

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION  
JOINT BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY/CLINICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**MINUTES OF THE FALL 2006 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW  
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY**

The teleconference began on December 8, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. and adjourned at 1 p.m. The meeting was held at VA Central Office, 1722 I Street, N.W. (Room 915), Washington, DC. The Chairperson, Michael Gaziano, M.D., MPH, presided throughout the meeting.

**PARTICIPANTS**

Mary Brophy, M.D., MPH  
Clayton Brown, Ph.D.  
Linda Fried, M.D., MPH  
Michael Gaziano, M.D., MPH  
Stephen Holliday, Ph.D., ABPP  
Laura Lazzeroni, Ph.D.  
Xiaomei Ma, Ph.D.

Laurence Magder, Ph.D.  
Theresa O'Connor, Ph.D.  
Dawn Provenzale, M.D., MS  
Tom Rector, Ph.D.  
Prateek Sharma, M.D.  
Brenda Sirovich, M.D., MS

**VACO STAFF PRESENT**

Grant Huang, M.P.H., Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for  
Epidemiology, and Deputy Director, Cooperative Studies Program, Research and  
Development  
Kristin Williams, Program Assistant, Research and Development

Dr. Huang welcomed the Subcommittee members and emphasized the importance of reviewing the proposals based on their scientific merit. The need for explicit and detailed Summary Statements was also emphasized, particularly for those proposals which would probably not receive funding and thereby receive "early warning." Dr. Huang discussed procedural matters including the need for confidentiality and the inclusion of women and minorities in clinical research.

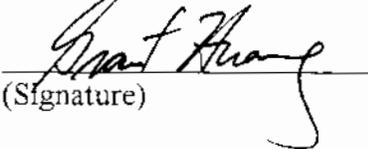
No dates were established for the Spring 2007 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 9 Merit Review Programs.

Full details of all Subcommittee actions are contained in the Summary Statements prepared by the Subcommittee. Subcommittee members were informed that the proceedings and

recommendations pertaining to the merit review of component research programs are considered to be privileged information.

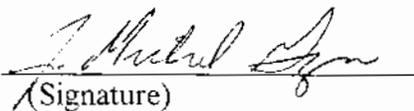
**SUBMITTED:**

  
(Signature)

HUANG GRANT, PH.D.  
Portfolio Manager

2-28-07  
(Date)

**APPROVED:**

  
(Signature)

MICHAEL GAZIANO, M.D., M.P.H.  
Chairperson

3/6/07  
(Date)