

Minutes of Advisory Board Meeting
February 2, 2005

Members Present: Frank Waxman, OSRHE; Eric Howard, OUHSC; Craig Shimasaki, Intergenetics; Kevin Ruddy, Cytovance; Tom Kupiec, ARL; Catherine Pongratz, OMRF; Robert Gonzales, Noble Foundation; Charlotte Mulvihill, OKCCC.

The meeting began at 8 am in the ARL conference room at 840 Research Parkway, Oklahoma City. Mulvihill gave members a snapshot of program outcomes: 18 graduates who went to work in the field, 9 who transferred to B.S. programs, one applying to graduate school. On outreach, this fall 6668 student experiences in biotech in area high schools. We have grants from NIH and NSF for outreach to teachers, from INBRE and OCAST for student internships, from State Regents for Summer Science Academy for high school students. Grant proposals are pending with DOL and NSF.

Mention was made of the new Bioinformatics program, but Dr. John McMurray was not able to attend due to family emergency.

The Women in Science capstone activity for high school and college students was described. Members were very interested in the presentation of the Life of Barbara McClintock. Suggestions for woman role models for the day included Dr. Doris Kupfer at FAA and Dr. Nicole Vu, pharmacist, at ARL. Dr. Kupiec and Dr Shimasaki indicated they might be able to help with pizza costs for feeding students lunch that day.

The board members were given a list of topics for the proposed Laboratory Boot Camp for INBRE community college interns, and they made suggestions for additions and changes.

Mulvihill announced that the OKCCC program has ordered a biofermenter to support biomanufacturing learning activities, through Carl Perkins funding. Kevin Ruddy from Cytovance talked about what his biomanufacturing company would bring to the area in terms of jobs and skills. He offered to meet further with Mulvihill to develop job skill lists that could be incorporated into the biotech program. Furthermore, he felt he could help the program with its FPLC donation from Genzyme by linking us to one of their scientists who knows how to set up and use the apparatus.

Catherine Pongratz was making her last appearance as a Board member, since she is moving out of the country. Suggestions for new board members included: from OMRF, Kendra White and M. Barton Frank, and from OUHSC, William Hildebrand and DeAngelis.

The meeting adjourned at 9 am.