

2022 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Mental Health

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

2. Fiscal Year

2022

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Mental Health

3b. GSA Committee No.

805

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter Renewal Date

01/13/1987

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 USC 282(b)(16)

13. Effective Date

11/20/1985

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

2

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
To review intramural laboratories and programs.	02/02/2022	02/03/2022
To review intramural laboratories and programs.	06/01/2022	06/03/2022

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel		
Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$13,400.00	\$13,400.00
18a(2). Personnel		
Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel		
Pmts to Federal Staff	\$164,003.00	\$168,431.00
18a(4). Personnel		
Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$9,161.00	\$25,146.00
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	\$46,101.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$31,820.00	\$32,138.00
18d. Total	\$220,784.00	\$287,616.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.80	0.80

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. The Board reviews the research of each of the NIMH Laboratories and Branches as well as the independent Sections every 4 years or sooner where appropriate. In FY2022 the Board reviewed several laboratories/branches, sections/units, cores, and investigators in the NIMH intramural program. At the February 2022 BSC Review Meeting, the Unit on Neuromodulation and Synaptic Integration (Mid-Tenure Review), Transgenic Core (Interim Review), Magnetoencephalography (MEG) Core, and the Section on Synapse Development Plasticity were reviewed. At the June 2022 BSC Review Meeting, the Laboratory of Neuropsychology, including the Section on Neurobiology of Learning, Section on Neural Coding and Computation, Section on Learning and Decision Making, and Section on Cognitive Neurophysiology and Imaging were reviewed. The Board continues to provide evaluation and advice for the management of the research efforts of the intramural program. The Board provides to the National Advisory Mental Health Council for review a description of its activities annually.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Board consists of members who are outstanding authorities knowledgeable in the basic and clinical medical sciences related to the research activities of the Institute. 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 intramural scientists.

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

The Board holds approximately three meetings each year for the peer review of intramural laboratories on a rotating basis as required by the PHS Act. During this reporting period, the full Board met two times on the following dates 2/2-3/2022 and 6/1-3/2022. The BSC members participated in one other activity on 1/31/2022. The Chair of the BSC participated in one other activity as part of his duties on 5/13/2022.

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

The Board is composed of recognized biomedical and/or behavioral 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 meetings of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Mental Health, were closed for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual programs and projects conducted by the 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

Committee Function: Other - Scientific and Technical Peer Review. Dr. Jennifer Mehren is both the DFO and the Committee Decision Maker for the BSC based on the assignment of responsibilities within this Institute. Reports: This committee did not produce any reports during the fiscal year. Members: Dr. Andre Fenton was reassigned to chair from 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2024 and extended for a year.

Designated Federal Officer

Jennifer E Mehren Scientific Advisor

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
BASSETT, DANIELLE	04/14/2019	06/30/2023	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
FENTON, ANDRE	11/13/2018	06/30/2024	PROFESSOR, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
FREIMER, NELSON	11/13/2018	06/30/2023	PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Fitzgerald, Kate	10/13/2020	06/30/2025	Associate Professor, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Groh, Jennifer	01/19/2021	06/30/2025	Professor, Duke University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Haber, Suzanne	01/30/2022	06/30/2026	Professor, University of Rochester Medical Center	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
LIM, KELVIN	04/14/2019	06/30/2022	PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
MONTEGGIA, LISA	01/30/2022	06/30/2026	Professor, Vanderbilt University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McCarthy, Margaret	07/28/2020	06/30/2022	Professor and Chair, University of Maryland School of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
PAULUS, MARTIN	09/15/2019	06/30/2024	Scientific Director and President, Laureate Institute for Brain Research	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
SALZMAN, C.	11/13/2018	06/30/2022	PROFESSOR, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
TYE, KAY	09/16/2019	06/30/2024	Professor, Salk Institute for Biological Sciences	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 12

Narrative Description

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. Board reviews the research of each of the NIMH Laboratories and Branches as well as the independent Sections every 4 years or sooner where appropriate.

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?

0

Number of Recommendations Comments

It is not possible to assign a number for the recommendations made by the Board. They review the research and the scientists and make numerous recommendations.

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

NA

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 resulting from closed Board of Scientific Counselors 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 <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
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

Action Comments

The Scientific Director and other NIH officials use the recommendations made by the BSC in evaluating the quality of the intramural research programs including scientific priorities and resources available. As a result, the following decisions were made: The BSC made recommendations related to the specific research priorities of reviewed laboratories and core facilities, as needed. Additionally, the BSC recommended changes in resources within reviewed laboratories and core facilities, as needed.

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

Contact Designated Federal Officer.