

# 2022 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>
Department of Health and Human Services	2022
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>
Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	799

<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	04/26/1991		

<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No		

<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

**11. Establishment Authority** Authorized by Law

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
42 U.S.C. 282(b)(16)	11/20/1985	Continuing	No

**15. Description of Committee** Other Committee

**16a. Total Number of Reports** No Reports for this Fiscal Year

**17a. Open** 0 **17b. Closed** 1 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 1

## Meetings and Dates

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Review of Intramural Laboratory	06/06/2022	- 06/06/2022

**Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1**

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$5,600.00	\$5,600.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$242,366.00	\$132,842.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$6,451.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$11,254.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$7,739.00	\$7,816.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$264,705.00	\$172,963.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.70	0.50

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The BSC scientific review process is largely a retrospective review that focuses on the investigator's scientific accomplishments over the last four years. Additional emphasis is placed on the overall research program for its distinctive quality, impact, long-term objectives, originality of

thought as well as the current and future applications of innovative scientific approaches. The 2022 BSC Virtual Site Visit Review took place on April 25-26, 2022. The Board assessed program developments, accomplishments, future plans and recommendations from previous reviews and provided a written report of the evaluation. Final recommendations were made to the Scientific Director at the BSC Meeting on June 6, 2022. For the 2022 scientific review, the Board reviewed a total of 11 Senior Investigators and 6 Tenure-Track Investigators from the Cardiovascular Branch (1), Cell and Developmental Biology Center (9), Cellular and Molecular Therapeutics Branch (1), Population Sciences Branch (2), Systems Biology Center (1), Translational Vascular Medicine Branch (1) and NIMHD's DIR (2). Each investigator gave a 30-minute oral presentation followed by a rigorous 20-minute question and answer session. In addition, the Board reviewed nine Core Directors and three Program Directors at the 2022 BSC Meeting on June 3, 2022.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The Board consists of members who are outstanding authorities knowledgeable in the specialized fields of basic science and clinical medicine related to research activities in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). The advisory role of the Board is scientific and substantive. The Board, through periodic visits to the laboratories, assesses the research in progress and evaluates productivity and performance of staff scientists.

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

The Board holds one Site Visit meeting and one BSC meeting per year. These typically take place in April and June, respectively. The Site Visit meeting is a retrospective scientific review of an investigator's research program and takes place in the spring of each review cycle. Teams of external ad hoc reviewers provide their expertise and consult with the Board members for each investigator under review. During the June meeting, emphasis is focused on results of the prior review, future scientific review processes and recommendations for current research programs. Due to increase demand stemming from the pandemic, FY2021's Site Visit meetings increased in schedule. As a result, the BSC conducted three site visit reviews, two in April, 2021 and one prior to the BSC meeting in June, 2022.

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

The Board of Scientific Counselors is composed of acclaimed biomedical research authorities from outside the NIH. Their recommendations are invaluable because they are considered unbiased, fair and objective. The NHLBI Scientific Director relies on their scores and recommendations to guide resource allocation decisions in NHLBI's intramural research programs.

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

The meeting of the Board was closed for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual programs and projects conducted by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, the competence of individual investigators, and similar items, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted

invasion of personal privacy. 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**

Other: Scientific and Technical Peer Review.  
 Chair: Dr. Jodi Nunnari was reassigned as Chair beginning 07/01/2022 through 06/30/2024. Dr. Jean Schwarzbauer’s membership was incorrectly reported with a 2024 end date on the 2021 report. Their term’s end date has been updated to 2025 on this year’s report. Two members rotated-off (Bers and Abkowitz) and two were on-boarded (Silverman and Malek). Two vacancies remain due to declinations. This is why the Charter states 11 potential members, but this ACR lists 9.  
 Reports: This committee did not produce any public reports. The DFO and the Committee Decision Maker positions are held by the same individual based on assigned duties within the Institute.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Robert S Balaban Associate Scientific Director,  
 Division of Intramural Research

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Abkowitz, Janis	04/02/2018	06/30/2022	Professor, University of Washington	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Bers, Donald	07/01/2020	06/30/2022	Distinguished Professor and Chair, University of California, Davis	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Garcia-Moreno, Bertrand	06/06/2021	06/30/2024	Professor, Johns Hopkins University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Malek, Thomas	04/10/2022	06/30/2025	Professor/Chair, University of Miami	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Nunnari, Jodi	06/06/2021	06/30/2024	Distinguished Professor, University of California at Davis	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rosenthal, Nadia	06/06/2021	06/30/2024	Scientific Director and Professor, Jackson Laboratory	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Schwarzbauer, Jean	11/22/2020	06/30/2025	Professor and Associate Chair, Princeton University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Silverman, Edwin	04/10/2022	06/30/2025	Physician, Brigham and Women's Hospital	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

### **Number of Committee Members Listed: 8**

### **Narrative Description**

The goal of NIH research is to acquire new knowledge to help prevent, detect, diagnose, and treat disease and disability, from the rarest genetic disorder to the common cold. The NIH mission is to uncover new knowledge that will lead to better health for everyone. 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.” This Board assesses the quality of the Institute intramural research programs and evaluates the productivity and performance of staff scientists, necessary functions for the operation of a highly effective intramural research program.

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

Checked if  
Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

**Outcome Comments**

NA

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

### **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?**

243

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

29 Total (17 Principal Investigators, 9 Core Directors, 3 Program Directors).

**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**

Additional information 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**

Additional information 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 Counselor 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 the <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" 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 the intramural research priorities and resources available.

### 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

Contact the Designated Federal Officer.