

## Commonwealth Health Research Board Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2019

### Members in Attendance:

Cynda A. Johnson, M.D., M.B.A., Chair  
Robert W. Downs, M.D., Vice Chair  
L. Matthew Frank, M.D.,  
Eric J. Lowe, M.D.  
Julia A. Spicer

### Members Absent:

Thomas W. Eppes, Jr., M.D.

### Others in Attendance:

Anne C. Pace, M.P.A.  
Raya Mandler, Ph.D.  
Merrill Mitler, Ph.D., M.P.H.  
Arnold Revzin, Ph.D.  
Carla R. Collins

CHRB Administrator  
Scientific Consultant  
Scientific Consultant  
Scientific Consultant  
Sr. Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney  
General

#### Virginia Commonwealth University

**Jason Reed, Ph.D.**  
Colleen Jackson-Cook, Ph.D.  
Amir Toole, Ph.D.  
**Alex Krist, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Roy Sabo, Ph.D.  
**Sandro da Rocha, Ph.D.**  
Paula D. Bos, Ph.D.  
**Swati Palit Deb, Ph.D.**  
Steven Grossman, Ph.D.

#### McGuire Research Institute

**Bhaumik Patel, M.D.**  
Umesh Desai, Ph.D.  
**Chetna Sharon, Ph.D.**  
Gregorio Gill, Ph.D.  
Daniel Rodriguez, Ph.D.  
Bhaumik Patel, Ph.D.

#### University of Virginia

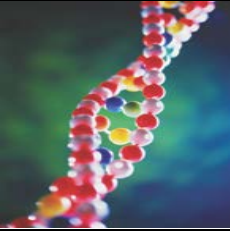
**Brent French, Ph.D.**  
Jeff Saucerman, Ph.D.  
**James Landers, Ph.D.**  
Killian O'Connell, Ph.D.  
Erik Hewlett, Ph.D.  
**Martin Wu, Ph.D.**  
Cirle Warren, Ph.D.

#### Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

**Padmavathy Rajagopalan, Ph.D.**  
**Dongmin Liu, Ph.D.**  
**Mathew Buczynski, Ph.D.**  
Ann Marie Gregus, Ph.D.

#### Eastern Virginia Medical School

**Nagaraja Nagre, Ph.D.**



## Commonwealth Health Research Board Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2019

### Call to Order:

Chair Cynda A. Johnson, M.D., M.B.A. called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. The meeting was held at the Gottwald Science Center, University of Richmond, 28 Westhampton Way, Richmond, Virginia 23173. A quorum was present for the transaction of business throughout the meeting. The Board then discussed the instructions for presentations, including the manner in which questions would be asked of the presenters and the time limitations for each presentation.

### Approval of Minutes:

Dr. Downs moved to approve the Minutes from the April 4, 2019 meeting. The meeting minutes were then unanimously approved by the Board upon Dr. Lowe's second of Dr. Downs's motion.

### **CLOSED SESSION: FY 2019/2020 CHRB Grant Process Step Three: Presentation of 8 Full Proposals to the Board**

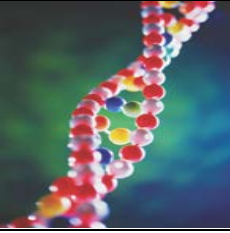
Matthew Frank, M.D., moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A) (7), § 2.2-3711 (A) (30), and § 2.2-3705.6(17) for the purpose of

consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Board, and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel regarding:

records submitted as a grant or loan application, or accompanying a grant or loan application.....to the extent such records contain proprietary business or research-related information produced or collected by the applicant in the conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, rehabilitative, scientific, technical, technological, or scholarly issues, when such information has not been publicly released, published, copyrighted, or patented, if the disclosure of such information would be harmful to the competitive position of the applicant. Virginia Code § 2.2-3705.6 (17).

The motion was seconded by Dr. Downs. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Matthew Frank, M.D., moved that the Board reconvene in open session. Ms. Spicer seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. The Board adopted the following resolution by roll call vote.



## Commonwealth Health Research Board Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2019

### CERTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Health Research Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Health Research Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

A roll call vote of members present was taken. Each approved this certification.

### **CLOSED SESSION: Personnel and Budget Discussion**

Matthew Frank, M.D., moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §§2.2-3711(A)(7) and 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Board, and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel regarding a personnel matter pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1).

