

President's Report  
ICOC Meeting  
July 12, 2005

Zach W. Hall, Ph.D.  
Interim President

---

July 12, 2005



California Institute For Regenerative Medicine

# New Appointments

- Jorge Sanchez, Senior Executive Assistant to the President and Scientific Group
- Gilberto Sombrano, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer (UCSF, Coordinator for the Cell Signaling Alliance)



# Grants and WG Recruitments in Progress

- Senior Staff Liaison to the Standards Working Group
- Scientific Program Officer
- Grants Management Officer
- Grants Technical Assistant



# Administrative Positions to be Recruited

- Chief Communications Officer
- Chief Legal Officer
- Chief Information Technology Officer
- Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
- Facilities, Procurement and Operations Manager



# Scientific Meeting

- Stem Cell Research in California: Charting New Directions
- First step to setting the scientific agenda
- October 1 and 2, San Francisco
- Six sessions, seventeen speakers
- Open to public, registration limited to 200 (scientists, patient advocates, public) with simulcasts to other sites.
- Expect to announce program and details July 18, 2005



# Other Activities

- ISSCR meeting in San Francisco, June 23-25
- Discussion by CIRM and PLoS with ISSCR Board members about an open-access, web-based stem cell research journal
- Mary Maxon, Ed Penhoet and Michael Goldberg, preliminary IP discussions with WARF and Geron
- Training Grant RFA: received 26 applications on July 1, sent to reviewers for Aug. 3-4 WG meeting



# Facilities WG Meeting Procedures

- Similar to document adopted for Standards WG
- Public meetings with posted agendas and public comment periods during the meetings where possible
- All votes will be taken in public
- Meet in Confidential Session only when necessary:
  - Protection of confidentiality of land negotiations, construction contract negotiations, scientific input from Grants WG, possible donors, or financial information about an institution



# New Agenda Item: Standards Working Group

Request Standards WG:

- 1) To provide an appropriate text for CIRM Interim Guidelines for Stem Cell Research based on the National Academies Guidelines
- 2) To recommend that the ICOC at its September meeting amend its previous motion on guidelines by adopting the revised text.

The revised text will:

- Provide precise, regulatory language appropriate to CIRM for interim guidelines.
- Provide a suitable starting draft for consideration by the committee and by the public
- Reset the clock for adoption of state regulations to September 9.



# By-Laws for the Working Groups

- Staff is developing by-laws for consideration by the Working Groups (Sangeetha Raghunathan)
- These will be presented to each working group who will suggest changes and then recommend adoption of a final version by the ICOC
- Present here, for your information, the proposed by-laws of the Grants WG as an illustration
- No action necessary; comments appreciated.



# Grants Process

- ICOC approves RFA, with budget
- CIRM issues RFA
- Applications received and reviewed by Grants WG
  - Scientific evaluation
  - Recommendation to ICOC
- Applications presented to ICOC



# Grants Working Group

- Initial scientific review: fifteen scientific members evaluate scientific merit and give each grant a score.
- Entire committee then will decide which grants to recommend to the ICOC, in one of three categories:
  - Highly meritorious, recommend funding;
  - Meritorious, fund if funds available;
  - Not sufficiently meritorious to recommend funding at this time



# Criteria for Grants Working Group

- Proposition 71: “criteria, standards and requirements” to be recommended by the Grants WG to the ICOC for adoption
- Need interim criteria to evaluate training grants and to write next RFA
- Staff will prepare draft of interim standards for consideration by the WG at August meeting
- To have ICOC and public input, will present here, for informational purposes and to aid staff in preparation



# Criteria for Training Grants

- Overall Quality of the Training Programs
- Qualifications of the Program Leadership
- Research and Training Strength of the Proposed Mentors
- Quality of the Existing Training Programs
- Strength of Stem Cell Research at the Institution



# Criteria for Scientific Evaluation of Research Grants

- Impact and Significance.
- Quality of the Research Plan
- Innovation
- Feasibility
- Investigators
- Eligibility for Federal funding



# Second Stage: Recommendation to ICOC

- Opportunity to review the entire portfolio that has been approved for funding
  - Appropriate balance between innovation and feasibility?
  - Appropriate balance between fundamental work, therapy development and clinical work?
  - Where relevant, is there an appropriate range of diseases addressed?
  - Other considerations from perspective of patient advocates?

