

# Boston University Medical Campus

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## Community Liaison Committee (CLC)

National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL)

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### MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 22, 2012

9:15 am. \* 620 Albany Street

### ATTENDING

Robert Francis, Chairperson, CLC; Linda Lukas, Co-Chairperson, CLC; James Keeney, CLC; Michael Kozu, CLC; Christopher Brayton, CLC; Valeda Britton, Executive Director, Community Relations, BU; Chimel Idiokitas, Assistant Director, Community Relations, BU; Ron Corley, Associate Director, NEIDL; Kevin Tuohey, Executive Director, Research Compliance, BU;

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Minutes of the April 17, 2012 meeting were distributed. Chairperson Francis called the meeting to order and introduced those speaking to agenda items.

Following up on previous meetings, Britton proposed finalizing the Community Liaison Committee Reorganization Guidelines. CLC members supported the recommendations and agreed that these revised guidelines would be posted to the NEIDL website.

Britton mentioned that she is drafting an ad to solicit additional members for the CLC as well as an application form which will be placed on the NEIDL website. Britton read the ad. Revisions were suggested and made to the ad. Suggestions were given as to where to place the ad.

CLC members discussed the 4/19/12 public hearing on the Risk Assessment (RCC). All CLC members present reported attending this hearing. As a result of the comments heard at that meeting, CLC members discussed various ways to provide the community with information related to the NEIDL. They wanted it noted that they are independent and not a rubber stamp for the NEIDL. Ideas discussed included additional tours, revisions to the NEIDL website, a community education program, and other educational meetings to update the community about ongoing science, operations, and public safety. The hope was that these outreach methods would establish further dialogue with the community and would be responsive to questions expressed by community members at the RCC hearing.

The CLC asked when the final version of the Risk Assessment will be completed. While no definite date has been set, it is anticipated that it will be completed in June and will address oral and written comments submitted to NIH prior to May 1, 2012.

### OPERATIONS

Dr. Corley discussed his trip with Dr. Murphy and several colleagues to France and South Africa to tour BSL-3 and BSL-4 labs. Dr. Corley noted there is a real need for an international body to develop a regulatory oversight framework like we have here. As such, the NEIDL has been approached to share information, best practices, and collaborate with other labs. For example, South Africa was very interested in discussing our best practices around safety and security. They also are doing research on polio, measles, pneumonia, and tuberculosis. In fact, they

disclosed that there is a rapid reemergence of tuberculosis in that country, that is drug resistant. Of interest, is that patients are reactivating with different strains of tuberculosis than the original.

The CLC participated in a practice evacuation drill that was designed to demonstrate safety and security procedures in the event of an irradiator leak.

The next CLC meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2012 at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.