USU Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine (CNRM)

USU Discussion Group Briefings

- June 27, 2008
- August 6, 2008
- October 8, 2008
- November 12, 2008
USU Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine (CNRM)

I. Research plan development stage
II. Establishing scientific support core facilities
III. Timeline for Research Planning, Writing, Review, and Award of Funding
IV. Trainee planning
V. CNRM infrastructure contract with HJF
VI. Ongoing groundwork
Research Avenues to Improve Repair

• **Diagnostics and Imaging** – characterize each patient’s injury to optimize diagnosis and treatment among available options

• **Biomarkers** – combine with other assessment tools, and personalize treatment options

• **Neuroprotection and Modeling** – preserve tissue structure and function; match studies of animal models to human pathological features

• **Neuroregeneration** - promote endogenous cell repair and address issues for transplantation of exogenous cells

• **Neuroplasticity** – modify available neural synapses and circuits to enhance function

• **Rehabilitation and Evaluation** – optimize usage and functional capacity through rehabilitative medicine
Working Group Leaders
- Input to policies for planning and writing up science.
- Lead meetings to develop research in each area as program project.
- Interact across groups for synergy of science within center
- Planning scientific support cores for efficiency and expertise in research

Working Groups – ~ 15 members for advisory roles in science and interactions

CNRM survey – over 160 responses – additions to Working Groups
CNRM Funding by Projected Use

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Note: ($000); Boxes indicate obligation period

FY08 funds being developed for 2 year project periods to end June 2011.
Process for Research Planning, Writing, Review, and Award of Funding

Planning Meetings
- CNRM Groups
- Sept. 15 - Nov. 15

Research Plan Writing
- CNRM Groups
- Nov. 1 - Dec. 31

Present to USU Office of Sponsored Programs
- Jan. 1 - 9

Outside Scientific Review*
- Feb. 9 - Mar. 20

USU Grants Management Office
- Jan. 26 - Feb. 6

HMJ Foundation
- Jan. 12 - 23

USU Program Review
- Mar. 23 - Apr. 10

AWARD
- Apr. 13 - May 1

* DOD/6001.08
Research Planning Meetings

8 week process – CNRM Groups

**CNRM Gap Analysis**
Federal Task Group for TBI & PH
collection briefing on Sept. 17, 2008

**Program Group Team Meetings**
To identify gaps and potential projects to fill
those gaps in TBI research; many meetings
throughout October.

**Program Directors Synergy Meeting**
CNRM-wide meeting to solidify research
plan development across the six program
areas; Nov. 5, 2008
Development/Expansion of Scientific Support Core Facilities

Phenotyping core (human studies)
Recruitment and Maintenance core (human studies)
Biosamples Registry (human studies)
Screening assays (includes biomarkers, bioinformatics)
Imaging (human studies)
In vivo Rodent Imaging
Animal Models of TBI
Rodent (rat, mouse) Behavioral Assessments
Histopathology (rodent, human)
Microscopy (includes stereology)
Establishing CNRM Trainee Programs

- CNRM doctoral fellowships for initial years to attract graduate students to USU

- CNRM doctoral fellowships for later years to support advanced students – competitive research proposal applications

- CNRM post-doctoral fellowships
Identification, development, and leasing of off-campus laboratory space. Visiting options now. Deciding how to best use space across sites.

Hiring of administrative and program support personnel. Now bringing in SPAs (3), IRB (1), IACUC (1). More SPA and IT positions later.

Support of meetings.
Ongoing Groundwork

- MOU with NIH signed 10/31/08. Now finalizing concept paper for interactions.
- Setting Steering Committees (subcommittees - Human Studies; Technical; Programmatic)
- IRB planning
- IPA framework established with CPMS; recruitment now
- Strategies being discussed for faculty recruitment
- Beginning to address credentialing across USU, WRNMMC, and NIH
- Space requirements are being addressed