

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Report Run Date: 04/25/2024 02:01:57 PM

1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of Health and Human Services		2024	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health		202	
4. Is this New Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	02/03/2023	02/03/2025	
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority		8c. Actual Term Date
No			
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
11. Establishment Authority Authorized by Law			
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
42 U.S.C. 217a	11/17/1972	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board			
16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
17a. Open	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	17d. Total
0	0	0	0
Meetings and Dates			
No Meetings			

	Current FY	Next 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?

NIOSH leadership identifies priority research and prevention issues that would benefit from the review and advice of the Board. Materials are prepared and/or presentations are made by key staff to ensure the Board is fully briefed on the issue at hand. The Board has provided valuable insights and recommendations on a wide variety of topics over the years.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

NIOSH has benefited from the diverse points of

view and interchange of ideas created by the composition of the Board. Members are knowledgeable in various disciplines and expertise is drawn from the public and private sectors, with members employed by universities, industries, organized labor, and professional organizations. Every effort is made to maintain a balanced number of women and men on the Board from varied ethnic backgrounds and geographical locations.

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

The committee was established in 1983. Board meetings are held two times per year, and working groups are held when necessary to support the function of the full Board. Board meetings are relevant to maintaining the quality and integrity of NIOSH programs. The Board provides guidance on the Institute's research activities related to developing and evaluating hypotheses, systematically documenting findings, and disseminating results. The Board evaluates the degree to which the activities of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health: (1) conform to those standards of scientific excellence appropriate for Federal scientific institutions in accomplishing objectives in occupational safety and health; (2) address currently relevant needs in the fields of occupational safety and health either alone or in conjunction with other known activities inside and outside of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; and (3) produce their intended results in addressing important research questions in occupational safety and health, both in terms of applicability of the research findings and dissemination of the findings.

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

NIOSH, as a research institute, benefits greatly from the Board of Scientific Counselors' review of its scientific programs and from collaboration with non-governmental partners in developing new health and safety research and implementing research results in the workplace. The NIOSH mission of preventing workplace illness and injury depends greatly on the activities and actions taken by key non-governmental partners. The Board of Scientific Counselors facilitates the NIOSH mission by convening major stakeholders in workplace health and safety to provide expert advice on research priorities, needs, and gaps; tracking of illnesses, injuries and exposures; methods and formats for disseminating research results; and prevention and partnership strategies. Timely issues for the Board are identified through ongoing dialogue with the Director, NIOSH, public meetings, and workgroups established to address specific topics. These activities help to ensure that NIOSH produces work of high scientific quality that is relevant to those who need it. In addition, the Board has assisted NIOSH in examining programs' progress in meeting the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) goals.

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

No meetings or portions thereof were closed to the public.

21. Remarks

No formal reports are required in the charter; the committee provides advice and recommendations through various means other than formal reports. The BSC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, met on October 4, 2022, and

April 21, 2023, and the virtual meetings were open to the public. The BSC, NIOSH National Firefighter Registry Subcommittee met on June 13, 2023, and the in-person and virtual meeting was open to the public.

Designated Federal Officer

Maria Strickland Chief of Staff

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Barton, Lauren	01/01/2020	12/31/2023	Fiat	Special Government
			Chrysler	Employee
			Automobiles (SGE)	Member
DeGrasse, Enjoli	01/01/2022	12/31/2025	International Brotherhood of Teamsters	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
			Washington State Dept of Labort and Industries	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
			American Nurses Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Francis, Ruth	01/01/2022	12/31/2025	Bloomsburg University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
			Texas Department of State Health Services	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
			The MEMIC Group	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Patel, Ketki	01/01/2022	12/31/2025	University of Cincinnati	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pieretti, Luis	01/01/2022	12/31/2025		
Reponen, Tiina	01/01/2020	12/31/2023		

Roy, Robert	01/01/2020	12/31/2023	3M Company	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Brimhall, Shawn [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2022	12/31/2023	New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Fonseca, Manuel [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	National Association of Hispanic Fire Fighters	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Harbour, Thomas [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2022	12/31/2023	Harbour fire	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jahnke, Sarah [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2022	12/31/2023	Center for Fire Rescue and EMS Health Research	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kohler, Betsy [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2022	12/31/2023	North American Association of Central Cancer Registries	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lee, Sara [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	National Volunteer Fire Council	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Materna, Barbara [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2022	12/31/2023	California Department of Health	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Moffatt, Steven [National Firefighter Registry]	01/07/2021	12/31/2023	Safety Health Public Systems Ascension St. Vincent	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Simmons, Demond [National Firefighter Registry]	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	Oakland Fire Department	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Stagnaro, Victor
[National Firefighter Registry]

01/01/2022 12/31/2023

Special
Natl Fallen Government
Firefighters Employee
Foundation (SGE)
Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 19

Narrative Description

The Board provides advice and recommendations on programs that further all aspects of the NIOSH mission as outlined in the strategic plan for the Institute. These programs support: surveillance of occupational illnesses, injuries, and hazards; research to reduce morbidity, injuries, and mortality among workers; prevention through workplace evaluations, interventions, and recommendations; and information, training, and capacity-building to prevent occupational diseases and injuries.

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

Checked if
Applies

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

Outcome Comments

The Board conducts expert review of scientific programs, some in response to a Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measure for the agency. The Board also provides vital linkages of key stakeholders in occupational safety and health who utilize NIOSH products. The Board also helps NIOSH identify potential new partners for

the conduct of research in workplace health and safety settings.

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

Most of the Board's recommendations are conceptual in nature and are aimed at program and policy development and maintaining the quality of research, surveillance, prevention, and information activities. The Board does not provide advice on the administrative or financial management of the Institute.

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

189

Number of Recommendations Comments

The National Firefighter Registry Subcommittee provided thoughts on approaches for enrollment and considerations for follow-up questionnaires. Two recommendations concerned program enrollment, such as strategies for targeted enrollment and additional outreach efforts. Two recommendations gave factors to consider for a follow-up questionnaire, such as length and frequency of questionnaire and communication of results. The NIOSH BSC made 10 recommendations. The Board made recommendations on priority areas and industry sectors to consider when doing economics research. They also made several recommendations on PFAS research areas as NIOSH researchers are developing the PFAS Roadmap.

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

70%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The National Firefighter Registry has incorporated the advice from the BSC into targeted enrollment and state and local outreach strategies. The NIOSH Economics and Research Support Office took the NIOSH BSC advice to include in their analyses and agreed on suggested priority areas.

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

30%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The remaining recommendations are under progress. For example, the National Firefighter Registry has committed to keep the follow-up questionnaires short and issue them at the same time for all the participants no more than once a year. The National Firefighter Registry also has plans to share findings annually when requesting participation in follow-up questionnaires. For the PFAS recommendations the Board made, NIOSH is actively developing a PFAS Roadmap and the BSC recommendations are being considered in that process.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NIOSH provides feedback during the public meetings of the Board through formal presentations by the NIOSH Director, and key staff who are knowledgeable about the program relevant to the Board's advice and recommendations. The formal presentations are followed by extensive discussion to elicit additional information and provide clarification. Occasional feedback may be provided directly from the NIOSH Director to the Board by post or email. At the April 2023 meeting, the Board received updates from the NIOSH Director, another presentation about the economics of worker safety, health, and well-being, as well as a presentation on per- and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS) activities and considerations.

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

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

No

Grant Review Comments

BSC, NIOSH is not a grant review committee.

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

N/A