Nominations for Appointment to the Grants Working Group (GWG)

Appointment of New Members

Thomas J. Povsic MD, PhD, FACC, FSCAI
Thomas Povsic is a tenured associate professor of medicine and interventional cardiologist at the Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI) at Duke University Medical Center. He received his Ph.D. in bioorganic chemistry from the California Institute of Technology, and his MD from Harvard Medical School and has been on faculty since 2004.

Dr. Povsic's key research interest has been investigating the role of cell therapy in vascular disease and the development and translation of novel basic therapeutics to clinical use. He has led a laboratory focused on the assessment of endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) in a variety of clinical conditions, and has published extensively on the relationship between reparative capacity and a variety of clinical and functional outcomes. The Povsic lab has collected blood for analysis of EPCs in over 1000 patients and has worked with in collaboration with biomedical engineering to use EPCs derived from patients with advanced CAD to line and form novel grafts. Other research interests include regenerative approaches to treatment of acute myocardial infarction as well as molecular approaches to limiting reperfusion injury, as well as development of novel anti-thrombotic therapies.

Dr. Povsic has played a leadership role in a multitude of clinical trials in regenerative medicine for cardiovascular indications, including MARVEL exploring myoblast therapy for congestive heart failure, and as the national principal investigator of the RENEW trial exploring the use of autologous $CD34^+$ cell for the treatment of refractory angina as well as lead investigator in the CHART program, a trial of autologous bone marrow cells augmented for cardiopoiesis for the treatment of congestive heart failure. He is also a member of the Transatlantic Alliance for Cell Therapy In Cardiovascular Syndromes (TACTICS group). He has served as a principle investigator or adjudicator for over 30 clinical event committees, as well as served on several data safety monitoring boards, trial steering committees, and advisory boards.

Stefan G. Tullius, MD, PhD, FACS
Dr. Tullius is the Distinguished Joseph E. Murray Chair in Transplantation Surgery, Chief of Transplant Surgery and Director of the Transplant Surgery Research Laboratory at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA. Dr. Tullius received an MD (Summa Cum Laude) from the Johann-Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main, Germany, a PhD from the Charité in Berlin, Germany, and a (honorary) Master of Arts from Harvard University. He completed his residency in addition to a transplant and visceral surgery fellowship at the Charité in Berlin, Germany. He joined the faculty at the Charité in 2000, had been the Surgical Director of Transplantation at this institution until 2004, when he moved to Boston to take his current position.

Dr. Tullius is an internationally recognized clinician/scientist, a frequent invited speaker and visiting professor; he has published > 300 scientific manuscripts and book chapters. He is an

Executive Editor of *Transplantation*, Associate Editor of *Transplant International,* and has served as Associate and Consulting Editor of the *American Journal of Transplantation*. He served on the Board of the European Society of Organ Transplantation (ESOT) and was the founding Chair of the Basic Science Committee of ESOT. He has chaired several committees for the AST and was the founding Chair of AST's Vascular Composite Tissue Transplant Committee. Dr. Tullius currently serves as the Treasurer of The Transplantation Society and chairs the society's Basic Science Committee. He is also a member of the Declaration of Istanbul Custodian group and serves as a Regional Councilor (New England) of UNOS.

Dr. Tullius has a most productive NIH-funded research laboratory. Work originating from his laboratory includes significant contributions to the understanding of immunosenescence and alloimmunity, the clinical practice of organ allocation, effects of organ quality, obesity, organ preservation and composite tissue transplantation. His work has been translated into clinical practice. In recognition of his contributions, Dr. Tullius has received several awards including the Pichlmayr Award of the German Transplant Society, the Clinical Science Investigator Award of the AST, and the Joseph E. Murray/Simon J. Simonian Award.

Reappointment of Scientific Members to the Grants Working Group

Grants Working Group Members originally appointed in 2008-11 have terms that are now expiring or just expired. We are seeking the reappointment of the individuals listed in the table below. Their updated biographies follow. In accordance with the rules set forth by Proposition 71, reappointments should be staggered into thirds, each with a 2, 4, or 6-year term.

