

**217<sup>th</sup> NDDK Advisory Council Meeting**  
**Division of Diabetes and Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases (DDEMD)**  
**Sub-committee Meeting – Open Session**  
**Sept 10, 2021**

**Attendees**

**DDEMD Sub-committee Members:** Ms. Tracey Brown, Dr. Debra Haire-Joshu, Dr. Barbara Kahn, Dr. Phil Scherer, Dr. Michael Snyder, Ms. Lorraine Stiehl, Dr. Elizabeth Seaquist

**DDEMD Staff Members:** Dr. Kristin Abraham, Dr. Beena Akolkar, Dr. Guillermo Arreaza-Rubin, Dr. Miranda Broadney, Dr. Henry Burch, Dr. William Cefalu, Dr. Brad Cooke, Mr. Neal Green, Dr. Carol Haft, Dr. Teresa Jones, Dr. Maren Laughlin, Dr. Jean Lawrence, Dr. Christine Lee, Dr. Ellen Leschek, Dr. Yan Li, Dr. Barbara Linder, Dr. Saul Malozowski, Mr. Louis Martey, Mr. Michael Mensah, Mrs. Heidi Otradovec, Dr. Sheryl Sato, Dr. Salvatore Sechi, Dr. Corinne Silva, Dr. Lisa Spain, Mr. Kyle Sullivan, Dr. Karen Teff, Dr. Pamela Thornton, Dr. Xujing Wang, Dr. Ashley Xia, Dr. Norann Zaghoul

**NIDDK/NIH Staff:** Dr. Najma Begum, Dr. John Connaughton, Ms. Leslie Curtis, Ms. Connie Jenkins, Dr. Charlene Repique, Dr. Tibor Roberts, Dr. Griffin Rodgers, Mrs. Mary K. Rosenberg, Mr. Burnel Wilkins

**Welcome and Approval of May 2021 Sub-committee Minutes (Dr. Cefalu)**

Dr. Cefalu welcomed everyone to the DEM Sub-committee Open Session virtual meeting and provided an overview of the agenda. Minutes from the May 2021 Sub-committee meeting were approved.

**Council Member Transitions (Dr. Cefalu)**

Dr. Cefalu then introduced and welcomed new ad-hoc council members, Dr. Scherer and Dr. Haire-Joshu, and subject matter expert, Dr. Seaquist, to the Council open session. Dr. Cefalu also thanked and bid Council members, Ms. Stiehl and Ms. Brown, farewell as they transition off the NDDK Advisory Council. Both Tracey Brown and Lorraine Stiehl expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to serve on the DEM Sub-committee and thanked Dr. Cefalu and others for their leadership.

**New Investigator Gateway Awards for Collaborative T1D Research (Dr. Abraham)**

Dr. Abraham provided an overview of the DEM New Investigator Gateway Awards for Collaborative T1D Research program. This effort is relatively new for DEM and is supported by a project team of program directors that are involved in three of the large major consortia supported by the Special Diabetes Program (SDP) including representatives from TrialNet, TEDDY, and HIRN. The goal of this program is to provide support to expand the pipeline of investigators that are considering entering the field of T1D research. The program also is designed to enhance success of future T1D investigators. Dr. Abraham provided a general overview of the program, its origin and partners, approach, goals, objectives, recent

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developments, positive outcomes, funding, awardees, and future for the program.

Dr. Kahn asked if applicants need to contact TrialNet in advance in order to be placed appropriately in the program. Dr. Abraham responded that applicants are asked to declare an affiliation with a potential program in their application. In addition, program staff review and ultimately determine best fit of the applicant within participating programs. There is no requirement to reach out prior to applying to the program. Dr. Kahn also asked if all areas of science related to T1D are involved in this program. Dr. Abraham responded by saying just about all things related to T1D can likely fit somewhere in the program given the participating consortia/networks. Dr. Abraham welcomed all aspects of the T1D that are not already included in the program to be suggested for future inclusion.

Dr. Haire-Joshu expressed her appreciation of the program and asked how the program promotes and encourages diversity. Dr. Abraham responded that expanding the diversity of T1D researchers is certainly a goal of the program. As it stands now, there is a good distribution of men and women in the program and a strong Hispanic representation in applicants. A more focused outreach to African American applicants is an objective for the program moving forward.

Dr. Seaquist expressed appreciation for the program and asked if faculty status is a requirement to apply and whether there is any salary support or limitations on this support. Dr. Abraham responded that the program attempts to structure the initiative as an educational vehicle which mimics an NIH RFA, so application requirements mirror requirements to apply as a new investigator or ESI to NIH programs. It is the institutions, not NIH who determine which staff members are eligible to apply. There are no limitations on salary support permitted under the Gateway Award. The only budgetary requirement in the RFA specifies that \$2000 be set aside for travel to one meeting of the affiliated consortium or network per year.

Dr. Snyder also expressed appreciation for the program and had a question about the status of the TEDDY program. Dr. Abraham responded that the current and future status of TEDDY can be best addressed by Dr. Cefalu; however, TEDDY already has a large quantity of data that has yet to be analyzed. Dr. Cefalu added that elements of TEDDY continue and so the status of that program should not limit the ability to support Gateway investigators interested in TEDDY topics in the next RFA.

Ms. Stiehl expressed her respect for the development of these gateway program awards over the years. She applauded the division for their efforts up to this point and looks forward to the progress to be made in the future.

**DEM Meetings and Workshops (Staff)**

Dr. Cefalu provided an overview of upcoming DEM meetings and workshops. He mentioned two September meetings, the Centers for Diabetes Translation Research (CDTR) investigators

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meeting and the Mid-Atlantic Diabetes and Obesity Research Symposium; a workshop focused on hypoglycemia and hypoglycemia unawareness set for Oct 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>; and a workshop on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the integrated physiology of the endocrine and exocrine compartments of the pancreas.

**Concluding Remarks (Dr. Cefalu)**

Dr. Cefalu thanked the Sub-committee members and DEM staff for their presentations and comments. He noted that DEM looks forward to providing details at a future meeting on the progress made on the programs discussed today. Dr. Cefalu ended the open session and turned the meeting over to Dr. Haft to lead the closed session.