



National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
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April 26, 2004

Mark S. Klempner, M.D.
Associate Provost for Research
Boston University Medical Campus
Department of Medicine
715 Albany Street
Boston, MA 02118

Dear Dr. Klempner:

As we discussed recently, I am sending you the following statement to clarify the issue of who will own and operate the National Biocontainment Laboratory at Boston University:

Boston University is the owner of its National Biocontainment Laboratory, for which it received a grant in FY 2003 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Ownership entails management and administration of the laboratory, including research protocols and related support activities. Research to be conducted at the NBL will be at the determination of BU in accordance with its respective existing research review procedures (biosafety, animal care, etc.) and consistent with the NIAID Biodefense Research Agenda. There will be general NIAID oversight for 20 years to ensure that the federal funds are being spent for their intended purpose.

Sincerely,

Rona Hirschberg, Ph.D.
Senior Program Officer
Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
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