

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES-A**

The meeting began on May 5, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Degas Room, L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC. The Chairperson, Jean Beckham, Ph.D., presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Caleb M. Adler, M.D.
Dewleen Baker, M.D.
Jean Beckham, Ph.D.
Marylene Cloitre, Ph.D.
Kathryn M. Connor, M.D.
Julian D. Ford, Ph.D.

Anne Germain, Ph.D.
Peter Hauser, M.D.
Jacob Raber, Ph.D.
Kerry Ressler, M.D.
Jair C. Soares, M.D.

MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Sterling Johnson, Ph.D.
K. Luan Phan, M.D.

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Robert Anderson, Ph.D., Hines VA Hospital, Hines, IL
Peter Guarno, Ph.D., Connecticut VAMC, West Haven, CT
Kwan Hur, Ph.D., Hines VAMC, Hines, IL
Rachel Kimerling, Ph.D., VA Palo Alto Healthcare System, Menlo Park, CA
Kathryn M. Magruder, Ph.D., Charleston VAMC, Charleston, SC
Terry O'Connor, Ph.D., Connecticut VAMC, West Haven, CT
Thomas Moritz, Ph.D., Connecticut VAMC, West Haven, CT
Chris Reist, M.D., VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, CA
Charlene Tang, Ph.D., Hines VAMC, Hines, IL
Jane Zhang, Ph.D., Connecticut VAMC, West Haven, CT

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy Frey, Ph.D., Chief Program Review, Research and Development
Theresa Gleason, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Mental

Health and Behavioral Sciences-A, Research and Development
Nilima Karnik, Program Analyst, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

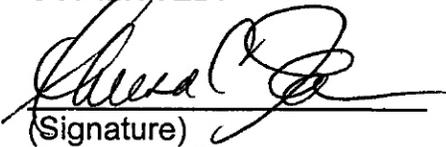
Dr. Gleason welcomed the Subcommittee members and emphasized the importance of reviewing the proposals based on their scientific merit. The need for explicit and detailed Summary Statements was also emphasized, particularly for those proposals which would probably not receive funding. Dr. Gleason discussed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

The date of November 24, 2008, was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

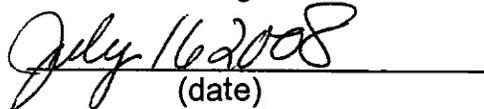
The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 20 Merit Review Programs.

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.

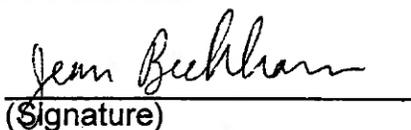
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(Signature)

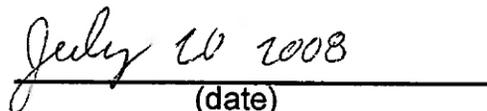
THERESA GLEASON, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager


(date)

APPROVED:


(Signature)

JEAN BECKHAM, PH.D.
Chairperson


(date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE FALL 2007 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES-B**

The meeting began on November 8, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Board Room, Marriot Crystal City, 1999 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. The Chairperson, William B. Barr, Ph.D., ABPP, presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alan Bellack, Ph.D., ABPP
Kevin M. Duff, Ph.D.
L. Fredrik Jarskog, M.D.
Christian G. Kohler, MD
Akira Sawa, M.D., Ph.D.
Randall Scheibel, Ph.D.

MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Erin A. Hazlett, Ph.D. (Written Review)

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

William B. Barr, Ph.D., ABPP, NYU, New York, NY
John Brooks, Ph.D., MD, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
Paul Buckland, MD, Heath Park, Cardiff, UK
John Dani, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
Bob Edson, MA, Biostatistician, VA Palo Alto Healthcare System, Menlo Park, CA
Preston Garraghty, Ph.D., Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Ann Olincy, M.D., Colorado Psychiatric Hospital, Denver, CO
Laura Plantinga, SCM, Baltimore, MD
Mei-Chiung Shih, Ph.D., VA Palo Alto Healthcare System, Menlo Park, CA
Andrew Skol, MD, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
David Sultzer, M.D., VA Medical Center, West Los Angeles, CA

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy Frey, Ph.D., Chief, Program Review, Research and Development
Theresa Gleason, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences-B, Research and Development
Nilima Karnik, Program Analyst, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

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

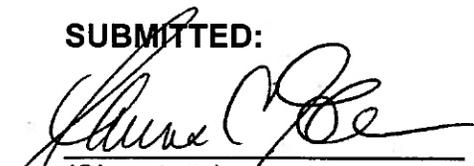
The date of November 13, 2008, was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 19 Merit Review Programs.

