

**Life Sciences Discovery Fund Authority**  
**Public Board Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, December 9, 2008 8:30a-9:45a PST  
Talaris Conference Center, Cedar Room, Seattle WA

**Trustees Present:** Lura Powell, Jim Cook, Sen Chris Marr, Bruce Montgomery, Rep Jeff Morris, Gov Gary Locke, Cheryl Scott, Sen Jerome Delvin, Rita Colwell (via telecon for part of executive session only) and Tony Hey (via telecon for all of public and part of executive session)

**Trustee Absent:** Rep Skip Priest

**Others Attending:** Lee Huntsman, John Des Rosier, Mark Hertle, Kelly Moutsos, Alden Jones, Dianne Needham, Cathy Manner, Brenda Stav, Pamela Anderson (AG), Mike Tribble (AG), Ed Derrick (AAAS), Prof David Boerner (ethics observer, Seattle University)

## MINUTES

### PUBLIC SESSION

**Welcome and Updates** – Lura Powell, board chair, welcomed the group. Minutes from the September 16, 2008 meeting were then approved.

- **Communications** (Needham) – New printed “Life Sciences Discovery Fund Update, Vol 1, No 1” and “Grant Portfolio” documents handed out. Needham mentioned representatives from WA State Department of Health and Medical Agencies invited to present at March 17, 2009 meeting in Olympia. Needham also mentioned Johnson & Johnson’s Corporate Office of Science & Technology expressed an interest in funding LSDF awards. She presented the public information sessions schedule for January 2009 regarding the LSDF 2009 Grant Competitions.
- **Finance** (Jones) – Composite financials as of October 31, 2008 were presented. No deviations to approved budget revenues or expenditures were noted.
- **Coalition** (Huntsman) – Coalition leadership is in ongoing conversations with legislators and legislative staff. They will work closely with LSDF and WBBA staff this session to advocate on LSDF’s behalf.

### Programs Updates (Des Rosier)

**Competitions Update and 2009 Calendar** – 07-01 second-round and 07-02 first-round of progress reports anticipated via online system beginning in January 2009. Staff will provide briefs of these reports at March 17 meeting. 08-01 grant agreements are in process: one is signed; one is ready for signature; and four are in negotiation. Des Rosier also presented the 2009 competition calendar showing key dates for each of the 09-01, 09-02, 09-03, and 09-04 awards.

**Commercialization Grants Plan** – At the September 16 board meeting, the trustees approved the launch of a new LSDF funding mechanism: “Commercialization Grants.” The purpose of the grants is to bridge the gap (aka “the valley of death”) between research discovery and application. The goal of the grants is to: reduce commercialization risk, support highly-focused prototype development/concept validation work, enhance start-up company formation and licensing opportunities, and foster entrepreneurial partnerships. Using a portion of the remaining donor and tobacco settlement funds, LSDF will host two pilot competitions per year totaling \$1.5M (\$750,000 per competition). Individual grants will be made up to \$150,000 and current LSDF granting policies and eligibility criteria apply to these new awards. The trustees will approve a proposed slate of external commercial reviewers at an upcoming board meeting and this group will evaluate all incoming pre-proposals. All pre-proposal applicants will receive feedback on their pre-proposals and they may then submit a full proposal to be evaluated by commercial and scientific experts.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) will conduct the scientific merit review and the commercial reviews will be performed by experts from LSDF's pool. LSDF trustees will discuss the commercial reviewer-ranked proposals at board meetings in July and December and announce award decisions in August and December 2009. **Board Recommendations Re Plan:** In the event a pre-proposal does not seem to have enough commercial merit to proceed to a full proposal, trustees suggest sending letter to PI outlining reviewer concerns, and discouraging but not prohibiting full-proposal submittal.

**Opportunity Fund**—Due to time constraints, trustees agreed to discuss this topic during an upcoming 2009 board meeting.

**08-02 Competition Recap**—The 08-02 competition, "Innovative Programs to Advance Health Research" is programmatic in nature and is intended to fund new research initiatives to better position institutions for future competitive success. 64 letters of intent were received, followed by 29 eligible proposals. All proposals were evaluated by AAAS expert panels using the following criteria: programs must be innovative and synergistic, leverage the applicant's strengths, be of strategic importance to the applicant organization, be sustainable and a potential draw for future monies, show significant resource commitments from the applicant organization, and advance LSDF's goals of improving health and health care and contributing to economic development and fostering competitiveness. Ten proposals were chosen to advance to the in-person, AAAS-hosted interviews in Seattle on November 12-13. AAAS panelists provided post-interview comments which the trustees will discuss in Executive Session. Des Rosier explained how the 08-02 proposals fit into LSDF's existing grant portfolio based on: the stage of research (the pathway from discovery, to development to delivery), the research strategy (the spectrum of prevention, to screening/diagnosis, to intervention/disease management, to systems), and the research topic. Trustees will vote on and announce 08-02 grants awards on December 16.

