlined the process for finalizing the peer review proposal rankings as previously provided to and reviewed with the committee. Co-chairs were assigned to lead discussion on proposals so assigned with proposal reviewers providing a brief overview of their proposal scoring for all proposals to be discussed during the study section sessions for each proposal type. He indicated that the purpose of the study section review was to finalize and achieve study section consensus on final peer review scores for proposals by grant type. Committee discussions were based on the scientific merit of the proposals. Additionally the committee was advised that the SCRAC will conduct an additional review of the proposals based on the peer review results, as well as several other criteria and will make final funding decisions at a SCRAC meeting on June 9, 2014. CASE will also send the results of the SCRAC proposal funding decisions to the Peer Review Committee.

Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210(b)(24)

SESSION 1: REVIEW OF ESTABLISHED INVESTIGATOR GRANT-IN-AID PROPOSALS

D. Gruenert moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210(b)(24) for the purpose of reviewing the ESTABLISHED INVESTIGATOR stem cell research grants-in-aid proposals at 2:10 PM. J. Spees seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Peer Review Committee came out of Executive Session at 3:30 PM.

There was a motion by J. Spees, seconded by L.Li, to authorize CASE to submit the ESTABLISHED INVESTIGATOR Grant Proposal peer reviews as discussed and recommended in Executive Session to the State of Connecticut. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Stein and Rick Strauss again thanked the Peer Review Committee members for their tremendous efforts on behalf of the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Program

Adjourn Study Section Session on Established Investigator Grant Proposals

J. Spees, seconded by D. Gruenert, moved to adjourn the ESTABLISHED INVESTIGATOR Grant Proposal Study Section Session. The motion passed unanimously. This Study Section Session was adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Convene Study Section Sessions on Disease-Directed Group Grant Proposals, Group Grant Proposals, and Core Grant Proposals

Members Present: Chair, Gary Stein; Co-Chairs Majlinda Lako, Linheng Li, Martin Pera, Jeffrey Spees;

Members Absent:

DPH Staff: Marianne Horn

CASE: Rick Strauss; Terri Clark

The Study Section Session on Disease-Directed Group Grant Proposals, Group Grant Proposals, and CORE Grant Proposals was called to order at 3:40 PM, EDT

There was a motion by J. Spees, seconded by M. Pera, to Take from the Table from the Peer Review Committee Meeting of March 27, 2014 the review of grant proposals for the following grant types:

DISEASE-DIRECTED GROUP Grant Proposals, GROUP Grant Proposals, and CORE Grant Proposals. The motion passed unanimously

SESSION 2: REVIEW OF DISEASE-DIRECTED GROUP GRANT-IN-AID PROPOSALS

J. Spees moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210(b)(24) for the purpose of reviewing the DISEASE-DIRECTED GROUP stem cell research grants-in-aid proposals at 3:40 PM. M. Lako seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Peer Review Committee came out of Executive Session at 4:03 PM.

There was a motion by J. Spees, seconded by M. Lako, to authorize CASE to submit the DISEASE-DIRECTED GROUP peer reviews as discussed and recommended in Executive Session to the State of Connecticut. The motion passed unanimously.

SESSION 3: REVIEW OF GROUP GRANT-IN-AID PROPOSALS

J. Spees moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210(b)(24) for the purpose of reviewing the GROUP stem cell research grants-in-aid proposals at 4:05PM. M. Pera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Peer Review Committee came out of Executive Session at 4:15 PM.

There was a motion by J. Spees, seconded by M. Lako, to authorize CASE to submit the GROUP peer reviews as discussed and recommended in Executive Session to the State of Connecticut. The motion passed unanimously.

SESSION 4: REVIEW OF CORE GRANT-IN-AID PROPOSALS

J. Spees moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210(b)(24) for the purpose of reviewing the CORE stem cell research grants-in-aid proposals at 4:15 PM. M. Lako seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Peer Review Committee came out of Executive Session at 4:30 PM.

There was a motion by J. Spees, seconded by M. Pera, to authorize CASE to submit the CORE peer reviews as discussed and recommended in Executive Session to the State of Connecticut. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Stein and Rick Strauss again thanked the Peer Review Committee members for their tremendous efforts on behalf of the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Program

Adjourn

J. Spees, seconded by M. Lako, moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.