

## 2019 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Eye Institute

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of Health and Human Services		2019	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Board of Scientific Counselors, National Eye Institute		230	
<b>4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	11/12/1997		
<b>8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>	
No			
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b>	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
<b>15. Description of Committee</b>	Other Committee		
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this FiscalYear		
<b>17a. Open Meetings and Dates</b>	<b>17b. Closed Meetings and Dates</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates</b>	<b>Other Activities</b>
No Meetings	0	0	0

	<b>Current FY</b>	<b>Next FY</b>
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$9,036.00	\$35,089.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$10,924.00
<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	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	<b>\$9,036.00</b>	<b>\$48,813.00</b>

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

Section 402(b)(3) 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.” The Board is composed of recognized biomedical and/or behavioral research authorities who represent the forefront of research and technical knowledge and who provide evaluation and peer review of Institute laboratories and staff scientists in the following areas: vision research, ranging from clinical ophthalmology and ophthalmic pathology to the basic sciences.

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

The Board consists of seven members who are outstanding authorities knowledgeable in the specialized fields of eye and vision research, ranging from clinical ophthalmology and ophthalmic pathology, to the basic sciences. 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 principal investigators.

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

The Board meets approximately twice per year for the peer review of intramural laboratories on a rotating basis, as required by the PHS Act. The committee did not meet this fiscal year.

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

This 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 committee did not meet this fiscal year.

## 21. Remarks

Committee Function: Other - Scientific and Technical Peer Review Reports: This committee did not produce any public reports during the fiscal year. URL: This committee does not have a website. The DFO and Decision Maker are the same person, Acting Scientific Director, NEI due to the delegations of authority and assignments within this small Institute. Dr. Richard Lang was reappointed to the committee until 6/30/20. Dr. Anthony Wynshaw-Boris was reappointed for a two year term from 7/1/18 until 6/30/20. The committee did not have enough members to constitute a quorum and did not meet this fiscal year. The committee has submitted a slate of candidates for approval and plans on meeting in FY20. The DFO changed from Dr. Sheldon Miller to Dr. David Schneeweis during FY19.

## Designated Federal Officer

David Schneeweis Acting Scientific Director

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
LANG, RICHARD	03/15/2013	06/30/2020	Professor and Director, Visual Systems Group, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wynshaw-Boris, Anthony	07/03/2018	06/30/2020	James H. Jewell MD '34 Professor of Genetics, Case Western Reserve University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 2**

## Narrative Description

Section 402(b)(3) 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

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?**

43

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

The Board did not have enough members to constitute a quorum and did not meet during this reporting period. The Board of Scientific Counselors makes recommendations that address the specific laboratory under review. The reviews are scheduled on a 3-4 year rotation. The recommendations are implemented at the direction of the Institute Director and the Scientific Director.

**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**

Members receive information through minutes and oral presentations at meetings.

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

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

**Action Comments**

NIH staff use the Board's recommendations to make decisions regarding the allocating resources within specific research laboratories in the National Eye Institute.

**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
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

**Access Comments**

IC Committee Management Officer 240-669-5201