

**Empire State Stem Cell Board
Funding Committee Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2011**

The Empire State Stem Cell Board Funding Committee held a meeting on Monday, May 23, 2011, at the offices of the Department of Health, 90 Church Street, New York, New York. Commissioner Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H., presided as Chairperson.

Funding Committee Members Present:

Dr. Nirav R. Shah, Chairperson

Dr. Bradford Berk*

Mr. Robin Elliott

Dr. Gerald Fischbach

Dr. David Hohn, Vice Chair**

*via videoconference

**via teleconference

Dr. Mario Loomis

Dr. Allen Spiegel

Dr. Michael Stocker

Ms. Madelyn Wils

Funding Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Hilda Hutcherson

Department of Health Staff Present:

Dr. David Anders

Ms. Bonnie Brautigam

Dr. Kathy Chou

Ms. Janet Cohn

Dr. Matthew Kohn

Ms. Valerie Koch

Ms. Diane Mathis

Ms. Beth Roxland

Ms. Lakia Rucker

Dr. Lawrence Sturman

Ms. Carrie Zolub

Observers Present:

Ms. Jennifer Becht

Dr. Stephen Chang

Mr. Robert Feldman

Ms. Elizabeth Misa

Ms. Caroline Marshall

Mr. David McKeon

Ms. Susan Solomon

Approval of Minutes for the September 17, 2010, Funding Committee Meeting

Dr. Shah directed members to the draft minutes for the September 17, 2010, meeting of the Funding Committee and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on Concept Papers for Educational Initiatives

Dr. Shah asked Mr. Elliott to restate briefly the substance of the two concept papers that had been discussed earlier by the Full Board, and added that he would then ask for a vote on whether to approve them for development into draft requests for applications (RFAs). He turned the floor over to Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott advised members that both concepts were intended to advance an original goal of the Board, namely, to educate the public on the benefits and challenges of stem cell research. He stated that the first proposal was to fund science museums to create and implement informal educational programs on stem cell science directed at a variety of target groups. Mr. Elliott noted that the funding, which would total up to \$1.95 million, would be made available at two levels, according to whether and in what amounts the applicant had received funding in the past three years for science educational programs, not including exhibits, from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and/or National Institutes of Health (NIH). Those that have received in excess of \$400,000 would be eligible for up to 10% of the total amount received, to a maximum of \$250,000. Museums that have not received such funding, or have received an aggregate amount of \$400,000 or less, would be eligible to receive an award of up to \$40,000. He concluded by noting that the RFAs would be drafted to strongly encourage applications for programs that would be made available through the internet and social media.

Dr. Shah then asked for a motion to approve the museum educational initiative and the Committee passed it unanimously.

Dr. Gorovitz reminded members that the second concept proposal was to solicit applications for the development of a graphic arts design product describing the history, fundamentals and societal and ethical issues of stem cell research, to be disseminated to high school students and staff, along with a teachers' guide. Following distribution, the awardees would conduct a state-wide contest among high school students to create their own graphic art books about stem cell science. Dr. Gorovitz stated that the contract(s) would be for two years and the total cost would be a maximum of \$200,000, consisting of up to two awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Again, preference would be shown to applications that made the product accessible through the internet.

Dr. Shah then asked for a motion to approve the graphic art proposal. All Funding Committee members voted affirmatively.

Adjourn

Dr. Shah then asked for a motion to adjourn the Funding Committee meeting. Everyone was in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

*s/ Janet Cohn
Executive Secretary to the
Empire State Stem Cell Board
Approved: November 14, 2011*