

BLACKBURN/BOSCH/QEII RESEARCH INSTITUTE RESEARCH PRECINCT

MINUTES OF RESEARCH PRECINCT COMMITTEE MONDAY 29 OCTOBER 2001, BOARD ROOM, BLACKBURN BLDG

Present: Prof. J.L Black (Chair), Ms Virginia Fascioli, Prof. N.H Hunt, Mrs Nimmi Ramesh and Dr Rob J Vandenberg

Apologies: Prof D Celermajer, Prof May, Prof Tiller and Prof Trent

NEW BUSINESS

Business arising from minutes of previous meeting:

Funding of salaries for two CSOs: *Walid Eldik's salary:* 50% from the Faculty of Medicine and 50% from the Precinct funding. *CSO's salary at RPAH:* 50% from the Faculty of Medicine, 25% from the Precinct funding and remaining 25% from the Central Clinical School.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Discussion regarding expenditure of remaining 2001 RIBG funds (\$29,684):

1. Consideration of applications for funding from remaining 2001 RIBG:

(i) Phosphorimager screens and cassettes to complement the autoradiography facilities existing within the precinct:

Purpose: The researchers require a readout system to quantify tritiated ligand binding experiments in rat and human tissue.

Comments: As autoradiography film sensitive to [³H] ligands is no longer available from the usual suppliers, use of a phosphorimager has become crucial. The requested screens (with cassettes) would be analysed on a Fuji BASTM phosphorimager, infrastructure which is already available within the Blackburn precinct.

Agreed: \$6,650 to be contributed towards the cost of Phosphorimager screens and cassettes. The Precinct Committee was unable to fund the purchase of as many screens and cassettes as requested. The contact person is Dr G Dixon, Department of Pathology, Ph: 16105, Fax: 13429, Email: gavind@med.usyd.edu.au

(ii) Myocyte imaging facility equipment:

Purpose: 1. Calcium imaging eg. Magnum computer, Fura imaging filters;
2. Force measurement eg. Gateway computer, bridge amplifier for PowerLab;
3. Physiological instrumentation eg. Field stimulation chamber, stimulator, peristaltic perfusion pump.

Comments: This equipment is dedicated to the myocyte imaging facility and able to be utilised by all research groups using the facility.

Agreed: \$8,000 to be contributed towards the cost of basic pieces of equipment supporting the Myocyte imaging facility. The contact person is Assoc Prof R W Jeremy, Department of Medicine, Ph: 95157608; Fax: 9351 4887; Email: richmonj@card.rpa.cs.nsw.gov.au

(iii) Ice Flake Machine:

Purpose: This is used by a large number of researchers from both the department of Pharmacology and a number of other departments in the Blackburn bldg. This is a replacement of the current machine which requires frequent repairs.

Comments: The current machine requires frequent repairs, will be increasingly more difficult to maintain and is insufficient for the number of people who wish to use it.

Agreed: \$7,096 to be contributed towards the cost of ice flake machine. The contact person is Mr Keith Rippon, Department of Pharmacology, Ph: 16202; Fax: 13868; Email: k_rippon@pharmacol.usyd.edu.au

(iv) Forced Air Convention Oven 55 Lts (cat no. MC 00712):

Purpose: Drying down of DNA after extraction from white blood cells. This is an essential step in preparing DNA for mutation analysis.

Comments:

Agreed: \$1,795 to be contributed towards the cost of Forced Air Convention Oven 55 Lts (cat no. MC 00712). The contact person is Dr Roger Pamphlett, Department of Pathology, Ph: 9351 3318; Email: rogerp@med.usyd.edu.au

(v) 22 L Thermoline Water Bath and lid:

Purpose: The water bath will be used in daily procedures for the preparation of tissue culture media.

Comments: The equipment quoted is an inexpensive yet temperature stable and durable water bath that will enable researchers in the Blackburn Precinct to use the Precinct Tissue Culture Room as an independent laboratory for tissue culture.

Agreed: \$898 to be contributed towards the cost of 22 L Thermoline Water Bath and lid. The contact person is Dr Rob Vandenberg, Department of Pharmacology, Ph: 9351 6734, Fax: 9351 3868, Email: robv@pharmacol.usyd.edu.au

(vi) Hettich Centrifuge, rotor and 8 tissue culture adaptors:

Purpose: A low speed, bench-top centrifuge is required for the Blackburn Precinct Tissue Culture Room for use in preparation of cells for both primary and secondary tissue culturing procedures.

Comments: The availability of a bench-top centrifuge in the Blackburn Precinct Tissue Culture Room will be more convenient and efficient for preparing cells and will enable researchers of the Blackburn Precinct to use this room as an independent tissue culture laboratory.

Agreed: \$ 5,260.20 to be contributed towards the cost of Hettich Centrifuge, rotor and 8 tissue culture adaptors. The contact person is Dr Rob Vandenberg, Department of Pharmacology, Ph: 9351 6734, Fax: 9351 3868, Email: robv@pharmacol.usyd.edu.au

2. Other Business:**10 P/G student Travel Awards @\$2,000 each:**

RJV received 11 applications for the postgraduate student travel awards. RJV to meet with Prof Colin Sullivan and Dr John Gibbins to decide which applicants receive the awards. The Blackburn Postgraduate Awards meeting will be held on Monday, 12 November 01 at 3.00pm.

The meeting started at 4.00pm and closed at 4.30pm

Judith L Black
Chair person