Proposed Reappointments to GWG

Last	First	Term	Expertise
Chopra	Rajesh	2	Oncology; Hematology; Translational Medicine
Dropulic	Boro	6	Lentiviral Vector Technology; HIV/AIDS
Johnson	Jane	4	Neurobiology; Somatosensory Circuit Formation; Pharmacology; Cancer Biology
Kuo	John	4	Neurosurgery; Neuro-oncology; Cancer Stem Cell Biology
Lonser	Russell	4	Neurosurgery; Drug Delivery; Neural Disorders; Neuro-oncology
Montgomery	Bruce	2	Drug Development; Respiratory Disease
Pepperl	David	6	Nonclinical Regulatory (Pharmacology/Toxicology)
Sadek	Hesham	6	Cardiac Regeneration; Stem Cell Metabolism

Rajesh Chopra, PhD
Professor Raj Chopra is the Director of the Cancer Research UK Cancer Therapeutics Unit and Head of the Division of Cancer Therapeutics at The Institute of Cancer Research and Royal Marsden Hospital. He trained in Medicine at University College London, and then completed his training in general medicine at major teaching hospitals in London, gaining Membership of the Royal College of Physicians. He undertook a PhD in cell signaling and growth receptors followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, Australia. Subsequently, he set up his own research group in Stem Cell and Leukemia Biology at the Paterson Institute of Cancer Research in Manchester, UK. He was also

appointed Director of Hematological Oncology, leading one of the largest Bone Marrow Transplant and Leukemia Programs in Europe at the Christie Hospital in Manchester. From 2004–09, he was part of the leadership team for the largest Oncology group in AstraZeneca and established Translational Medicine for AstraZeneca in Boston, Massachusetts, US. He was involved in taking six small molecules and two antibodies from discovery into clinical trials.

From 2009–16, he was a leader within the Executive R&D Team and Corporate Vice President of Translational and Early Drug Development at Celgene Corporation, Summit, New Jersey, US, where he led a team of over 100 scientists in San Diego, San Francisco and Seville, and a team of clinicians involved in taking agents from discovery to proof-of-concept clinical trials in oncology and immune/inflammatory disease, as well as stem cell therapies. These teams were responsible for taking nine small molecule and one antibody projects into early clinical trials in healthy volunteers and patients. Professor Chopra was also involved in the New Drug Applications for pomalidomide (a second generation IMiD agent) and a premilast (a PDE4 inhibitor). Both drugs were approved in 2013 and 2014 respectively. He also led the team that worked the mechanism of action of thalidomide and its analogues leading to the discovery of Aiolos, Ikaros and Caosin kinase1a as neo-substrates of the CUL4CRBN E-3 ligase family.

He is currently a member of the Cancer Research UK Drug Discovery Committee . He has been a member of the Medical Research Council (MRC) Molecular and Cell Biology Board and the MRC Stem Cell Committee. He has extensive experience of successful partnering with biotech. In addition, he has been a Non-Executive Director for e-Therapeutics (Oxford, UK) and has been on the Board of Agios (Boston, Massachusetts, US).

Boro Dropulic, PhD
Boro Dropulic is the founding president and chief scientific officer of Lentigen Corporation, a Baltimore-based company focused on commercializing lentiviral vectors for research and therapeutic applications. He received his BSc from the University of Western Australia, and his PhD in pathology from the University of Western Australia focusing upon how viruses cause disease in the body. Dr. Dropulic was a Fogarty Fellow at the National Institutes of Health, where he worked on developing transgenic animals using embryonic stem cell technology, understanding molecular aspects of HIV replication and gene therapy for HIV/AIDS. He was an Instructor and then adjunct assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, where he was the first to develop a HIV-based vector targeted to inhibit the replication of the HIV/AIDS virus. He went on to receive his MBA from The Johns Hopkins University in 2004. Prior to founding Lentigen, he was founder and chief scientific officer of VIRxSYS, where he successfully led a multidisciplinary team to initiate and complete the first ever Lentiviral Vector clinical trial in humans.

