

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Health and Human Services	2025
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	809

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	01/25/1991		

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. 282(b)(16)	11/20/1985	Continuing	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 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. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

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". This committee 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 areas of basic and clinical research in human communication with a primary interest in hearing and balance. The Board continues to provide indispensable evaluation and advisory functions in the science management of the intramural research programs. In addition to the formal meetings for peer review of each laboratory, the chairman and individual Board members are frequently consulted for advice on staff appointments and program development.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Board consists of eight members, approximately, who are outstanding authorities knowledgeable in the specialized fields of otolaryngology, molecular biology, neurochemistry, molecular genetics, immunology, cell biology, voice-speech sciences, and the vestibular system. The advisory role of the Board is scientific and substantive. The Board, through periodic visits to the laboratories and consultation with the Scientific Director, assesses the research in progress and evaluates productivity and performance of staff scientists.

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

The Board met two times during this reporting period to assess the progress and future direction in the Division of Intramural Research, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD). The Board met on 11/6/2023 and 04/02/2024 for the peer review of NIDCD intramural laboratories as required by the PHS Act.

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

This Board is composed of recognized biomedical and/or behavioral research authorities from outside 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 were either partially closed or 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 Reports: The committee did not produce any public reports during this fiscal year. Membership: Ellen Lumpkin was initially appointed to the Board on October 25, 2021. On July 1, 2022, Ellen Lumpkin was reassigned for a temporary Chair appointment through June 30, 2023. On July 1, 2023, Ellen Lumpkin was reassigned again to continue serving as a member through June 30, 2026. In FY23, Marlan Hanson was assigned as Chair on July 1, 2023 and will continue to serve as Chair until June 30, 2027.

Designated Federal Officer

LISA L. CUNNINGHAM SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
CHENG, ALAN	07/01/2024	06/30/2029	EDWARD C. AND AMY H. SEWALL	Special Government Employee (SGE)
			PROFESSOR, STANFORD UNIVERSITY	Member
			ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
GELEOC, GWENAELE	07/01/2024	06/30/2029	PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
HANSEN, MARLAN	09/25/2022	06/30/2027	EDWARD AND AMY SEWALL PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE CHAIR, STANFORD UNIVERSITY	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
HELLER, STEFAN	08/13/2023	06/30/2028	PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
LUMPKIN, ELLEN	10/25/2021	06/30/2026		Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member

LU, XIAOWEI	08/13/2023	06/30/2028	PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
SEGAL, ROSALIND	10/25/2021	06/30/2026	PROFESSOR, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
SIMMONS, DWAYNE	09/25/2022	06/30/2027	PROFESSOR & CHAIR, BAYLOR UNIVERSITY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 8

Narrative Description

The mission of the NIDCD Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) is to assess the quality and progress of the Institute's intramural research programs, the appropriateness of resources assigned to the scientists and their proposed future research, and to evaluate the productivity and performance of staff scientists. 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 Act, as amended." Each scientist is reviewed at least every four years. This process is essential to maintain the excellence of science in the intramural program. The reviews of the scientists have been thorough and objective and have played a major role in establishing and maintaining the excellence of the Intramural Research Program.

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 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 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 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

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?

78

Number of Recommendations Comments

The number of recommendations is from 2003 forward. The Board made one

recommendation this fiscal year.

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

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	<input 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

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. No changes were made to existing laboratory research priorities or resources.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Contact Designated Federal Officer.