



Life Sciences South Florida
Executive Committee Meeting – Nov. 27, 2012
9:00AM – 11:00AM
University of Miami Life Science and Technology Park
1951 Northwest 7th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136

Attendees: Dr. Mark Rosenberg, Dr. Irma Becerra-Fernandez, Dr. Heather Belmont, Marcela Cambolor-Cutsaimanis, Isabel Cosio-Carballo, Andrew Duffell, Dr. Jennifer O’Flannery, Dr. Andres Gil, Roberto Grillo, Todd Holt, Dr. Cecile Houry, Dr. Linda Howdyshell, Dr. Norma Kenyon, Dr. Philip LoGrasso, Dr. Gary Margules, Dr. Ronaldo Montoya, Chris Mootoo, Frank Nero, Dr. Roy Pocknee, Shawn Rowan, Stephen Sauls, Dr. Ronald Toll, Dr. Susan Webster, Dr. Claudia Zylberberg

Not in Attendance: Kelly Smallridge, Dr. Mary Jane Saunders, Dr. David Armstrong, Dr. Ivan Baines, Dr. Dennis Gallon, Dr. Ed Massey

I. Review and Approval of September 24, 2012 LSSF Meeting Minutes

President Rosenberg motioned to approve the September 24, 2012 Life Sciences South Florida (LSSF) Executive Committee meeting minutes and they were approved.

II. Old Business

A. BioFlorida Conference

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: Life Sciences South Florida was a Gold Sponsor of the Annual BioFlorida Conference 2012 in October. The BioFlorida Conference gave us a really great opportunity to network and make new contacts. Our FIU and LSSF booths were constantly visited by people interested in learning more about our initiatives. I want to especially thank those who volunteered to staff our LSSF booth. Thank you to:

- a. Jennifer Ramos Hernandez from The Beacon Council
- b. Todd Holt from the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance
- c. Alexandra Gorgevska from the Banner Center for Life Sciences at Palm Beach State College
- d. Casey Lunceford, Tom D’elia, Anthony Iacono from Indian River State College
- e. And Paige Garrido from Florida Atlantic University

The help from these volunteers was truly invaluable. In fact, two of our upcoming webinar speakers were individuals we connected with at the conference—Thomas Ross from Florida Biosciences and Meridith Rentz from MedShare. As some of you may know, I had the privilege of moderating the closing general session at the conference, featuring President Rosenberg, President Shalala, and President Nero.

President Rosenberg asked whether the member institutions present would like to sponsor BioFlorida once more in their 2013 Annual Conference. All member institutions present agreed that sponsoring in 2013 would be a good investment. President Rosenberg asked that VP Becerra-Fernandez follow through on this to make sure all the institutions have a presence at BioFlorida in 2013 and there is a value added beyond the sponsorship itself.

Dr. Belmont: We can be silver sponsors and then sponsor a breakfast or slide presentation to make more of an impact at the meeting.



President Rosenberg: I will ask VP Becerra-Fernandez to wrap this up and come back with a final advice.

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: I would also like to take a moment to announce that Philip LoGrasso, Senior Director Drug Discovery at The Scripps Research Institute will be representing Scripps on our Executive Committee.

B. Life Sciences Industry Cluster Analytics Group

President Rosenberg: Reported on Life Sciences Industry Cluster Analytics Group. The meeting was a success because we learned what educational programs related to life sciences produce more or less students than the market requires.

On October 26, 2012 we convened 10 CEOs and C-level Executives for Life Sciences Industries at the President's House on the FIU main campus with the goal of better understanding their workforce and training needs. This meeting was co-sponsored by The Banner Center at Palm Beach State College and The Haas Center at University of West Florida.

Through the opportunity for conversation among life science industry leaders we learned, for example, that there is an abundance of electrical engineers applying for jobs, but not enough computer engineers. This indicated to all of us that perhaps an effective way to better meet local companies' workforce needs could be, for example, to offer electrical engineers or biomedical engineers, both in abundance in the region, more opportunities to take classes in computer engineering so they can also be marketable for jobs that require those sets of skills. The convening was very useful and the experience of leveraging our work with The Banner Center and Haas Center to make this possible was very positive.