Dr. Dropulic has published widely on lentiviral vectors and gene therapy, and he is a member of many professional associations including the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the International Society for Cellular Therapy, and the American Society for Gene Therapy, where he serves on the Infectious Diseases and Industrial Liaisons Committees. He is member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Human Gene Therapy*.

Jane Johnson, PhD
Dr. Johnson is currently a Professor in the Department of Neuroscience and holds the Shirley and William S. McIntyre Distinguished Chair in Neuroscience. She obtained her B.S. in Chemistry (1983) and her Ph. D. in Biochemistry (1988) at the University of Washington in Seattle. Her Ph. D. research was with Dr. Stephan Hauschka on muscle development. Postdoctoral research with Dr. David Anderson at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena led to the discovery of Ascl1 (previously Mash1), an essential transcription factor in neural development. She joined the faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in December 1992 where she is currently a Professor in the Department of Neuroscience and holds the Shirley and William S. McIntyre Distinguished Chair in Neuroscience.

The research in the Johnson lab is focused on vertebrate nervous system development during the transition from proliferating neural stem cells to differentiating neurons and glia. We use the bHLH family of transcription factors to probe the molecular mechanisms controlling the balance of neural progenitor cell maintenance and differentiation, and the generation of neuronal diversity. Alteration in function and expression of the neural bHLH factors result in disturbances of connectivity, imbalances in excitatory and inhibitory neuron formation and loss of control of neural cell number. Our focus on understanding how transcription factors regulate neuronal differentiation and diversity has direct implications for stem cell biology and cancer.

Dr. Johnson has published widely in peer--reviewed journals, including *Genetics and Development*, *Development*, and *Neuron*. And has been honored by the University of Texas Postdoctoral Association with its Excellence in Postdoctoral Mentoring Award.

John Kuo, MD, PhD
Dr. John S. Kuo, an internationally known neurosurgeon-scientist who specializes in brain tumors, is the inaugural chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and surgical director of the Mulva Clinic for the Neurosciences for the Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at Austin. He earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard College as well as a MD and PhD through a joint program created by Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After advanced training at the University of Southern California and University of Toronto, Dr. Kuo was recruited to UW-Madison, where he was a professor of neurological surgery and human oncology and Director of the Comprehensive Brain Tumor Program. He lead the Central Nervous System Tumors Group at the University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center, a nationally known institution for cancer research, care and community involvement.

Dr. Kuo is among an elite group of neurosurgeons who have earned research funding from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. His research has been featured in journals such as Nature Reviews and Science Translational Medicine. He has been invited as visiting professor and speaker at institutions including Massachusetts General Hospital and MD Anderson Cancer Center. His honors include being named among “America’s Top Doctors” by Castle Connolly and the 2015 Preuss Award for best tumor research at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. He also is an endowed visiting professor of surgery at National University of Singapore and was elected to the Society of University Surgeons and the American Academy of Neurological Surgery. He serves as the tumor editor for World Neurosurgery and Operative Neurosurgery and as chair of the membership committee for the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

Russell Lonser, MD
Russell Lonser received his M.D. from Loma Linda University Medical School and completed his Neurological Surgery residency training at the University of Utah. During his residency training, he completed a Research Fellowship at the Surgical Neurology Branch in National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) in the National Institutes of Health. He returned to the Surgical Neurology Branch in 2001 and was later appointed Branch Chief in 2007. He initiated the NINDS Neurological Surgery Residency Training Program in 2010 and was its inaugural Program Director.

