

Indiana Spinal Cord & Brain Injury Research Fund Board

Meeting Agenda

August 26, 2024 4:30 pm EDT

Neurosciences NB Room 100 (next to Goodman Hall)

Parking Instructions: Park in the Neuroscience Center parking garage at 362 W 15th St. After parking, enter the IU Health Neuroscience Center from the 1st floor of the garage. Walk towards the east end of the building, pass the information desk, pass Sonny's Bistro, and enter the Neurosciences Research Building (NB) near the eating area just outside of Sonny's. Upon entering NB, the conference room is on your right.

Join from computer or mobile:

<https://iu.zoom.us/j/86939449424>

Meeting ID: 869 3944 9424

Join by Telephone

One tap mobile (US): +16465588656,86939449424# or +16469313860,86939449424#

I. Attendees

Board Members

1. Henry Feuer – *Chair* – **present***
2. Janeen Earwood – **present**
3. Michael Freeman **present***
4. Kira Hudson
5. Sheryl Katta-Charles
6. Bruce Lamb
7. Wade Lange - **present***
8. Sachin Mehta – **present**
9. Ross Nelson – **present**
10. Whitney Pratt - **present***
11. Howard Zelaznik - **present***

Supporting Staff:

1. Brian Busching, IDoH – **present**
2. Murray Lawry, IDoH
3. Julie Driscoll, ICTSI – **present***

II. Agenda Topics

1. Approval of June and August 2024 Minutes – *All*
 - **Dr. Pratt motioned for approval of both sets of minutes and Dr. Zelaznik seconded. Both sets of minutes were unanimously approved.**
2. Board Chair Vote – *Brian Busching*
 - **The Board previously nominated one member to serve as the Board Chair – Henry Feuer.**
 - **Board member votes were submitted either via online chat to Brian Busching (only) or via ballots created by IDOH and disbursed at the physical meeting.**
 - **Final votes were five physical votes for yes and three online votes for yes submitted to Brian. All members voted and all were in favor to re-elect Henry Feuer as Board Chair.**

ACTION: IDOH to check with Legal on Board member responsibilities based on additional organizational involvement.

3. Finalization of ISCBIR & ABT RFAs – *Henry Feuer*
 - **Modifications to ABT RFA**
 - **Members discussed the importance of encouraging start-ups at any point in their creation as long as they met criteria and were able to provide care.**
 - **AGREED: Update RFA accordingly.**
 - **General revisions:**
 - **AGREED: Page 3, remove “below the level of the lesion”.**
 - **AGREED: Remove “prevention” and “cure” language throughout unless referencing statutory**

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- language.
- AGREED: Page 5, keep in language indicating high scientific merit.
- AGREED: Keep in “mechanisms” throughout rather than “types”.
- AGREED: Remove annual follow-up progress reporting requirement language.
- Members discussed the definition of ABT.
 - AGREED: The definition does not include cognitive function and is physical in nature. Speech therapy and neuropsychological therapy are not eliminated as they will be part of the ABT offered, just not highlighted specifically in the definition.
 - AGREED: Use of the term “neuroplasticity” rather than focusing on spinal cord would be beneficial.
 - AGREED: Include “for the purposes of this RFA, the definition of ABT is.....” in the opening paragraphs.
- Future considerations to the RFA:
 - AGREED: Members discussed making the review process more centric to start-ups including a different review / funding “arm” and adding more robust language. Expanded RFA will include: “If this is a new program provide justification and sufficient documentation as to why this will be a successful program. Factors such as leadership, management and staff abilities should be included and explained.”
 - AGREED: Review of the ABT review criteria, pre-review meeting, would be beneficial.
- Members discussed the RFA with recommended changes would be final.
 - AGREED: Dr. Zelaznik moved that the RFA be approved as discussed and Dr. Pratt seconded. All members unanimously agreed.
- Dr. Pratt and Mr. Freeman will serve as Board liaisons to the 2025 meeting. This will allow Mr. Freeman to understand the reviewers’ perspective and will aid in the 2026 RFA.

ACTIONS:

- CTSI will send the final RFA draft to Dr. Feuer and Mr. Freeman to ensure all changes were made correctly before posting.
- Mr. Freeman will send CTSI the definition for ABT for inclusion.
- CTSI will send final versions to the Board.
- CTSI will schedule another Fall Board meeting to approve the ABT review criteria.
- Changes to standard ISCBIR RFA
- General revisions:
 - AGREED: Pages 4 – 5, include scope and the impact of the overall project, remove references to management and cure unless referencing statutory language.
 - AGREED: Page 5, should include a diagnostic or therapeutic tool as well as language in the comments.
 - AGREED: Page 6, as indicated on the document comments.
 - AGREED: Lage page, delete mention of the ICO offices and indicate the filing currently required is sufficient. This will eliminate the need for any ICO office updates on each review.
 - AGREED: Remove mention of post award progress reporting.
- Members discussed the RFA with recommended changes would be final.
 - AGREED: Dr. Pratt moved that the RFA be approved as discussed and Dr. Zelaznik seconded. All members unanimously agreed.
- Mr. Lange will serve as commercialization Board liaison at the 2025 review meeting and Dr. Zelaznik will serve as the Board liaison for the basic and clinical reviews at the 2025 meeting.

ACTIONS:

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- CTSI will send final draft to Dr. Feuer and Mr. Lange for review and approval before posting.
 - CTSI will send final versions to the Board.
4. IDOH Update – *Brian Busching*
- BIAI + ISCBIR Meeting
 - Brian shared that IDOH is meeting with BIAI / ISCBIR to discuss a conference. Kick-off meeting will be scheduled soon.
 - Bylaws
 - Brian provided an update to the bylaws noting that the number of members that should be present was changed to four (4).
 - Members requested that the language be changed to indicate physical attendance should be determined by the number of active members so that it could flex appropriately.

ACTION:

- IDOH to check with Legal on Open Door requirements and Board vacancies/physical attendance requirements.
- Note - Dr. Feuer's request to review language "no more than 50% of funds for trauma development". Trauma development received external funding and should not be supported by the Board.

5. Next Meeting? – *All*

- AGREED: November meeting would be beneficial to review and modify the ABT review sheet prior to the review meeting.
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ACTION: CTSI will schedule next meeting.