Dr. O'Flannery: The next Life Sciences Industry Cluster meeting will be January 29, 2013 at Florida Atlantic University .

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez offered to put Dr. O'Flannery in touch with Jill Diodato, who may be able to assist with convening a similar event at FAU.

III. New Business

A. World Stem Cell Summit 2012

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: On November 9, 2012 we sent out an email informing all of our executive committee members about a great opportunity to attend the World Stem Cell Summit 2012 in Palm Beach this December 3, through 5 (the email was sent out by Jenesis). The summit will provide an ideal setting for networking, since it draws from over 25 countries in cross-disciplinary pursuits. Primary researchers, philanthropists, entrepreneurs, and policy makers will be in attendance at the event. The summit will also be a perfect place to make meaningful professional connections; there will be 65 hours of speaker presentations by leaders in translational medicine and sciences fields, ongoing exhibitions, and small group social events fostering one-on-one interactions.

We have the opportunity to give those interested a discount code to register with. Each of our 16 member institutions is able to send two representatives at a discounted rate of \$250. Life Sciences South Florida will have a booth at the event. Dr. Becerra-Fernandez will attend part of the event.



President Rosenberg: This is a great chance for our students to attend and interact with state of the art technology and researchers. Jenesis will send out the discount code.

B. One Oklahoma Research Project

Dr. Gil: The State Universities in Oklahoma have created a program through which universities collaborate in grant applications and share resources or expertise to make the applications more competitive. Creating a similar initiative is proposed for the LSSF. Initial steps may include creating a group composed of the VPs of research to identify opportunities for collaboration and infrastructure for LSSF grants.

More collaboration between faculty across institutions should be happening in our region. It was proposed to create a group based on LSSF, which will provide infrastructure for the collaboration of our faculty with industry. This is similar to what happens with Florida High Tech Corridor. One of the challenges will be getting together and determining what the best areas for collaboration are. By collaborating we can be more competitive than if we were taking initiatives alone.

Dr. Margules: I support this idea this is a great opportunity to do something that we have not done before. More and more initiatives are not inter-professional and inter-disciplinary.

President Rosenberg: Lets hear from Dr. Toll and Dr. O'Flannery. Would you be interested in founding a research initiative committee to take advantage of some opportunities we may be missing out on individually?

Dr. Toll: We would be happy to be involved in this initiative that will maximize our resources and benefit our students in terms of being undergrads in one college and then graduates in another partner institution.

Dr. O'Flannery: We should narrow down where there is overlap between our institutions. Narrowing where we need to focus is essential.

Dr. Kenyon: I agree that we need to understand where there is overlap and then determine areas of opportunity. We need to show proof of funded use. If we group together we can advance.

President Rosenberg asked who would take the lead in this project and it was agreed that Dr. Kenyon, Dr. Margules, and Dr. Gil would be the leaders. Dr. Gil also mentioned he would contact Dr. Anderson at FAU.

C. Seven/50 Report

Steve Sauls: A couple of years ago as part of the Greater Miami Chamber group we visited the White House and they started talking about a regional planning initiative. Under the leadership of the South Florida Planning Council we applied for a regional HUD planning grant and we got it. This is one of the largest grants awarded for regional planning. Transportation, education, pollution, and sea level rise do not respect our county boundaries. We are all faced with many of the same challenges. The question is do we have a structure in place that can deal with regional planning? This is an investment planning project involving 7 counties over 50 years, which is why it's called Seven/50. The 1st key to success was a high level of chamber support, delegation support and mayor support for securing this grant. The 2nd feat was to create a regional plan that made sense. The 3rd key factor will be to execute an implementation strategy and sustainability strategy for which LSSF is key because LSSF already has the continuity and the sustainability of focus and operation.



