

# Life Sciences Discovery Fund Authority

## *Draft Board Minutes*

Tuesday, November 14, 2006 | 10:00a-3:00p  
at PNNL, Richland, WA

**Trustees Present:** Lura Powell (chair), Jim Cook, Sen Jerome Delvin, Tony Hey (via telecon), Gov Gary Locke, Rep Jeff Morris (via telecon), Bruce Montgomery (via telecon), Rep Skip Priest, Cheryl Scott, Rita Colwell

**Trustees Absent:** Sen Lisa Brown

**Others Attending:** Lee Huntsman, John DesRosier, Pamela Anderson, Shan Mullin, Brad Jurkovich, Bill Grinstein, Alden Jones, Lisa Stewart (via telecon), Len Peters, Ken Spitzer

## MINUTES

**Welcome** – Powell and Dr. Len Peters, Director of PNNL welcomed the group and Peters provided background on afternoon tour.

**Approval of Minutes** – Board approved minutes from the September 25 board meeting.

**Introductions** – Colwell updated the board on her recent international activities. Stewart (newly hired LSDF Grants Administrator) introduced herself with brief recap of vita.

### Progress Reports and Next Steps

- **Operations** – Jones shared budget (as of October 31, 2006) and an update on status of new facility at 2324 Eastlake Ave East.
- **Grants Administration** – Stewart discussed developing grant administration infrastructure and welcomed input from group.
- **Programs** – DesRosier briefed board on recent local and national reconnaissance trips. Colwell recommended contacting NAS and American Institute of Biological Science for reviews and San Diego's IT2 program staff for overall input. Scott recommended an early start for program officer recruiting. Huntsman mentioned temporary, part time hire of Rich Murphy (past PNRI communications director) to assist with writing LSDF programmatic documents.
- **Report to Legislature** – Huntsman noted that the December 1, 2006 Report to Legislature will focus on how LSDF intends to measure its success: by including ROI metrics in all grant reporting mechanisms.
- **Communications** – Huntsman shared Pyramid Communications "findings" from their discovery/interview phase. Positive overall report: comfortable with current leadership, eager for more specificity on how LSDF will work. Concerns raised by interviewees include: regional or institutional bias, ability to affect commercialization. With this input, Pyramid will begin drafting the communications strategy document. The board requested a one-page document explaining LSDF and its programs. Board also in favor of coordinating media efforts (success stories) with WBBA.

### Discussion Topics

- **Fund Raising** – Efforts to secure philanthropy to launch early grant competition are progressing. If successful, Huntsman will work with donors and Governor's office on an announcement in early December or January 2007.
- **Initial Grant Opportunity** – DesRosier briefed the group on anticipated events and associated timelines for running two grant competitions in 2007. The Board's consensus was that the timelines were aggressive but doable. Board authorized Huntsman to begin first round of grant-making using anticipated philanthropy. Board agreed that LSDF's first grant competition to focus on: "beneficial use of new or existing technologies to improve the cost-effectiveness and quality of healthcare starting with the residents of Washington State." Scott, Montgomery, Powell, Cook and Anderson volunteered to form sub-committee to pre-screen RFP language prior to presentation to board in January. Scott recommended meta analysis of what LSDF has/is/will learn for public consumption;

hardwire "aspiration to create knowledge" into the RFP. Locke asked for clarification re: donation path (funds deposited in state treasury or trust account), who can donors legally give to, whether LSDF can contract with for-profit entities and what restrictions apply regarding entities in vs out of state. Powell requested final grant recommendations to board need to be mapped against criteria so easily understandable.

- **Regenerative Medicine** – Huntsman noted LSDF has been asked whether it will entertain proposals related to regenerative medicine. Board advised to neither dismiss nor endorse stem cell proposals: to treat like any other proposal.
- **Support for Commercial Entities** – Powell reminded group that LSDF can direct funds to researcher at state universities or eligible 501 organizations and that LSDF encourages collaboration or consortia to include private entities according to laws of Washington State.
- **Proposed Locations for 2007 Meetings** – Board suggested the following: January – Seattle, March – Olympia, May – new LSDF office, and WSU Spokane for summer or fall.

Executive Session  
PNNL Tour  
Meeting Adjourned

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lee Huntsman*