Dr. Lonser was recruited to the Ohio State University (OSU) in 2012. He is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery at OSU. He has authored more than 250 scientific and clinical publications. He is on the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Neurosurgery and Neurosurgery, and is Consulting Editor for the Neurosurgery Clinics of North America. He is a Past-President of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. He is Head of the Research Subcommittee in the Head, Neck and Spine Injury Committee for the National Football League. His current research is focused on drug delivery for treatment of neurologic disorders, traumatic brain injury, as well as tumor biology and treatment.

Bruce Montgomery, MD
Bruce Montgomery is CEO of Avalyn Pharma and has more than 25 years of life science operations and financing experience. Prior to Avalyn, Dr. Montgomery served as Chief Executive Officer of Cardeas, Senior Vice President of Gilead Sciences, and founder and Chief Executive Officer of Corus Pharma (acquired by Gilead in 2006). Dr. Montgomery also served as Executive Vice President of R&D at PathoGenesis Corporation until its acquisition by Chiron in 2000. Dr. Montgomery has raised over 250 million dollars in venture and public financings, and serves on the board of Alder, Cytodyne, and Xencor Pharmaceuticals.

In 1998, Dr. Montgomery was recognized by the FDA Commissioner with a special citation for leadership in the development and approval of TOBI. For this work, Dr. Montgomery also received the Inventor of the Year award from the University of Washington and received a scientific achievement award from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for his work on medications which collectively have extended the average life span of cystic fibrosis patients by over a decade.

Dr. Montgomery received his B.S. in Chemistry (Magna cum Laude, Outstanding Chemistry Major [Merck Award]), and M.D. (Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society) from the University of Washington, Seattle. In 2012, Dr. Montgomery was honored as one of the top 150 living graduates of the University of Washington College of Arts and Sciences in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the university. Dr. Montgomery is a board certified internist and pulmonologist.

David Pepperl, PhD
David Pepperl is a Senior Consultant and Nonclinical Group Leader at Biologics Consullting Group. Dr. Pepperl is a pharmacologist and toxicologist with experience in the early stage development of biologic products. Prior to joining Biologics Consulting, David served as toxicologist and preclinical development scientist at TherImmune Research Corporation, where he drafted nonclinical development plans, authored nonclinical sections of regulatory submissions and managed preclinical development programs for clients.

At Biologics Consulting, David designs and oversees nonclinical development programs for a variety of biologic products, including cell and gene therapies, vaccines, blood products, monoclonal antibodies and protein therapeutics as well as small molecules. In addition to protocol and study report reviews, Dr. Pepperl routinely performs nonclinical safety assessments, and both authors and reviews development plans for a diverse array of drugs and biologic products. He has written numerous nonclinical sections of pre-INDs, INDs and CTDs behalf of clients, and routinely assists sponsors with FDA meetings and other interactions with regulatory interactions. Dr. Pepperl has also worked closely with sponsors to source and manage both non-GLP and GLP safety studies at contract research organizations (CROs) and routinely performs GLP compliance inspections of behalf of clients.

David received his BS in Biochemistry from Michigan State University in 1988, and his PhD in Pharmacology & Toxicology from the University of Arizona in 1994 with an emphasis on the pharmacology and signaling of G-protein coupled receptors. He completed post-doctoral work at Pharmacia and Parke-Davis Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Pepperl joined Biologics Consulting as a Senior Consultant in January of 2004 and has served as Pharm/Tox team leader since 2015.

Hesham Sadek, MD, PhD
Dr. Sadek obtained his medical degree from Ain Sham University in Cairo, Egypt, and his PhD from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He completed clinical training in Internal Medicine and cardiology at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, and post doctoral-fellowship in cardiac regeneration at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He is a practicing cardiologist with board certification in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Disease and Echocardiography.

Dr. Sadek's research focuses on mammalian heart regeneration, and the link between metabolism and cell cycle regulation. He is currently an Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, and Associate Director of Center for Regenerative Science and Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center, where he holds the J. Fred Schoellkopf, Jr. Chair in Cardiology. The Sadek laboratory is funded by grants from NIH, AHA, NASA, CPRIT, CRSM and Fondation Leducq.