- Marcela Cambolor-Cutsaimanis led the Seven/50 Presentation (See Seven/50 PowerPoint Presentation)

Marcela Cambolor-Cutsaimanis: Seven/50 is an investment plan for 7 different counties over 50 years. Our region is larger in population than 33 states and we do not fully take advantage of our strengths. Seven/50 is all about collaboration and deciding that if we work together we become more competitive. Partners in Seven/50 have applied to grants together and have received those grants. They have had success working together. We want to partner with LSSF so that we do not reinvent the wheel. We finished an intense public participation project. We called this the Seven/50 road show and discovered three things through the project.

We saw 3 issues come up consistently:

1. Transportation
2. Diversification of our economy - We need to evolve past being known as a region focused on real estate, tourism, and agriculture. We need to focus more on how to promote our strong biotechnology industry.
3. Education in the Workforce

Our issue is that as a region we have no unified plan and that is why we want to reach out to organizations like LSSF and help make these collaborative initiatives stronger. Unless we join forces we will not be competitive in the national and global economy. The goal is to understand how we can benefit from a partnership with LSSF. If we do not join together we will not be able to compete in the global economy. Seven/50 is about becoming more globally resilient. The goal for us it to try to understand how Seven/50 and LSSF can benefit from a mutual partnership.

A few initiatives I would like to mention are Climate Compact and Regional Data Warehouse. The warehouse maps everything you would want to know about the region in terms of socioeconomic data and land use. We invite you to visit our website Seven50.org. The last thing to mention is that on January 24, 2013 we are holding our 2nd summit at the Wolfson MDC campus. At that point Seven/50 will move from an input gathering phase to a planning phase. We want LSSF to have a presence at the summit. If LSSF has a presence there it will be easier to determine how we can collaborate.

Please feel free to contact us at:

1. seven50.org
2. Twitter @seven50plan; #seven50

Claudia: Is the Data Warehouse in use?

Marcela Cambolor-Cutsaimanis: We can grant access to whomever so you can better determine whether the warehouse would be useful to you.

Dr. O'Flannery: How does seven/50 align with the 7 pillars representing the Beacon Council's strategic industry pillars?

Marcela Cambolor-Cutsaimanis: Everything Seven/50 is doing is aligning with those principles. We are using the 7 pillars as the implementation tool for Seven/50.



President Rosenberg: The issue of transportation. There is a development that proposes to establish the train system to get all the way up to central Florida. That has significant promise in building a stronger regional connection. This ease of transportation will make collaborating on advanced research more likely and streamlined. It seems to be that is a project that is ideal for seven/50. This will also be a great benefit to LSSF. That is an opportunity that we should not let pass.

Marcela Camblor-Cutsaimanis: That transportation initiative is privately funded and we are involved with that. The Department of Transportation is also trying to determine where they would fit in, how it will run, and who will be operating the system.

President Rosenberg: The critical part is to establish a position in this legacy project. We have a great chance to bring the education community together in an effort to get this high-speed rail running. This will bring us closer to collaborating among colleges, universities and researchers. We would be happy to work with you to help launch this effort. This can be the framework via which the Seven/50 plan takes off.

President Rosenberg: Dr. Becerra, we should ask the Shared Technology subcommittee to look at the database Seven/50 is establishing and determine how we can best help each other and synergize. Dr. Becerra, Jenesis and Alina can determine areas of synergy and opportunities for collaboration.

Steve Sauls: We would like the participation of LSSF at the summit on January 24, 2013.

President Rosenberg: We would have to know more about that format and then open it up to get stakeholders involved. Steve, brainstorm what you would like the presence of LSSF at the conference to entail. Then come back to Dr. Becerra and we will work on more structured participation.

Dr. O'Flannery: I suggest we provide more clarity on the biotech side at the summit. We could provide clarity on the field at the conference and that can be our role.

President Rosenberg: When is the cut off for presenting what our participation would be?

Marcela Camblor-Cutsaimanis: At least 10 days before the meeting—January 10, 2013.

