

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute on Aging

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute on Aging

3b. GSA

Committee No.

807

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

12/01/1987

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Authorized by Law

12. Specific Establishment Authority

42 U.S.C. 282(b)(16)

13. Effective Date

11/20/1985

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next

FY

FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00 \$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00 \$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00 \$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00 \$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00 0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

Section 402(b)(9) of the Public Health Service Act states that "the Director, NIH...shall assure that research at the National Institutes of Health is subject to review in accordance with section 492. Section 492(b) states that the Director of NIH shall establish procedures for periodic technical and scientific peer review of research at the National Institutes of Health. This Board assesses the quality of the Institute's Intramural Research Program (IRP) and evaluates the productivity and performance of staff scientists, necessary functions for the operation of a highly effective intramural research program. The Board is composed of scientific and technical experts. The Board continues to provide indispensable

evaluations and advice in the scientific management of IRP. In addition to the peer review of each laboratory, the Chair and individual members of the Board are frequently consulted for advice on program development and staff appointments. The Board's crucial role is assuring the continued high quality of NIA intramural research and this was demonstrated by the reviews held during the past year. In October 2022, no labs or PIs were reviewed, only two concepts were reviewed. In May 2023 the Laboratory of Clinical Investigation (LCI), Off-Cycle Tenure Tracks, and Alzheimer's Disease (AD) Concept were reviewed.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Board will consist of fourteen members, approximately, including the Chair, appointed by the Director, NIH, from authorities knowledgeable in the fields of basic and clinical sciences related to the research activities of the Institute.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Meetings are generally held twice a year. In FY 2023, meetings were held in October 2022 and May 2023.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Board is composed of recognized biomedical research authorities from outside the NIH in order to secure unbiased and objective evaluation of intramural research programs. Their recommendations are invaluable because the complex nature of research in each laboratory requires a unique balance and breadth of expertise not available on the NIH staff or from

other established resources.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The meetings of the Board were partially closed for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual programs and projects conducted by the Institute, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, the competence of individual investigators and other similar items.

Section 552b(c)(6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act permits the closing of meetings where discussion could reveal personal information, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

21. Remarks

Committee Function: Other - Scientific and Technical Peer Review. Reports: This committee did not produce any public reports during the fiscal year. DFO/Committee Decision Maker: Based on the assignment of responsibilities in this Institute, the roles of the committee's designated federal officer and the committee decision maker are held by the same individual. Andrea LaCroix continues to serve as Chair. Her term ends 6/30/2024. Terrie Moffit's term start was incorrectly listed in the 2022 ACR as 3/13/2022. It has been corrected to 2/27/2022 in the 2023 report. URL: This committee does not have a website.

Designated Federal Officer

LUIGI FERRUCCI SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR,
National Institute on Aging

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
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BARNES, LISA	03/13/2022	06/30/2026	PROFESSOR, RUSH UNIVERSITY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
BROWN-BORG, HOLLY	05/08/2022	06/30/2026	PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
CRIMMINS, EILEEN	02/27/2022	06/30/2026	PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
GORONZY, JORG	05/08/2022	06/30/2026	PROFESSOR, MAYO CLINIC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
LACROIX, ANDREA	12/09/2019	06/30/2024	Professor and Chief of Epidemiology, University of California, San Diego	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
MOFFITT, TERRIE	02/27/2022	06/30/2026	PROFESSOR DUKE UNIVERSITY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
QUIROZ, YAKEEL	05/08/2022	06/30/2026	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 7

Narrative Description

NIH's mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability. NIH works toward that mission by conducting research in its own laboratories. Section 402(b)(9) of the Public Health Service Act states that "the Director, NIH...shall assure that research at...the National Institutes of Health is subject to review in accordance with section 492". Section 492(b) states that the "Director of NIH shall establish procedures for periodic technical and scientific peer review of research at the National Institutes of

Health. The mission of the Board of Scientific Counselors is to assess the quality of the Institute's intramural research programs and to evaluate the productivity and performance of intramural scientists and shall also, as requested by the Director, NIH, undertake peer review of extramural funding applications as required by section 492 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended."

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trust in government | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Over \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cost Savings Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Cost Savings Comments

NIH supported basic and clinical research accomplishments often take many years to unfold into new diagnostic tests and new ways to treat and prevent diseases.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

106

Number of Recommendations Comments

During each meeting the members evaluate the scientific programs of three or four Laboratories/Branches (every Lab/Branch is evaluated once every four years) and will review the progress of junior scientists at the midpoint of or during the final year of the six to eight year period of their tenure track appointment. There were two recommendations added this year.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Information on the research funded by NIH is available through the RePORT (Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tool) website. RePORT provides access to reports, data, and analyses of NIH research activities that advance the mission of the NIH, including information on NIH expenditures, strategic plans, reports on NIH funding, and reports on the organization and people involved in NIH research and research training. The RePORT website is located at <http://report.nih.gov>.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Information on the research funded by NIH is available through the RePORT (Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tool) website. RePORT provides access to reports, data, and analyses of NIH research activities that advance the mission of the NIH, including information on NIH expenditures, strategic plans, reports on NIH funding, and reports on the organization and people involved in NIH research and research training. The RePORT website is located at <http://report.nih.gov>.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Information resulting from closed Board of Scientific Counselors meetings is subject to the Freedom of Information Act. The public can view information on NIH Intramural Research Reports found on the NIH Intramural Research Sourcebook website located at <https://oir.nih.gov/sourcebook/intramural-research-communications-resources/annual-reports-bit>

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The Scientific Director and other NIH officials use the recommendations made by the BSC in evaluating the quality of intramural research programs including scientific priorities and resources available. No changes were made to existing laboratory research priorities or resources.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

Although grant reviews are included in the duties of this Board, there were no grant reviews performed during this fiscal year.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online Committee Web Site

☐

Online GSA FACA Web Site

☒

Publications

☐

Other

☒

Access Comments

Contact Designated Federal Officer.