Three proposals were deemed not competitive and were not discussed or scored.

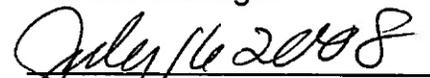
Full details of all Subcommittee actions are contained in the Summary Statements prepared by the Subcommittee. Subcommittee members were informed that the proceedings and recommendations pertaining to the merit review of component research programs are considered to be privileged information.

SUBMITTED:



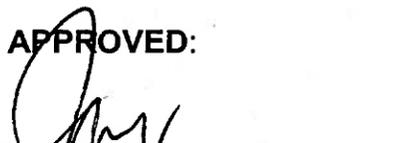
(Signature)

THERESA GLEASON, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager



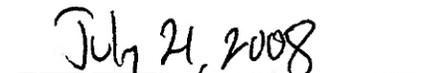
(Date)

APPROVED:



(Signature)

WILLIAM B. BARR, PH.D., ABPP
Chairperson



(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR NEPHROLOGY**

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m. and concluded at 4:30 p.m. on June 6, 2008. The meeting was held in the Degas Meeting Room at The L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC. The Chairperson, Karen A. Griffin, MD, FACP, presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael J. Choi, MD
Carolyn M. A. Ecelbarger, PhD
Catherine M. Fuller, PhD
Karen A. Griffin, MD, FACP
Pascale H. Lane, MD
Eleanor D. Lederer, MD

Paul W. Sanders, MD, FACP
Virginia J. Savin, MD
James D. Stockand, PhD
Christie P. Thomas, MD
Volker Vallon, MD

MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Armin Just, MD, PhD
Yashpal S. Kanwar, MD, PhD (teleconference)
Matthew R. Weir, MD, PhD
Jianchao Xu, MD, PhD

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Rajiv Agarwal, MD, VA Medical Center, Indianapolis, IN
Bellamkonda K. Kishore, MD, VA Medical Center, Salt Lake City, UT
Ambra Pozzi, PhD, VA Medical Center, Nashville, TN
Brooks S. Robey, MD, FASN, VA Medical Center, White River Junction, VT

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy Frey, PhD, Chief, Program Review, Research and Development
Zaheer Parvez, PhD, Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Nephrology, Research and Development
Verna Cozier-Louis, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Parvez welcomed the Subcommittee members and ad hoc consultants and thanked them for their hard work and dedication. He then presented a written text of Subcommittee instructions to the members.

The date of December 5, 2008, was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 31 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. The Subcommittee members were asked to read and sign the VA Post-Review Certification form describing confidentiality and non-disclosure as well as conflict of interest.

SUBMITTED:

Zaheer Parvez
(Signature)

ZAHEER PARVEZ, PHD
Portfolio Manager

7/9/08
(Date)

APPROVED:

Karen A. Griffin, MD
(Signature)

KAREN A. GRIFFIN, MD, FACP
Chairperson

7/21/08
(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR NEUROBIOLOGY-A**

The meeting began at 12:00 p.m. on June 9, 2008 and adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held via teleconference. The Chairperson, Mark Greenwald, Ph.D., presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Greenwald, Ph.D.
Arthur L. Brody, M.D.
Paul S. Frankel, Ph.D.
Donald M. Kuhn, Ph.D.
Steven J. Lash, Ph.D.
Scott D. Moore, M.D.
Carol Anne Paronis, Ph.D.

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Marlene Oscar Berman, Ph.D., Boston University, Boston MA
Paul S. Frankel, Ph.D., University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
Steven J. Lash, Ph.D., VA Medical Center-Salem, Salem, VA
Aimee Mayeda, M.D., Indianapolis VA Medical Center
Richard A. Radcliff, Ph.D., University of Colorado, Denver, CO
Irina V. Zhdanova, Ph.D., Boston University Medical School, Boston, MA

VACO STAFF PRESENT

Joseph C. Webster, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Neurobiology-A, Research and Development
Harry Crosland, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

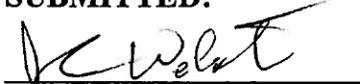
The need for explicit and detailed Summary Statements was emphasized, particularly for those proposals which would probably not receive funding and thereby receive "early warning." Dr. Webster discussed procedural matters including the need for confidentiality in clinical research.