IV. Subcommittees

A. Shared Communication Portal

Dr. Margules: UM, Max Plank, Nova, FIU, FAU is the pilot group for this initiative. Connections, format, and content have been developed. We have also successfully determined the best interim solution for the portal. There is a downside risk of some planning taking too long and then people becoming disenchanted with the portal. However, we have begun and we have outlined our format and future goals. We would prefer to launch this sooner rather than later and get impute about functionality. We should consider a disclaimer to establish LSSF is not responsible for damages. Instead the partners involved in the transaction are responsible. I have drafted a brief disclaimer. I would like to thank Dr. Webster and Chris Mootoo for their work on this project.

President Rosenberg: “Shared Equipment Portal” sounds very industrial; perhaps “Shared Research Portal” would be better. The official title is to be determined.



Summary of Mr. Grillo's presentation: From the technology perspective this portal is very scalable with plenty of searchable capabilities. It is also mobile ready. We want it to be as flexible as possible for the users. You will be able to search by institution or by item. From the application perspective, the technology is the easy part and the management of data is the challenge. How the data will be displayed and how information will be populated is to be determined. The portal also has analytics built into it. We will be able to see what the most searched items are; this will help us determine what equipment or services are in high demand. In December 2012 we will reach out to partners so we can populate some data into the portal.

Dr. Kenyon: Once this is established we can invite state agencies to participate as well. If it was successful we can be more inclusive.

President Rosenberg: LSSF is meant to be inclusive, thus this is a perfect idea and future goal for the portal. It reflects our mission to utilize our collective assets and facilitate collaborations as a means to generate high-technology and high-paying employment and stimulate economic growth in the region.

Dr. Gil: The biggest challenge within institutions is determining their own inventory.

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: Clinical collaboration should also be listed on the portal.

Dr. Kenyon: I think I will have to be the lead in clinical collaborations.

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: The larger of a critical mass the better this project.

Dr. Zylberberg: Will this portal be available for the industry?

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: That is the ultimate goal. Right now we are in the pilot phase, but we want to open this to industries as well.

B. Asset Map and Cluster Analysis

Mr. Duffell: Rather than undertaking this as a part time basis, we think it is better to get some more quotes. I have asked two other companies to give me estimates. After this we can speak with Jennifer and Irma about how to move forward. Our next steps will be for me to bring something concrete to the table at the next meeting.

President Rosenberg: What is the time table?

Mr. Duffell: We will bring back quotes and recommendation to the next meeting

C. STEM K-20 Student and Workforce Development

Dr. Montoya: We have launched a program committee to plan the undergraduate regional research conference in 2013. We need the endorsement of all members so that we can proceed with a successful conference.



Dr. Belmont: We will have our next face-to-face meeting at Nova on December 4, 2012. The conference will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2013. The only day that works for all institutions based on spring break time frames is that date.

The conference will be 100-120 students. We want industry represented heavily to give students the chance to interact with them. We will want to follow NSF guidelines for what STEM means, thus psychology students will be included.

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: There will also be a state wide conference and next year it will be at FIU. Perhaps we can collocate both the state and regional conferences as a means to synergize.

Dr. Montoya: For March 16, 2013 we need to maximize the presence of industry so that students can see with their own eyes what their future will look like here locally as professionals. I do not only want to see only the academic environment at the conference; I want a merge with the business and industry sector too.

Dr. Zylberberg: We should consider taking the winners to BioFlorida in order to expose them to industry even more.

Dr. Belmont: That is a wonderful idea. We would also like to have an industry keynote speaker.

President Rosenberg: A term sheet or letter of reference should go out to everyone so that students in the appropriate areas are nominated within STEM as outlined by formal guidelines.

Montoya: We need points of contact from the institutions currently not on the program committee.

Dr. Belmont: We are missing Palm Beach College, Broward College, and University of Miami. We need representatives from there.

Dr. Margules: I think mentorship and internships should be incorporated into this conference. At NSU there is enormous excitement about this conference. An internships kiosk would be great.

Dr. Belmont: That is a great idea. We will include an internship booth. Students looking for internships will find this highly beneficial. The booth will be a great resource for students in the conference.

Isabel Cosio-Carballo: I suggest you reach out to big CEO groups early and get them interested and engaged. I would be happy to work with you Heather in order to promote the event to industries.

