



September 5, 2008

Ms. Debbie Davenport
Auditor General
2910 North 44th Street, Suite 410
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Janet Napolitano
GOVERNOR

Dear Ms. Davenport:

I have reviewed the Performance Audit and Sunset Review Report of the Arizona Biomedical Research Commission. I have discussed the draft report with members of the Commission.

COMMISSIONERS:

David Landrith, MPA
David Jerman, MBA
Gregorio Garcia, JD

In accordance with Joint Legislative Audit Committee procedures, the Commission response to the performance audit and sunset review recommendations are as follows:

Manuel Modiano, MD
T. Lon Owen, PhD
Joan Rankin Shapiro, MD, PhD

1. The Commission should take steps to collect more complete impact information on commission funded projects by requiring researchers to report information on:
 - a. Patents received, whether or not the Commission is the controlling party.
 - b. Both the source and amount of additional funding received.
 - c. Presentations given related to commission funded projects.

Colleen Brophy, MD
Barbara Wuebbels, RN, MS
Eve Shapiro, MD

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

Dawn C. Schroeder,
DDS, MA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2. The Commission should report more complete impact information in its annual report by including information on the number of patents, additional funding received, presentations given, projects relevant to Arizona specific populations or needs, collaborations, and the number and types of jobs receiving full or partial commission funding.

James Matthews,
MPA, HR-CP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

3. The Commission should improve accessibility to its annual report by posting the annual report on its website.

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

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4. The Commission should ensure that TGen's annual report effectively presents impact information by:
 - a. Ensuring that TGen reports all contractually required impacts.

The finding of Auditor General is agreed to the audit recommendation will be implemented.

- b. Requiring that TGen also report on the number and types of jobs created as well as the other key impact items identified for commission-funded projects, including presentations, projects relevant to Arizona-specific populations or needs, and collaborations

The finding of Auditor General is agreed to the audit recommendation will be implemented.

5. The Commission should include in its annual report some of the impacts reported in TGen's annual report.

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

The work of the Arizona Biomedical Research Commission is intricate and complex. The Auditor General staff and especially the on-site auditors and their supervisor were willing listeners and learners. Their attendance at Commission meetings and interactions with Commission members was both professional and welcomed. The Commission thanks them for their hard work, suggestions, and cooperation.

Submitted on Behalf of the Commission,

Dawn C. Schroeder, D.D.S., M.A.
Executive Director