

Meeting Summary
Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee

June 09, 2025
9:00 am – 12:45 pm
Nebraska State Office Building
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE

Attendees: Dr. David Owens (Columbia University), Dr. Rui Yi (Northwestern University), Brianna Conyers (Creighton University) **DHHS Staff:** Chris Johnson, Sue Medinger, Dr. Timothy Tesmer

The meeting started at 9:00 am

1. Chris Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions.
2. This meeting followed the Open Meetings Act. A copy of the Act was available in the meeting room.
3. Chris Johnson reviewed the day's agenda, and the committee approved it.
4. Committee approved of meeting summary of the January 27, 2025 Conference Call
5. Chris reviewed the grant review process. The Committee met via conference call on January 27, 2025 to discuss and approve the 2025 RFA #R-4048. The 2025 Stem Cell RFA was released on February 10, 2025 with applications due March 31, 2025. The applications were emailed to the Stem Cell Committee on April 8, 2025 for their review.
6. Chris Johnson discussed the grant review process
7. Entered closed session. Reviewed Stem Cell Research Grant Applications and approved final rankings.
8. Entered open session.
9. The grant awards were announced (see Attachment 1). Emails will be sent to the new grant recipients listing their contingencies. All contingencies must be received by the program before the internal grant approval process begins. The grant period is July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.
10. Dr. Rui Yi and Dr. David Owens will prepare the critiques summarizing the strengths and weaknesses of each application which will be sent to each applicant.

11. There were no public comments.

12. Committee membership update: Dr. Muotri and Dr. Yi continued their work on the Committee and their reappointments were brought before the 2025 HHS Committee and Legislature for confirmation on May 14, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Attachment 1
2024 Nebraska Stem Cell Research Funded Grants

Project Title	Principal Investigator	Applicant Organization	Length of Grant	Amount Funded
Adenoviruses Sculpt Stem Cell Immune Development	Dr. Lindsey Crawford	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	One Year	\$100,405.00
Developing mathematical and computational models for induced stem cell reprogramming	Dr. Chi Zhang	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	One Year	\$40,000.00
Chromatin Remodeling in an Embryonic Origin Cancer	Dr. Sandipan Brahma	University of Nebraska Medical Center	One Year	\$105,000.00
Porous Nerve Grafts with iPSC-SCs for Nerve Repair	Dr. Bin Duan	University of Nebraska Medical Center	One Year	\$95,547.50
Gene Editing for Lung Repair	Dr. David Oupicky	University of Nebraska Medical Center	One Year	\$95,547.50
			TOTAL	\$436,500.00

Note: funding is based upon receipt and approval of contingencies.