Dr. Becerra: President Nero and those on the phone, can you help with finding industry collaborators to be judges and help in this effort?

President Nero: Yes, I do not see that being a problem.

D. Talent Recruitment

Dr. Becerra-Fernandez: At the last Talent Recruitment Subcommittee call, President Saunders pointed out that we are granting biology, chemistry, and psychology degrees to a significant number of students who then have a hard time finding jobs in the current market. She thought it would be beneficial to try and connect the undergraduate



students in these areas of study with job training and internship experiences that will make them more marketable upon graduation.

In an effort to move forward with increasing regional internships and job training for students studying STEM and social sciences areas we have contacted Douglas Saenz of Workforce Alliance in Palm Beach County, Danica Mambi at Workforce One in Broward County, and Myria Morgan at South Florida Workforce in Miami-Dade County.

Douglas Saenz informed us that in Palm Beach County the Workforce Alliance only provides internships and job training for students 18-21 who are NOT in college. However, they do provide internships and training for non-traditional aged students in their mid to late 20s who are returning back to college for post-secondary education. Tracy Lansberry at Southwest Florida Workforce in Lee County informed us that they do not have services for young adults enrolled in college; their major focus is on assisting those who are unemployed.

On the other hand, Myria Morgan, the Youth Services Manager for the South Florida Workforce Investment Board, informed us about the internships program for Miami Dade County and will notify us in March of 2013 about how to get our students involved with these internship opportunities. In addition, there may be a separate Miami Dade County Internships Program at the beginning of next year. Right now this program is in the developmental stages, but as soon as it is finalized, Ms. Morgan will notify us.

Isabel Cosio-Carballo: I would be happy to work with you to set up a meeting with reps from the different workforces and have a conversation about this.

E. Webinars

Upcoming webinar dates are:

- January 15. Presenter will be Rina Dukor, President of Biotools, Inc.
- February 19. Presenter will be Shailesh Chavan, Senior Director of Biotest Pharmaceuticals
- March 19. Presenter will be Thomas Ross, President of Florida Biosciences, LLC.
- April 16. Presenter will be Meredith Rentz, President of MedShare (non-for-profit organization)

V. Industry Report

Claudia Zylberberg (See PowerPoint Presentation)



Action Items

- 1) Dr. Kenyon, Dr. Margules, and Dr. Gil will lead the subcommittee to adapt the concept of the One Oklahoma Research Project to LSSF. Dr. Gil is to contact Dr. Anderson at FAU.
- 2) Dr. Kenyon will take the lead in the clinical collaborations for the Shared Communication Portal.
- 3) Andrew Duffell is to report on quotes from external companies regarding the creation of the asset map and cluster analysis. He will provide recommendation on how to proceed.
- 4) Dr. Belmont is to create and distribute a term sheet or letter of reference to ensure that students in the appropriate areas within STEM, as outlined by formal guidelines, are nominated to participate in the Regional Student Conference.
- 5) Dr. Belmont is to connect with contacts from Palm Beach College, Broward College, and University of Miami so they can have input on the planning of the Regional Student Conference.
- 6) Isabel Cosio-Carballo is to work with Dr. Belmont on contacting CEO groups and striking their interested in the Regional Student Conference.
- 7) President Nero will assist with finding professionals in industry to be judges for the Regional Student Conference.
- 8) Dr. Becerra and Isabel Cosio-Carballo are to meet to discuss the following items:
 - a. Where the areas of synergy exist between Seven/50 and LSSF.
 - b. The opportunity to work together toward the high-speed rail project.
 - c. Set up a meeting with representatives from the various regional workforces and discuss internships.
- 9) Dr. Becerra is to recommend that the Shared Communication Portal Subcommittee explore the Seven/50 database and determine if there is a possibility to synergize efforts in those two projects.
- 10) Steve Sauls, Isabel Cosio-Carballo, Marcela Cambolor-Cutsaimanis, Dr. Becerra and Dr. O'Flannery are to brainstorm what the participation of LSSF at the Jan. 24th summit should entail
 - a. Steve Sauls is to suggest a format for LSSF participation.