December 5, 2008 was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 18 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)

JOSEPH C. WEBSTER, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager (Acting)

1. July, 2008
(Date)

APPROVED:


(Signature)

MARK GREENWALD, PH.D.
Chairperson

7/2/08
(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR NEUROBIOLOGY-C**

The meeting began on June 2, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the St. Gregory Hotel, Washington, DC. The Chairperson, W. Dalton Dietrich, Ph.D., presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

W. Dalton Dietrich, Ph.D.	Patrick D. Lyden, M.D.
William M. Armstead, Ph. D.	Gerald A. Marks, Ph. D.
David Burt, Ph.D.	Marion Murray, Ph.D.
Ruth B. Caldwell, Ph.D.	Ramesh Raghupathi, Ph.D.
George H. Devries, Ph.D.	Thomas M. Reeves, Ph.D.
Andrew Escayg, Ph.D.	William H. Seiple, Ph.D.
Raymond J. Grill, Ph.D.	John T. Slevin, M.D.
Lyn Jakeman, Ph.D.	Sheng-Kwei Song, Ph.D.
Richard E. Jones, Ph.D.	Ronald S. Szymusiak, Ph.D.
Bradley J. Katz, M.D.	
Anthony E. Kline, Ph.D.	

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Richard Altshuler, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI *
Gwendolyn L. Kartje, M.D., Ph.D., VAMC Hines, Hines, IL
Kamel Khalili, Ph.D., Temple University, Philadelphia, PA *
John W. Krakauer, M.D., The Neurological Institute, New York, NY *
Sherry Leonard, Ph.D., University of Colorado, Aurora, CO *
Terry Oberley, M.D., Ph.D., VAMC Madison, Madison WI *
Richard Ross, M.D., VA Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA *
Terry T. Takahashi, Ph.D., University of Oregon, Eugene, OR *
Mark A. Yorek, Ph.D., University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA *

* - Teleconference reviewer

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy Frey, Ph.D., Chief, Program Review, Research and Development
Joseph C. Webster, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Neurobiology-C, Research and Development
Harry Crosland, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Webster 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 that would probably not receive funding and thereby receive "early warning." Dr. Webster discussed procedural matters including the need for confidentiality and the inclusion of women and minorities in clinical research.

December 11- 12, 2008 are the dates established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 46 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)

JOSEPH C. WEBSTER, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager

1 July, 2008
(Date)

APPROVED:



(Signature)

W. DALTON DIETRICH, PH.D.
Chairperson

7/2/08
(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR NEUROBIOLOGY-D**

The meeting began on June 9, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Westin Hotel (Ashlawn North Meeting Room), 1400 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. The Chairperson, Garth Ringheim, Ph.D., presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Mrak, M.D., Ph.D.
P. Hemachandra Reddy, Ph.D.
Garth Ringheim, Ph.D.

Mark Smith, Ph.D.
Russell Swerdlow, M.D.

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Cesar Borlongan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Medical College of Georgia,
Augusta, GA
Rudolph Castellani, M.D., Professor, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
Mark Kindy, Ph.D., Professor, Medical Univ of South Carolina, Charleston, SC
Lih-Fen Lue, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, Sun Health Research Institute, Sun City, AZ
Elliott Mufson, Ph.D., Professor, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL
Michael Mullan, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Roskamp Institute, Sarasota, FL

VACO STAFF PRESENT

William Goldberg, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Neurobiology-D, Research and Development
Kristin Williams-Curtis, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVERS

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Goldberg 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 that would probably not receive funding and thereby receive "early warning."

Dr. Goldberg discussed procedural matters including the need for confidentiality and the inclusion of women and minorities in clinical research.

No dates were established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 18 Merit Review Programs.

Five proposals were deemed not competitive and were not discussed or scored.

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.

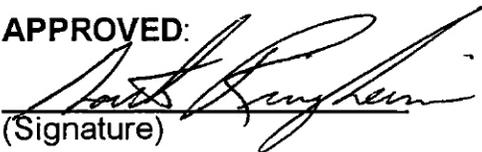
SUBMITTED:


(Signature)

WILLIAM J. GOLDBERG, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager

(Date)

APPROVED:


(Signature)

GARTH RINGHEIM, PH.D.
Chairperson

7-20-08

(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR NEUROBIOLOGY-E**

The meeting began on May 15, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 3 p.m. The meeting was held at VA Central Office, 1722 I Street, NW (Room 926), Washington, DC. Chairperson, John Duda, M.D., presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Duda, M.D.
Matthew Farrer, Ph.D.
Nigel Maidment, Ph.D.
David Yurek, Ph.D.