Note: The Board of Trustees met in Executive Session from 9:45a-3:15p to discuss the 08-02 proposals.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lee L. Huntsman, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Life Sciences Discovery Fund Authority*

Addendum to September 16, December 9 and December 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes

**Board of Trustees' Potential Conflicts of Interest Disclosures  
Life Sciences Discovery Fund 08-02 Proposals**

The following potential conflicts of interest, based on the policy at [http://www.lsdfa.org/about/background/Ethics\\_conflicts\\_interest\\_policy.pdf](http://www.lsdfa.org/about/background/Ethics_conflicts_interest_policy.pdf), were disclosed by board members for the December 9, 2008 board meeting at which proposals from applicants to the LSDF 08-02 competition were discussed. On December 16, 2008, the board voted on proposals to fund in the 08-02 competition; conflict of interest disclosures were re-solicited and were identical to those declared at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. This document is for attachment to the minutes of the September 16, December 9 and December 16, 2008 board meetings.

**Proposal # 2405635**

**Board Member: Gov. Gary Locke**

**Applicant: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center**

Reason for disclosure: Gov. Locke declared a "Beneficial Interest" in the applicant.

Result of disclosure: Gov. Locke did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Proposal # 2496490**

**Board Member: Gov. Gary Locke**

**Applicant: University of Washington**

**Co-Applicant: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center**

Reason for disclosure: Gov. Locke declared a "Beneficial Interest" in a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Gov. Locke did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Board Member: Lura Powell**

Reason for disclosure: Chairperson Powell declared a personal interest in the subject matter of the proposal.

**Proposal # 2511543**

**Board Member: Sen. Chris Marr**

**Applicant: Washington State University**

**Collaborator: Group Health Center for Health Studies**

Reason for disclosure: Sen. Marr declared a volunteer relationship with a not for profit affiliate of an applicant, co-applicant, or collaborator.

Result of disclosure: The Board determined that Sen. Marr did not have a beneficial interest in an applicant, co-applicant, or collaborator. Sen. Marr did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Board Member: Cheryl Scott**

**Applicant: Washington State University**

Reason for disclosure: Cheryl Scott declared a past employment relationship with a collaborator.

Result of disclosure: The Board determined that Ms. Scott's past employment relationship was not a beneficial interest. Ms. Scott did not recuse herself from the discussion or decision.

**Proposal # 2527361**

**Applicant: Seattle/King County Department of Public Health**

No conflicts

**Proposal # 2373550**

**Board Member: Cheryl Scott**

**Applicant: University of Washington**

**Co-Applicant:**

Reason for Disclosure: Ms. Scott declared a past employment relationship with a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Ms. Scott recused herself from the discussion and decision related to the proposal.

**Board Member: Sen. Chris Marr**

Reason for disclosure: Sen. Marr declared a volunteer relationship with a not for profit affiliate of a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Sen. Marr did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Proposal # 2398363**

**Board Member: Sen. Marr**

**Applicant: University of Washington**

**Co-Applicant:**

Reason for disclosure: Sen. Marr declared a volunteer relationship with a not for profit affiliate of a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Sen. Marr did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Board Member: Cheryl Scott**

Reason for Disclosure: Ms. Scott declared a past employment relationship with a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Ms. Scott recused herself from the discussion and decision related to the proposal.

**Board Member: Gov. Gary Locke**

Reason for disclosure: Gov. Locke declared a "Beneficial Interest" in a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Gov. Locke did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Proposal # 2520319**

**Board Member: Gov. Gary Locke**

**Applicant: Seattle Institute for Biomedical and Clinical Research**

**Collaborator:**

Reason for disclosure: Gov. Locke declared a "Beneficial Interest" in a collaborator.

Result of disclosure: Gov. Locke did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Proposal # 2494618**

**Board Member: Gov. Gary Locke**

**Applicant: University of Washington**

**Co-Applicant:**

Reason for disclosure: Gov. Locke declared a "Beneficial Interest" in a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Gov. Locke did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.

**Proposal # 2401219**

**Board Member: Gov. Gary Locke**

**Applicant: University of Washington**

**Co-Applicant:**

Reason for disclosure: Gov. Locke declared a "Beneficial Interest" in a co-applicant.

Result of disclosure: Gov. Locke did not rank, discuss or vote on the proposal.