Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer’s Disease Research Program

Alzheimer’s Disease Research Grant Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda

Alzheimer’s Disease Research Grant Advisory Board Members in Attendance:
- Leilani Doty, PhD, University of Florida, Chair
- Uma Suryadevara, MD, University of Florida
- Eun-Sook Lee, PhD, Florida A&M University
- Dr. Jaqueline Wiltshire, PhD, University of South Florida
- Dr. Leonard Petrucelli, PhD, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville

DOH Staff:
- Bonnie Gaughan-Bailey, MPA, ASQ-CQIA, Administrator, Biomedical Research Section
- Dinithia Sampson, PhD, Advisory Board Liaison, Biomedical Research Section
- Donald R. Morgan, MS, MPA, Program Specialist, Biomedical Research Section

Members of the Public:
None

(1): Introductions and Meeting Overview: Dr. Leilani Doty, Chair

Dr. Doty began the call by thanking everyone for joining. She then introduced herself and asked other Board members to introduce themselves.

(2): Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (January 30, 2018): Dr. Doty, Chair

Meeting minutes for November 16, 2017 and January 30, 2018 were not approved as quorum was not reached.

(3): Program Update: Dinithia Sampson and Bonnie Gaughan-Bailey

a. Membership

The Board has a recently appointed member, Dr. Mark Brody who was unable to attend the call. Dr. Sampson gave an overview of his background and shared that his appointment fills the neurologist Board member vacancy. Dr. Sampson shared that there are two current vacancies on the Board due to the resignations of Dr. Fred Schaerf and Dr. Ranjan Duara. These vacancies are for Board members representing a Geriatric Psychiatrist and a Neurologist. Bonnie commented that she had reached out to the Florida Psychiatric Society, inviting them to
share any recommendations they may have to fill the Geriatric Psychiatrist vacancy. Dr. Doty discussed a possible recommendation and was asked if there would be any Conflict of Interest issues. Bonnie then shared with the Board some examples where conflict of interest would be present. She also offered to send the link to the application, for the Board members to share among their networks.

b. Alzheimer’s Symposium

Dr. Doty commended Dr. Sampson, Bonnie, and Alzheimer’s Association®, State of Florida on a job well done with planning and executing the Alzheimer’s Symposium, held June 7&8, 2018 in Orlando, FL.

(4): Updating Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

Dr. Doty began the discussion by stating that she’d like to see more language regarding funding partnerships, between medical care providers and research institutions, on non-pharmacological approaches to Alzheimer’s disease research (e.g. research on translational strategies, etc.). She offered to work on language pertaining to that topic and report back to the Board. Dr. Suryadevara then presented Focus Areas 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 that includes Resources and Education for the Social focus area. Dr. Suchak updated Focus Area 1.3. This section was discussed and edits were proposed. Dr. Lee stated that the proposed description for 1.3 is longer than it is in the initial FOA and is longer than other topic areas. Board members question whether other sections should be made more specific as well to attract researchers in that area.

The following language changes in 2018-2019 Funding Opportunity Announcement were suggested:

**Focus Area 1.1 Behavioral** The use of “behavioral expressions”, will be updated to say, “challenging behaviors”. The first bullet point will now read “Testing on non-pharmacologic interventions (e.g. physical exercise, group activities, music, diet, bright light therapy, massage, Snoezellen rooms) for evaluation of antecedents and triggers of challenging behaviors.

**Focus Area 1.2.1 Resources** was updated by Dr. Suryadevara and proposed to be added to the document. The Board suggested changes in **Bullet #2** of this section, recommending that the language be changed to “Technological assistance for improving quality of care in adult day care or other residential settings in rural places where they have few to no resources”, replacing “…where they don’t have the resources.”

**Focus Area 1.2.1. Resources, last bullet** proposed update: “Resources to help caregivers with planning ahead, i.e. financial and legal planning, emergency back up plans, etc. when caregiver the is unable to provide care.

**Focus Area 1.2.2 Education** recommended to update **bullet 3** to replace the word “patients” with “person/individual with AD diagnosis”.

**Focus Area 1.3 Palliative and End-of-Life Care** Recommend update to statistic in the first sentence of the first paragraph to include “AD and related dementias, estimated to be the 3rd
leading cause of death in America behind cardiovascular disease”. It was suggested to be prefaced with a clause such as “Recent information”/NIH Citation, etc. Dr. Doty offered to send additional updates regarding language in this section.

**Focus Area 2.1** Dr. Doty and Dr. Lee addressed ambiguity with the use of “pharmacological interventions” and gave examples including: exercise, animal models, growth factors, green tea, etc.

**Focus Area 2.3 Understanding co-morbidities and other factors that contribute to progression of AD.** Update to sentence: “Further, other events such as infection, surgery and hospitalization, acute repeated or chronic head trauma appear to accelerate cognitive decline.”

### 3. Grant Categories

Dr. Doty discussed the need for clarity regarding “full time faculty member at lead institution” since sometimes full-time faculty member have a master’s degree. The PhD designation was added to the Eligible Applicants section as it has been formerly omitted in error.

Dr. Lee raised a question about the use of “Unauthorized aliens”. It was suggested to remove this sentence as it relates to employment rather than applications. Bonnie offered to reach out to Legal for review.

(5): Updating Research Agenda

(6): Public Comment

None.

It was confirmed that the next Conference Call will take place on August 2, 2018 from 3-4 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.