

# 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, September 18, 2012

9:15 am. \* 620 Albany Street

### ATTENDING

Robert Francis, Chairperson, CLC; Linda Lukas, Co-Chairperson, CLC; James Keeney, CLC; Christopher Brayton, CLC; Dolly Battle, CLC; Valeda Britton, Executive Director, Community Relations, BU; Chimel Idiokitas, Assistant Director, Community Relations, BU; John R. Murphy Interim Director, NEIDL; Kevin Tuohey, Executive Director, Research Compliance, BU;

### ADMINISTRATIVE

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

Ms Britton discussed the community forum that occurred on August 21, 2012 at 12<sup>th</sup> Baptist Church in Roxbury. The NAACP sponsored and moderated this forum. Dr Corley was the NEIDL representative. The Boston Public Health Commission participated as did the Roxbury Safety Net.

In connection with the desire to expand the CLC, Community Relations contacted over 200 members of the community to solicit applications. Ads were again placed in local newspapers. Community Relations appeared on BNN to discuss the NEIDL and solicit applicants. A sizeable number of applications have been received. Interviews will take place and candidates will be chosen based on a number of considerations including, but not limited to, local residence, meeting availability, participation and/or leadership in other community groups or associations.

CLC members were reminded that the IBC will hold its annual meeting on 9/25/2012 from 2:30-4 PM on the BU Medical Campus. This meeting is open to the public. Additional information was posted on the NEIDL website.

CLC members discussed their view of their roles and responsibilities with respect to the NEIDL. Various methods to share and distribute more information related to the NEIDL to the community were discussed.

### OPERATIONS

Dr Murphy mentioned that Dr Corley and Dr Elke Muhlberger are filming a NEIDL video today for This Week In Virology. When completed, this video will be posted on the NEIDL website. Dr. Murphy discussed research was continuing in BSL 2 labs with TB surrogate strains. These strains were not infectious. Major recruitment was underway to bring in another investigator to do research into the factors that cause TB as it continues to evolve globally. It was noted that TB strains have been identified in India that were resistant to over 17 different antibiotics. In addition, BSL 2 work has commenced in BSL 4 space so researchers get comfortable using

suits, instruments, working as a team and become familiarized with protocols and procedures. No BSL 4 agents will be used.

Dr Murphy reported that Dr Bossart, a NEIDL researcher, is doing BSL 2 research on dengue fever and was on her way to Singapore for a conference. This mosquito borne disease was originally found in South America and the Caribbean. There have been reported cases in Florida and the Louisiana. Also, Dr Murphy informed the group that the largest outbreak of West Nile Virus has occurred in the United States, mostly in Texas, since the disease was introduced to the country in 1998.

Kevin Tuohey reported that the NEIDL Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been submitted to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) BU is now working with BPHC to define, design and schedule emergency drills and exercises and training programs. Emergency drills and exercises will include simulations of research, security and facility incidents and training programs will address the risks in research at all levels and NEIDL specific building, security and safety information. These programs, as defined in the CEMP, will be conducted annually and will include local external response agencies such as the Boston Emergency Medical Services, Fire and Police departments as well as others identified by the BPHC. The CLC will be advised of specific programs once scheduled and are welcome to observe.

## **REGULATORY**

Dr Murphy told the CLC that the NIH had extended the time for issuing its Record of Decision. This will delay the date of the filing of the MEPA certificate.

The next CLC meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2012 at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.