

Boston University Medical Campus

Community Liaison Committee (CLC)

National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL)

MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

6:00 pm. * 620 Albany Street

ATTENDING

Robert Francis, Co-Chairperson, CLC; Linda Lukas, Co-Chairperson, CLC; James Eliscar, CLC; James Keeney, CLC; Kenneth Nwosu, CLC; Valerie Shelley, CLC; Robert Timmerman, CLC; Valeda Britton, Executive Director, Community Relations/MED, BU; Elizabeth Leary, Director, Government and Community Affairs, BU; Michelle Consalvo, Assistant Vice President, Government & Community Affairs, BU; Chimel Idiokitas, Assistant Director, Community Relations/MED, BU; John Murphy, Interim Director, NEIDL; Ronald Corley, Associate Director, NEIDL; Kevin Tuohey, Executive Director, Research Compliance, BU;

At 6:10 pm, Co-Chair Lukas opened the meeting with Ms. Consalvo's presentation.

PRESENTATIONS

Government and Community Affairs

Michelle Consalvo, Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Affairs at Boston University gave an overview of the Office of Government and Community Affairs (GCA) which has offices and staff on both the Medical and Charles River Campuses. She explained the GCA maintains and enhances Boston University's relationships with the City of Boston, Town of Brookline, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and its neighbors. A slide was shown that introduced the CLC to the staff of the GCA and their roles.

Ms. Consalvo explained that due to its size, Boston University is really a city within a city and the issues that the office works on are reflective of this. Ms. Consalvo detailed that the Government side of the office works closely with the City and State on relevant issues such as higher education, transportation, employer relations and operations. The Community Relations side focuses on building relationships and partnerships with the community.

Some highlights of FY 2013 partnerships and community involvement are as follows:

- a. PILOT - \$5,309,946 in FY13 Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) to the City of Boston
- b. Scholarship Aid - Approximately \$10m in scholarship aid to City of Boston students through the Menino Scholars (f/k/a/ Boston High School Scholars Program) and the Boston Community Service Scholars Programs; It was estimated that about 10 students from Roxbury, Dorchester and the

South End were named Menino Scholars and an additional 10 graduating seniors from those neighborhoods received Boston Community Service Scholarships.

- c. BU Fitness & Wellness Center @ BCYF Blackstone - Increases access to free and low-cost fitness training, wellness programming and nutritional counseling to youth and families in Boston.
- d. Community Grant Program - Provided grants to the Horace Mann School of Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Faneuil Gardens Teen Center, Roxbury Boys & Girls Club, Boston City Lights, Mandela Homes, and Discover Roxbury. In the last two years , these BU community grants have provided over \$20,000 in assistance to local neighborhood based organizations.
- e. BU City Lab/Summer Lab - Provided six scholarships for Boston high school students to participate in the Summerlab Biotechnology Program at BU's Citylab. The scholarships were awarded to students from: Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, Cathedral High School, City on a Hill Charter School and Boston Latin Academy.
- f. Tickets to Sporting Events – More than 3,000 tickets to BU Athletic Events distributed to the community.
- g. Summer Sports Camps - Boston University Athletic Camps have given scholarships so that 100 youth from the City of Boston could attend camp at BU this summer.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The June 18th 2013 CLC minutes were not available for approval.

COMMUNITY LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Britton and Mr. Idiokitas outlined BU's community outreach activities in the surrounding neighborhoods over the past few months.

- Continue to attend neighborhood association meetings and community events
- Participated in the Madison Park Village's back to school backpack event
- Participated in the Orchard Garden's back to school backpack event, which had about 500 attendees throughout the day
- Provided NEIDL tours
- Promoted membership for the BU Fitwell Program at the Blackstone Community Center
- Connected local non-profits with BU students for tutoring opportunities
- Initiated development of an infectious disease class for middle school students

INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE (IBC) REPORT

Mr. Timmerman and Mr. Keeney gave an update on recent IBC meetings. They reported that protocols presented by BU researchers included a saliva test for asthma and identifying antigens as predictors of kidney disease. The annual IBC public meeting will take place on September 24th at 2:30pm at BMC Newton Pavilion. The CLC was invited to attend.

SCIENTIFIC & RESEARCH UPDATE

Dr. Corley updated the CLC on the re-coating project. He reminded the CLC that the re-coating is not a safety issue, but facilitates keeping the laboratories clean once research and operations begin. Once the re-coating project is complete, the BSL-3 and BSL-4 laboratories will be accessible to appropriately trained personnel. The phase 1 space of the BSL-4 re-coatings has been completed and re-commissioned so researchers will begin simulations of BSL- 4 work using BSL- 2 agents.

Dr. Corley gave an update on the federal lawsuit and explained that BU is waiting for the judge's decision. The state court case is still pending and a hearing is scheduled for December. BU continues to move forward with the regulatory process while it awaits the decisions in the court cases.

Dr. Corley gave an update on NEIDL faculty current employment and future recruitment efforts. He noted that the NEIDL has begun to take applications from investigators on the BU campus; two new faculty members have joined the NEIDL staff.

- Dr. John Connor is creating rapid sensors for pathogens
- Dr. Tom Kepler is a mathematician, who uses math to model how diseases and vaccines work. Dr. Kepler has done extensive work on HIV.

REGULATORY

Mr. Tuohey gave a regulatory compliance operations update. The Boston Biosafety Working Group met last week to develop a drill/exercise schedule for next year. The NEIDL is awaiting a full Certificate of Occupancy to be issued. The MWRA recently issued an unencumbered discharge permit for the NEIDL

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm