

Department of Biomedical Engineering
Biomedical Engineering Partnership Program
6th Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 9th, 2003

Location & Time: Miami Children's Hospital; 9:00 am

Attendees : William M. Abraham – Mount Sinai Medical Center
Zachariah R. Bell – Langley Group
Michael Christie – Cordis Corp.
Hank Collins – Cordis Corp.
Ray Diaz – Scion Cardio Vascular
Stuart Horowitz – Miami Children's Hospital
Margaret Kovacs – Miami Cardiac & Vascular Institute
Leonard Pinchuk – Innovia
Hamid Shahrestani – Boston Scientific Corp.
Jeff Horstmyer – Mercy Hospital
Mel Rothberg – Viragen, Inc.
Josephine Shallo-Hoffman – Nova Southeastern University
Michael Krou – Beckman Coulter, Inc.
Frank Macmar – Miami Children's Hospital
Ilker Yayali – Miami Children's Hospital
Mike Brown – Bioheart, Inc.
Ofer Amit – Biomedical Engineering
Richard T. Schoephoerster – Biomedical Engineering

Minutes by: Rosy Verona and Karym Urdaneta

Welcome

Dr. Richard Schoephoerster began by welcoming everyone to the 6th Advisory Board Meeting. The strength of the Biomedical Engineering Partnership Program is the relationships built with industry and clinical organizations. Dr. Schoephoerster thanked all of the participants for their dedication and time, specially to Jeff Horstmyer from Mercy Hospital for collaborating with FIU in addition to Miami Children's Hospital for their hospitality in hosting the meeting. All of the participants introduced themselves.

Tom Rosec, the CEO of Miami Children's Hospital said a few words about the hospital's collaboration with biomedical engineering research and how this is an important part of our ability to provide quality services to their patients. The mission of this organization is to concentrate on intellectual development to improve the quality of life. He also thank everyone for being here today.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Schoephoerster set the motion to approve the agenda, moved and seconded it, and all were in favor.

Adoption of 3/14/02 Minutes

Dr. Schoephoerster asked for any comment and then for motion. It was moved by H. Collins and seconded by S. Horowitz, and all were in favor.

State of the Program Review

Dr. Schoephoerster provided an update on BME's activities.

One of the main goals of FIU at the moment is to establish a medical school. Dr. Horstmyer is collaborating in this process and FIU is counting on the BME advisory board to continue to build our BME academic program to prepare us for the medical school soon to come. This past summer, the Department of Biomedical Engineering was formally announced. At this moment, we have 6 full time faculty members and in search of 2 additional faculty members associated with the MCH's brain institute and Dr. Jayakar specialized in the area of neural signal processing and other based imaging process. Molecular and cellular tissue engineering, considering it as the bedrock of BME for the next decade, is another field the department wishes to focus. This is an industry that continues to grow as well as it's a program that prepares students for medical school. The PhD program is soon to be approved. These students are going to be the driving force of the BME research program. The department is expecting to have it's first Ph.D. student(s) in Fall 2004. The MS program has obtained 6 new students this year with an average GRE higher than in the past. The quality of student is increasing. This is BS program second year and the department is still working toward accreditation.

Taskforce Reports

Dr. Schoephoerster introduced the three taskforce that were developed in the past meeting and stated the department's commitment to put in place each of the taskforce. As a token of appreciation to all the task force members, a gift was presented.

❖ Intellectual Property

Len Pinchuk, Chair of the IP taskforce, presented presented a draft of the Intellectual Policy this committee was able to put together. As being one of the most active group in FIU in terms of partnership with industry, the board agreed that a potential IP needed to be issued. Other institutions and universities were considered when organizing the IP policy. A discussion on policy issues occurred among the members. The board agreed that all IP issues should be addressed, establishing agreements with the United Faculty Board of Florida is an advantage, ownership understanding should be established, and protecting this organization is an essential part of the IP policy. The outcome of this discussion was that the board's and specially the department's commitment is to enforce this IP policy.

