Alzheimer’s Disease Research Grant Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

Alzheimer’s Disease Research Grant Advisory Board:
- Frederick Schaerf, M.D., Ph.D., Neuropsychiatric Research Center of Southwest Florida
- Neill Graff-Radford, M.D., Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville
- Leilani Doty, Ph.D., University of Florida, Assistant Chair
- Ranjan Duara, M.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center
- Clinton Wright, M.D., University of Miami
- Jacqueline Wiltshire, Ph.D., University of South Florida
- Todd Golde, M.D., Ph.D., University of Florida
- Leonard Petrucelli, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville (absent)
- Mariana Dangiolo, M.D., University of Central Florida (absent)

DOH Staff:
- Derek Schwabe-Warf, Public Health Research Unit
- Bonnie Gaughan-Bailey, MPA, ASQ-CQIA, Manager, Public Health Research Unit

Members of the Public:
None

A quorum was present. Board members received all pertinent meeting materials. Board members participated via conference call and could actively and equally participate in the discussion.

I. Meeting Minute Approval
Meeting minutes from the November 6, 2015 meeting were approved. Dr. Schaerf made the motion and Dr. Duara seconded the motion.
Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 7) Affirmative: 7, Negative: 0, Recusal: 0

II. Election of New Chair and Assistant Chair
Dr. Doty was elected as the new chair and Dr. Wiltshire was elected as the new assistant chair of the Board. Dr. Schaerf made the motion and Dr. Duara seconded the motion.
Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 7) Affirmative: 7, Negative: 0, Recusal: 0

III. Update on Current Membership of the Board
Department staff provided an update on the status of the Board’s current membership. Dr. Smith and Dr. Brummel-Smith have left the Board since the time of the prior meeting, which leaves a position vacant for a geriatrician and geriatric psychiatrist. Department staff will be working on finding new potential Board members and current Board members are welcome to send in their suggestions.
Currently, two applications have been received (one from a geriatrician and one from a geriatric psychiatrist) and are in review by the Department’s leadership.

IV. Update on the Annual Report
Department staff notified the Board the annual report will be sent to the Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, and the Governor on February 15. After reviewing the annual report, the Board would like to add language to relay concerns expressed by grant recipients about completing
their project in the limited time frame allotted. Dr. Duara made the motion and Dr. Golde seconded the motion.
Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 7) Affirmative: 7, Negative: 0, Recusal: 0

V. Revisions to the Research Agenda (2015-2020)
Dr. Schaerf would like to add language to Priority Area, Focus Area 1.1 (pages 4-5) to include assessment of pharmacological and non-pharmacological screening tools used to evaluate cognitive disorders. Dr. Schaerf will provide language to Department staff for this addition.

Dr. Schaerf and Dr. Wiltshire would like to add a focus area or priority on cluster randomized trials. Dr. Schaerf and Dr. Wiltshire will send language to Department staff for this addition.

Under the objectives section of Priority Area 4 (page 8), the Board would like to include epidemiological studies on the genetic and epigenetic causes of cognitive impairment and dementia. Board members would like to reconvene at a later date to finalize the metrics in Section 3, Table 1 (pages 11-12) of the agenda. Dr. Schaerf made the motion to add the language listed in this section to the research agenda and Dr. Doty seconded the motion.
Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 7) Affirmative: 7, Negative: 0, Recusal: 0

VI. Revisions to the 2016-2017 FOA
The Board would like the same changes made to the research agenda listed in the previous section made to the 2016-2017 FOA.

The Board would like to reconvene after the Governor signs the state’s budget to discuss additional revisions to the 2016-2017 FOA based on the status of the carry forward funding bills, SB 2510 and HB 5103, and/or an alteration in the amount appropriated to the program. Department staff will forward the bills to the Board for their records.

VII. Revisions to the Reviewer Form
Board members discussed the evaluation of applications that were submitted in the incorrect category. In order to standardize the evaluation of such applications, the Board asked Department staff to insert a question in the reviewer form asking the reviewer to evaluate the appropriateness of a given application in the priority it was submitted. If the application is deemed to be submitted in an incorrect category, the application will be ineligible to be recommended for funding. Dr. Golde made the motion and Dr. Doty seconded the motion.
Total votes for approval: (Total members voting: 7) Affirmative: 7, Negative: 0, Recusal: 0

To ensure the Board and Department are proactive in notifying researchers and institutions about this change, an email-blast will be sent to all sponsored research official and researchers on the Alzheimer’s research distribution list after the 2016-2017 FOA notice is published.

VIII. Public Comment
None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.