

## 2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Toxicology Program Board of Scientific Counselors

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

### 2. Fiscal Year

2025

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Toxicology Program Board of Scientific Counselors

### 3b. GSA

### Committee No.

113

### 4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

11/14/2024

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

11/14/2026

### 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. 217a

### 13. Effective Date

11/17/1962

### 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

<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?**

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) is a technical advisory body established to advise the NTP Executive Committee and NTP Director on matters relating to scientific program content and to evaluate the scientific merits of the intramural and collaborative programs of the NTP. Meetings are open to the public and webcast, written comments are received, and time provided at meetings for oral public comment. Information about BSC meetings can be found at <http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/164>.

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

Members of the BSC are selected from

recognized authorities knowledgeable in fields such as toxicology, pharmacology, pathology, biochemistry, epidemiology, mutagenesis, immunology, carcinogenesis, industrial hygiene, reproductive toxicology, and biostatistics. The Secretary, Health and Human Services, appoints members to the BSC. The members review the NTP activities in the above areas and provide scientific oversight to the program. The nomination of members to the Board is a major professional responsibility of the Director, NTP and the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) of the committee. The processes for outreach and selection involve long-range planning and obtaining suggestions and information from many different sources. NTP draws upon numerous resources to reach prospective members and to select suitable nominees for membership, such as recommendations from current and former Board members; the NTP Executive Committee; NTP Steering Committee and partner agencies. Close attention is given to equitable geographic distribution so long as the effectiveness of the committee is not impaired. NIH strives to broadly recruit a pool of candidates for open membership positions, including in terms of ethnic and gender representation. Appointments shall be made free from all forms of discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, or sex (including pregnancy, sex stereotyping, gender identity, transgender status and sexual orientation).

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

The BSC typically meets twice annually and convenes working groups and subcommittees to address special programmatic issues as needed.

Continuation of the BSC is necessary because there is no other available source that can provide a proper blend of programmatic review and advice needed by the NTP. The BSC did not convene this year and no recommendations were considered.

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

Due to the unique function and objectives of the NTP within the public sector, an independent advisory board is required that includes a breadth of scientific expertise within the membership and a membership that can evaluate and advise on activities ranging from basic research to large-scale chemical testing.

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

N/A

**21. Remarks**

Committee Function - Other, Scientific and Technical Peer Review. Based on the assignment of duties within the National Toxicology Program, the designated federal officer (DFO) and committee decision maker positions are held by the same individual. Effective summer 2023, a new DFO and Decision Maker is in place for the committee, Dr. Gayle Bernabe. Reports: This committee did not produce any reports during this fiscal year. Members: Drs. Eric Blomme, Kathleen Gray, Matthew Martin, Devon Payne-Sturges, Mark Russi, and Veena Singla were administratively extended per the Charter. Pamela Lein's actual chair start date was updated on the FY24 ACR to 12/5/22. Meetings: The committee did not hold any meetings in FY24. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) is an interagency program with partners from the National Institutes

of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and Food and Drug Administration/National Center for Toxicological Research. The NTP has been going through a period of transition to better clarify the program, its activities, and the NTP BSC's role as external advisors. This includes differentiating the NTP BSC's role from the newly established NIEHS Division of Translational Toxicology (DTT) BSC. Previously, the NTP BSC has advised on both NTP activities and activities of its NIEHS/DTT partner. Establishment of the NIEHS DTT BSC, which will review and evaluate DTT's intramural scientific research and work of senior scientific staff, has fostered ongoing discussions among the NTP partners to realign and reprioritize the role of the NTP BSC in providing external advice on the scientific merit of NTP's collaborative programs and activities including future needs and opportunities for NTP's interagency activities. Planning is underway to convene a NTP BSC meeting either during the first/second quarter of FY25.

## Designated Federal Officer

Kristine Gayle Bernabe Health Science Policy Analyst

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Blomme, Eric	07/18/2021	12/27/2024	Vice President, Abbvie	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Gray, Kathleen	07/18/2021	12/27/2024	Director, Center for Public Engagement with Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Haynes, Erin	01/17/2023	06/30/2025	Professor, University of Kentucky	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kimbro, K	01/29/2023	06/30/2025	Full Professor, North Carolina Central University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Martin, Matthew	07/18/2021	12/27/2024	Director, Pfizer, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Meeker, John	01/17/2023	06/30/2025	Professor, School of Public Health, University of Michigan	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Payne-Sturges, Devon	07/18/2021	12/27/2024	Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, University of Maryland, College Park	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Russi, Mark	10/12/2021	12/27/2024	Professor, Yale University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Singla, Venna	07/18/2021	12/27/2024	Senior Scientist, Natural Resources Defense Council	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Yang, Janet	01/29/2023	06/30/2025	Professor, University of Buffalo	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 10**

### **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. 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 in accordance with Section 492(b) of the PHS Act, as amended and shall also, as requested by the Director, NIH, undertake peer review of extramural funding applications as required by section 492(a) of the Public Health Service Act, as amended. The National Toxicology Program Board of Scientific Counselors (Board) is a technical advisory body established to advise the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Executive Committee and Program Director on matters relating to the scientific program content and to evaluate the scientific merits of the intramural and collaborative programs of the NTP, and as requested by the Secretary, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" 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**

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?**

267

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

The committee did not hold any meetings in FY24. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) is an interagency program with partners from the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and Food and Drug Administration/National Center for Toxicological Research. The NTP has been going through a period of transition to better clarify the program, its activities, and the NTP BSC's role as external advisors. This includes differentiating the NTP BSC's role from the newly established NIEHS Division of Translational Toxicology (DTT) BSC. Previously, the NTP BSC has advised on both NTP activities and activities of its NIEHS/DTT partner. Establishment of the NIEHS DTT BSC, which will review and evaluate DTT's intramural scientific research and work of senior scientific staff, has fostered ongoing discussions among the NTP partners to realign and reprioritize the role of the NTP BSC in providing external advice on the scientific merit of NTP's collaborative programs and activities including future needs and opportunities for NTP's interagency activities. Planning is underway to convene a NTP BSC meeting either during the first/second quarter of FY25. 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 Fully implemented by the agency?**

0%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Due to the large breadth and complexity of the recommendations made by this committee, staff is unable to determine which recommendations have been fully or partially implemented solely in response to this committee's activities.

**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**

NA

**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	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

The Committee makes recommendations to federal staff. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) advises the NTP Executive Committee and NTP Director on matters relating to scientific program content and to evaluate the scientific merits of the intramural and collaborative programs of the NTP.

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

Contact the Designated Federal Officer.