The committee authorized Dr. Pinchuk to present the IP policy to M. Madique as well as the legal department. In conclusion, a motion for approval was set, Rothberg seconded it and all were in favor.

❖ Mentoring and Internship

Ray Diaz gave a presentation on the goals, guidelines, and implementation strategies of this program. This is solely for undergraduate students for their senior design project. The teamed students can begin in their Spring Term of their junior year and work on their project until their senior year. The students have the choice working on a project through an internship in industry or do project within FIU and are mentored by a faculty or industry partner. Academic advisors and mentors should meet with the project design team twice a semester preferably around midterms and finals. The program offers two tracks – the Entrepreneurial track (which the end result is to prepare the students to participate in the Howard Leonhardt New Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition) and the Corporate track (which is based on working in industry) A discussion on issues about salary and amount of working hours occurred among the members. The outcome of this discussion was that the pay and the hours the student should work for a particular company as an intern will vary between companies and type of labor, and will mainly depend on a agreement between the company and the intern. All the members agreed that involving medical organization as an optional area for internship would be beneficial especially for those pre-med students.

The program implementation will be in 2 phases. The first phase is a trial phase and phase II will reflect the proposed final form of the program. The BME advisory board selected a committee of 3 to approve and release final procedure, implement the

program, and provide an oversight of the program. Volunteers that will fill this committee: Ray Diaz, Alan Carsrud, Prasanna Jayakar.

❖ Program Sponsorship

Hamid Shaherstani gave a presentation on the status of this program and reviewed the policy and procedure proposal point system. He emphasized how the monetary items as well as the commitment from the committee members are needed in order for this program to be successful. A discussion on the point system occurred among the board members and they all agreed that including “joint research/publication” in exchange of item No. 6 and 7 in addition to “other” as an item would well define the table. Motion to adopt the policy and procedures of this program with the necessary modification and to grandfather in past gifts to the program was set, moved, and all were in favor.

Changes to Program By-Laws

Ofer Amit presented the updated version of the Program’s By-Law. The principle changes this current By-Laws reflected were the changes of BME into an official department in addition to the modifications on the Sponsorship Program Policy. Dr. Schoephoerster suggested calling the “Sponsorship Grant” “Participatory Gift” instead. A discussion occurred on the few minor corrections. A motion to approve the By-Laws with all the modifications was set and all were in favor.

ABET Accreditation

Dr. Schoephoerster gave a presentation on the BME Program’s accreditation process. The specific BME program criteria and design process as well as the ABET basic guidelines were discussed. He asked the board members to go over the FIU Biomedical Engineering Program curriculum; to create a committee to review our objectives and outcomes for our BS program. By June 2005, the department needs to prove ABET that the program has been taken through the verification part of the design process and has closed the loop. The department chair requested volunteers for the Undergraduate program committee and have some items to present to the faculty at the BME Retreat in Dec 2003. The members are: Mike Brown (chair), Jeff Horstmyer, Micheal Christie, Josephine Shallo-Hoffman, Mel Rothberg, and Margaret Kovacs.

Entrepreneurship and Biomedical Engineering Education

Ofer Amit provided and brief explanation on the Certificate program and Minor program in the area of entrepreneurship. The Global Entrepreneurship Center in FIU applied for a Kauffman Grant available to institutions with an entrepreneurial program. FIU was one of the 15 institutions chosen out of 30 as semi-finalist. Kauffman Grant Proposal planning meeting was held in September which many people from FIU as well as from the local industry participated to make an outstanding proposal which was going to be presented to the Kauffman Foundation in the beginning of the year 2004. Additional information will be presented in the Spring meeting.

Closing Remarks

Dr. Schoephoerster formally thank everyone for their participation as well as Miami Children's for their hospitality. Certificates were presented to Stuart Horowitz and Nicole Chatel in appreciation to their contribution in organizing this meeting.

The next Advisory Board Meeting will be held in the Spring. Hamid Shaherstani from Boston Scientific, has volunteered to host this next meeting.