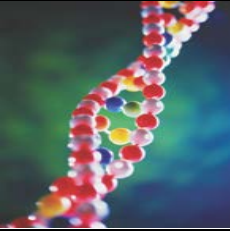
The motion was seconded by Dr. Downs. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Merrill Mitler, Ph.D., M.P.H., Raya Mandler, Ph.D., and Arnold Revzin, Ph.D. were not present during the discussion concerning the scientific consultants' compensation.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Collins, Administrator Pace, Merrill Mitler, Ph.D., M.P.H., Raya Mandler, Ph.D., and Arnold Revzin, Ph.D. were not present during the discussion concerning Administrator Pace's compensation.

Matthew Frank, M.D., moved that the Board reconvene in open session. Dr. Downs seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. The Board adopted the following resolution by roll call vote.

### CERTIFICATION



## Commonwealth Health Research Board Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2019

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Health Research Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Health Research Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

A roll call vote of members present was taken. Each approved this certification.

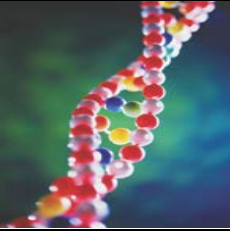
### **Results of Closed Session:**

The following actions related to the FY 2019/2020 CHRB Administrative Budget were taken by the Board:

[1] Ms. Spicer moved that the Board approve the CHRB Administrative Budget at \$264,623.61 for FY 2019/2020 to include \$20,385.82 for fiscal services to be provided by the Department of Accounts (DOA) to the CHRB. Dr. Lowe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A breakdown of the DOA fiscal fee is provided in Attachment A. The contents of Attachment A are incorporated here by reference thereto as if they are fully set forth here. Because the MOU between the DOA and the CHRB permits up to a 10% variance in the charges for services provided by the DOA to the CHRB pursuant to the MOU, Dr. Downs moved that the Board approve up to a 10% variance in the DOA's charges for services pursuant to, and in compliance with, the terms and conditions of the MOU. Dr. Frank seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Authority to execute the MOU between the DOA and the CHRB on the Board's behalf was delegated to Dr. Johnson pursuant to this motion, as well.

[2] Dr. Lowe moved that the Board approve, as part of the CHRB Administrative Budget, \$10,000 for legal services provided to the Board by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and that the FY 2019/2020 MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) between the OAG (Office of the Attorney General) and the CHRB include a provision that the Term of the MOA will be for three years and that the annual amount of \$10,000 will be applicable for each year of the three-year period. Dr. Downs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

[3] Dr. Downs moved that the approved CHRB Administrative Budget include a 5% salary increase, effective June 10, 2019, for the CHRB Administrator. Pursuant to this motion, authority was delegated to Chair Cynda A. Johnson, M.D. to complete a performance review of the CHRB Administrator and to develop any contracts or contract amendments necessary to establish the scope of work, compensation, and terms and conditions governing the Administrator, as well. Dr. Lowe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Administrator was recognized for her excellent work, excellent performance, and extensive collaboration with other research entities in Virginia. The Board wishes to thank and commend the Administrator for her excellent service.



## Commonwealth Health Research Board Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2019

[4] Dr. Downs moved that the approved CHRB Administrative Budget also include a funding increase for the three scientific consultants. As part of this motion, authority was delegated to Administrator Pace and Senior Assistant Attorney General Collins to develop any contracts or contract amendments necessary to establish the scope of work, compensation, and terms and conditions governing the scientific consultants as independent contractors of the CHRB, as well. Finally, Dr. Downs moved that the Board delegate the authority necessary to the CHRB Chair, Cynda A. Johnson, M.D., to execute all contracts or contract amendments between the CHRB and the scientific consultants on the CHRB's behalf. Dr. Lowe seconded the tripartite motion and it passed unanimously. A funding increase for the Scientific Consultants was based upon their excellent performance, their helpful implementation of new processes, and a growth in the number and complexity of grant applications; which has required additional, extensive collaboration and supervision of all parts of the grant consideration and approval process. The Board wishes to thank and commend the scientific consultants for their excellent service.

### **CLOSED SESSION: FY 2019/2020 CHRB Grant Process Step Three: Presentation of 5 Full Proposals to the Board**

Matthew Frank, M.D., moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A) (7), § 2.2-3711 (A) (30), and § 2.2-3705.6(17) for the purpose of

consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Board, and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel regarding:

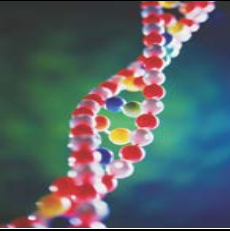
records submitted as a grant or loan application, or accompanying a grant or loan application.....to the extent such records contain proprietary business or research-related information produced or collected by the applicant in the conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, rehabilitative, scientific, technical, technological, or scholarly issues, when such information has not been publicly released, published, copyrighted, or patented, if the disclosure of such information would be harmful to the competitive position of the applicant. Virginia Code § 2.2-3705.6 (17).

The motion was seconded by Dr. Downs. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Matthew Frank, M.D., moved that the Board reconvene in open session. Dr. Downs seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. The Board adopted the following resolution by roll call vote.

#### CERTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Health Research Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and



## Commonwealth Health Research Board Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2019

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

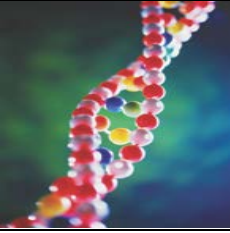
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Health Research Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

A roll call vote of members present was taken. Each approved this certification.

### **Results of Closed Session:**

Ms. Spicer made a motion that the following 8 Principal Investigators receive a CHRB grant award for FY 2019/2020. Dr. Lowe seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. Administrator Pace will contact the following Principal Investigators regarding the outcome of the Board's decisions. She will also provide reviewer comments [from the Full Proposal submission] to those Principal Investigators who will not receive a grant award.

Institution	Principal Investigator	Grant Title
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University	Matthew Buczynski, Ph.D.	<i>Evaluation of a 12/15-LM receptor as a target for Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics</i>
University of Virginia	Brent French, Ph.D.	<i>Bioengineering of Cardiac Regeneration In Situ after Myocardial Infarction</i>
University of Virginia	James Landers, Ph.D.	<i>Diagnostic Assay for On-Site Detection of Bordetella pertussis</i>
Eastern Virginia Medical School	Nagaraja Nagre, Ph.D.	<i>Exploring the potential role of cannabinoid receptor type-2 activation in protection against bacterial pneumonia-induced lung injury</i>
McGuire Research Institute	Bhaumik Patel, M.D.	<i>Development of a Selective Non-saccharide Glycosaminoglycan Mimetic for Colon Cancer</i>
Virginia Commonwealth University	Swati Palit Deb, Ph.D.	<i>Targeting mutant p53-dependent checkpoints of genome duplication in lung cancer</i>
Virginia Commonwealth University	Jason Reed, Ph.D.	<i>A new approach for detecting IGH translocations in hematologic malignancies</i>
University of Virginia	Martin Wu, Ph.D.	<i>Are persister cells culprits of recurrent Clostridium difficile infections?</i>



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Dr. Downs made a motion to approve second year funding for the following 2018 grant recipients. Ms. Spicer seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Institution	Principal Investigator	Grant Title
Virginia Commonwealth University	Charles Clevenger, M.D., Ph.D.	<i>HDAC6 as a Therapeutic Target in Breast Cancer</i>
Virginia Commonwealth University	Paul Dent, Ph.D.	<i>Novel anti-sarcoma therapies</i>
University of Virginia	Peter M. Kasson, M.D., Ph.D.	<i>Rapid identification of entry inhibitors and neutralizing antibodies for emerging viruses</i>
University of Virginia	Li Jin, Ph.D.	<i>Could we treat acute back/leg pain with nanoparticle fullerene instead of steroid?</i>
Eastern Virginia Medical School	Alberto Musto, M.D., Ph.D.	<i>Role of CD40L Limbic Epileptogenesis</i>
Virginia Commonwealth University	Liya Qiao, Ph.D.	<i>Role of TrB.T1 in Bowel and Urinary Bladder Comorbidity</i>

### Next Meeting: Thursday, December 12, 2019

Chair Cynda A. Johnson, M.D., M.B.A. moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Dr. Downs, voted upon and passed unanimously by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The Board's next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 11, 2019** in Richmond, Virginia in the Quigg Conference Room at the Jepson Alumni Center at the University of Richmond. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. At this meeting, the Board will review the Concept Papers submitted, as part of the 2020/2021 grant process, and review the panel's recommendations regarding which ones should be developed into Full Proposals. The Board then will determine which Principal Investigators will be asked to submit Full Proposals.