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Cesar Borlongan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Medical College of Georgia,
Augusta, GA
Mark Cookson, Ph.D., Senior. Research Fellow, National Institute of Aging,
Bethesda, MD
D'Mello Santosh, Ph.D., Professor, University of TX at Dallas, Richardson, TX
Christopher Link, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Univ of Colorado, Boulder, CO

VACO STAFF PRESENT

William Goldberg, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Neurobiology-E, Research and Development
Kristin Williams-Curtis, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVERS

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Goldberg 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 that would probably not receive funding. Dr. Goldberg discussed procedural matters including the need for confidentiality and the inclusion of women and minorities in clinical research.

No date was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 10 Merit Review Programs.

Three proposals were deemed not competitive and were not discussed or scored.

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.

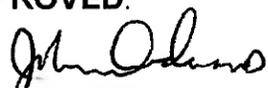
SUBMITTED:


(Signature)

WILLIAM GOLDBERG, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager

(Date)

APPROVED:


(Signature)

JOHN DUDA, M.D.
Chairperson

7/24/08
(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE
MERIT REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE FOR ONCOLOGY**

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m. and recessed at 6:15 p.m. on June 12, 2008. The meeting reconvened at 8:00 a.m. and ended at 2:30 p.m. on June 13, 2008. The meeting was held at The L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC. The Chairperson, Richard Bold, M.D., presided over the meeting except for discussion of proposals with which he was in conflict.

MEMBER(S) PRESENT

Richard Bold, M.D.
Hari K. Koul, Ph.D.
M. Vijay Kumar, Ph.D.
Jack H. Lichy, M.D., Ph.D.
Matthew Rettig, M.D.
Rhonda Souza, M.D.
Jie (Jerry) Wu, Ph.D.

MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Shrikant Anant, Ph.D.
Michael C. Heinrich, M.D.
Balakrishna L. Lokeshwar, Ph.D.
Elizabeth A. Repasky, Ph.D.
Peiqing Sun, Ph.D.

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Rosalyn Adam, Ph.D., Staff Scientist, Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, MA
Guan Chen, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
Paul J. Chiao, Ph.D., Professor, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Michael J. Ciesielski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Oncology, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY
J. Mark Cline, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Wake Forest University Health Sciences, Winston-Salem, NC
Harvey J. Cohen, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Stanford University, Stanford, CA
John A. Copland, Ph.D., Professor, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL
Rajvir Dahiya, Ph.D., Professor and Director, VA Medical Center, San Francisco, CA
Thomas S. Griffith, Ph.D., Associate Professor, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Robert A. Harris, Ph.D., Staff Scientist, Richard Roudebush VA Medical Center, Indianapolis, IN
Warren Heston, Ph.D., Director, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH

Santosh K. Katiyar, Ph.D., Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham,
Birmingham, AL
Addanki P. Kumar, Ph.D., Professor, The University of Texas Health Science Center,
San Antonio, TX
Linda H. Malkas, Ph.D., Professor, Indiana University School of Medicine,
Indianapolis, IN
Ross B. Mikkelsen, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Virginia Commonwealth University,
Richmond, VA
John Schmitz, Ph.D., Research Scientist, VA Medical Center, West Haven, CT
Herbert S. Schwartz, M.D., Professor and Vice Chairman, Vanderbilt Orthopedic
Institute, Nashville, TN
Christopher R. Shea, M.D., Professor and Chief, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Imad Shureiqi, M.D., Professor, University of Texas MD Anderson, Houston, TX
George R. Simon, M.D., Professor, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research
Institute, Tampa, FL
Rakesh Srivastava, Ph.D., Associate Professor, The University of Texas Health
Center at Tyler, Tyler, TX
Shahid Umar, Ph.D., Professor, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX
Anil Wali, Ph.D., Health Science Specialist, John D. Dingell VA Medical Center,
Detroit, MI
Gary S. Wood, M.D., Staff Physician, VA Medical Center, Madison, WI

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy Frey, Ph.D., Chief, Program Review, Research and Development
Ralph Paxton, Ph.D., Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for Oncology,
Research and Development
Dante' S. Wells, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVERS

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Paxton welcomed the Subcommittee members and thanked them for their cooperation. He read a prepared text describing the procedures for the conduct of the meeting. Dr. Paxton asked the Subcommittee to focus on the scientific merit of the proposals and to use the full range of priority scores. He also stressed the need for explicit and detailed Summary Statements addressing significance, approach, and feasibility, as they are the only basis for an appeal. He reminded the Subcommittee of VA policies regarding confidentiality and conflict of interest.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 54 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:

Ralph Paxton
(Signature)

