

## 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Center for Scientific Review Advisory Council

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human  
Services

### 2. Fiscal Year

2024

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Center for Scientific Review Advisory  
Council

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

845

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
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No 03/31/2023 03/31/2025

### 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

11/04/1988

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program  
Advisory Board

### 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 FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<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	\$0.00
<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>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

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

Section 492 of the PHS Act states that The Secretary...shall by regulation require appropriate technical and scientific peer review of applications in biomedical and behavioral research. This committee is composed of up to 11 highly qualified scientific individuals with expertise relating to review procedures and policies for the evaluation of scientific and technical merit of applications for grants and awards. During the fiscal year, the Advisory Council met two times to discuss and advise the NIH in general on various topics related to the peer review process. These topics included,

among others: (1) Updates from the CSR Director; (2) Peer Review and the Mission of NIH; (3) ENQUIRE Evaluation - Brain Disorders: Clinical, Translational, and Neurotechnology; (4) Reflections on Race, Ethnicity & NIH Research Awards: What We've Learned from a Decade of Research; (5) Strengthening Peer Review through Training; (6) Slates: How CSR Selects Members of Standing Study Sections; (7) ENQUIRE Evaluation: Immunology and Respiratory Systems; (8) Implementing Changes to NIH Peer Review Criteria Simplified Review Framework for Research Project Grants; (9) Revisions to NRSA Fellowship Review; and (10) A Framework for Evaluating Reviewers.

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

The Committee will consist of up to 11 members appointed by the Director, NIH (appointed members) and 1 non-voting ex officio member, the Director, CSR, who will serve as Chair. The appointed members of this committee are authorities knowledgeable in the fields of biological, medical, and behavioral research who have had experience with peer review. Members include experts such as physicians, basic and clinical investigators, and educators.

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

The Center for Scientific Review Advisory Council held two meetings during this reporting period. Five working group meetings were also held on the following dates: 10/07/2022, 01/25/2023, 03/26/2023, 07/17/2023, and 09/17/2023.

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

This committee is composed of recognized biomedical and behavioral research authorities and scientific and technical information systems experts who represent the forefront of research and technical knowledge. Their recommendations cannot be obtained from other sources because of their complex nature of research and of research program emphasis, and management requires a specialized balance and breadth of expertise not available on the NIH staff or from other established sources.

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

N/A

**21. Remarks**

This committee did not produce any reports during the fiscal year. The Committee Decision Maker and Designated Federal Officer roles are held by the same individual based on the assignment of responsibilities at the Center for Scientific Review.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Bruce Reed Deputy Director

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Anderson, Karen	03/12/2023	12/31/2026	Professor, Arizona State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
BYRNES, NONI	06/07/2018	12/31/2025	Director, Center for Scientific Review	Ex Officio Member
Bennett, Anton	09/11/2022	12/31/2025	Dorys McConnell Duberg Professor of Pharmacology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cabassa, Leopoldo	01/30/2022	12/31/2025	Associate Professor, Washington University in St. Louis	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Carpenter, Matthew	01/02/2022	12/31/2024	Professor, Medical University of South Carolina	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Epstein, Jonathan	06/04/2023	12/31/2026	Executive Vice Dean and Chief Scientific Officer, University of Pennsylvania	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hendon, Christine	01/30/2022	12/31/2025	Associate Professor, Columbia University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Janelins, Michelle	09/12/2021	12/31/2024	Associate Professor, University of Rochester	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rajaram, Narasimhan	09/12/2021	12/31/2024	Associate Professor, University of Arkansas	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Villa, Elizabeth	09/15/2019	12/31/2023	Assistant Professor, University of California, San Diego	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Yee, Lynn	02/26/2023	12/31/2026	Associate Professor, Northwestern University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 11**

### **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. The Center for Scientific Review (CSR) is the portal for NIH grant applications and their review for scientific merit. CSR receives about 80,000 applications a year. The majority of those grant applications (70%) are reviewed by peer review committees managed by CSR. Since 1946, our mission has remained clear and timely: to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews -- free from inappropriate influences -- so NIH can fund the most promising research. NIH advisory

councils provide a second level of peer review and make funding recommendations based on priorities set by Congress, DHHS, and the public. For over 60 years, this peer review system has enabled NIH to fund cutting-edge research that has allowed millions to leave their doctor's office with new drugs and cures for diseases. This committee is responsible for providing CSR management with recommendations and advice on policy and practice pertaining to monitoring of and coordination of peer review activities at CSR.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input 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**

This committee is involved in providing advice on the peer review process and policies used in the evaluation of research grant applications.

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

83

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

The number of recommendations reflect those given by the renamed and restructured committee that was started March 2011.

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

93%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

The number of fully implemented recommendations did not change from FY 2022. The two new FY 2023 recommendations were partially implemented.

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

2%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

The two FY 2023 recommendations were partially implemented and are expected to be fully implemented in FY 2024.

**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 is provided to the public at each meeting. The public can view information related to the Committee through the committee's official website.

**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**

Revised and amended the structure of peer review committees managed by CSR staff.  
Updated review policies.

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

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**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**

Contact Designated Federal Officer.