RALPH PAXTON, PH.D.
Portfolio Manager

(Date)

APPROVED:

Richard Bold
(Signature)

RICHARD BOLD, M.D.
Chairperson

7-25-08
(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR RESPIRATION**

The meeting was held on May 9, 2008, in the Monticello Ballroom Meeting Room at the Marriott Crystal City Hotel, 1999 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The Chairperson, Judith A. Neubauer, PhD, presided throughout the meeting, which began at 8:00 a.m. and adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Franco Laghi, MD
Dennis W. McGraw, MD
Jordan Metcalf, MD
Judith A. Neubauer, PhD

Debra J. Romberger, MD
Julie Wilder, PhD
Reen Wu, PhD

MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Veena B. Antony, MD (teleconference)
David M. Guidot, MD
C. Michael Hart, MD
Thomas R. Martin, MD

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

York E. Miller, MD, VA Medical Center, Denver, CO (teleconference)
Mark Schuyler, MD, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy G. Frey, PhD, Chief, Program Review, Research and Development
Zaheer Parvez, PhD, Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Respiration, Research and Development
Kristin William-Curtis, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Parvez welcomed the Subcommittee members and thanked them for their help and cooperation. He emphasized the importance of detailed Summary Statements with

emphasis on significance, approach, and feasibility. Dr. Parvez also reminded the Subcommittee of the scoring guidelines and stressed that these criteria should be used. Additionally, Dr. Frey thanked the members and encouraged them to write substantive Summary Statements. He presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Dennis McGraw.

The date of November 21, 2008, was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 26 Merit Review Proposals.

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. They were asked to read and sign a Post-Review Certification form describing confidentiality and non-disclosure as well as conflict of interest form.

SUBMITTED:

Zaheer Parvez
(Signature)

ZAHEER PARVEZ, PHD
Portfolio Manager

7/9/08
(Date)

APPROVED:

Judith A. Neubaue
(Signature)

JUDITH A. NEUBAUER, MD
Chairperson

7/17/08
(Date)

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING 2008 MEETING OF THE MERIT REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR SURGERY**

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m. and recessed at 1:00 p.m. on June 9, 2008. The meeting was held in the Ashlawn South Meeting Room at The Westin Washington, DC City Center Hotel, 1400 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. The Chairperson, Keith C. Ozaki, MD, FACS, presided throughout the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Peter K. Henke, MD	C. Keith Ozaki, MD, FACS
Tien C. Ko, MD	Cathleen L. Raggio, MD
Jie Li, MD, PhD	Xiao-Di Tan, MD

MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Charles S. Cox, MD
Mary A. Kosir, MD, FACS (teleconference)
Jian-Ying Wang, MD, PhD (teleconference)

AD HOC CONSULTANT(S)

Bradley S. Bender, MD, VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL (teleconference)
Margot S. Damaser, PhD, VA Medical Center, Cleveland, OH (teleconference)
Louis J. Dell'Italia, MD, VA Medical Center, Birmingham, AL (teleconference)
Melina Kibbe, MD, RVT, VA Medical Center, Chicago, IL (teleconference)
Gregory J. Kinnett, MD, Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA
Erik Nisson, MD, Seattle, WA (teleconference)
Madhavan Raghavan, PhD, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (teleconference)
Robert L. Smith, PhD, VA Palo Alto Health Care System, Palo Alto, CA
James S. Walter, PhD, VA Medical Center, Hines, IL (teleconference)
Mark L. Zaidel, MD, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
(teleconference)

VACO STAFF PRESENT

LeRoy Frey, PhD, Chief, Program Review, Research and Development
Zaheer Parvez, PhD, Portfolio Manager, Merit Review Subcommittee for
Surgery, Research and Development
Verna Cozier-Louis, Program Assistant, Research and Development

OBSERVER(S)

None

The minutes of the last meeting of the Subcommittee were read and approved.

Dr. Parvez welcomed the Subcommittee members and the ad hoc consultants. He thanked them for their cooperation and contribution to the VA Merit Review Program and then read the Subcommittee instructions to the members.

The date of November 10, 2008, was established for the Fall 2008 meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the review of 22 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. The Subcommittee members were asked to read and sign the VA Post-Review Certification form describing confidentiality and non-disclosure as well as conflict of interest.

SUBMITTED:

Zaheer Parvez
(Signature)

ZAHEER PARVEZ, PHD
Portfolio Manager

7/9/08
(Date)

APPROVED:
[Signature]
(Signature)

C. KEITH OZAKI, MD, FACS
Chairperson

7/15/8
(Date)