

# 2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Biotechnology Information, National Library of Medicine

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## 1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

## 2. Fiscal Year

2018

## 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Biotechnology Information, National Library of Medicine

## 3b. GSA Committee No.

28054

## 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

## 5. Current Charter

12/23/2005

## 6. Expected Renewal Date

## 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. 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 Meetings and Dates 0 17b. Closed Meetings and Dates 0 17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates 2 17d. Total Meetings and Dates 2

### Purpose

Review of Intramural Laboratories/Programs.  
Review of Intramural Laboratories/Programs.

### Start

11/14/2017  
04/24/2018

### End

- 11/14/2017  
- 04/24/2018

## Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

## 18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$29,437.00	\$29,997.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$10,307.00	\$10,457.00

## 18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

## 18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff

## 18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

## 18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members

<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>	\$800.00	\$816.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$42,944.00	\$43,670.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.20	0.20

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

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 following areas: health sciences, computer sciences, information sciences, information technology, library science, behavioral sciences, social sciences, educational technology, communications engineering, molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, structural chemistry, mathematics, statistics, and media development and utilization.

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

The Board consists of members who are outstanding authorities knowledgeable in the fields of health sciences, computer sciences, information sciences, information technology, library science, behavioral sciences, social sciences, educational technology, communications engineering, molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, structural chemistry, mathematics, statistics, and media development and utilization. The advisory role of the Board is indispensable because it is technically informed and scientifically knowledgeable. The Board conducts a critical review and assessment of NLM intramural research efforts and staff.

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

The Board met twice during FY 2018 on November 14, 2017 and April 24, 2018. The Board is expected to meet twice in FY 2019.

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

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

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

The Board meetings were closed or partially closed for review, discussion, and evaluation of individual programs and projects conducted by the National Library of Medicine, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, the competence of the individual investigators, and similar items. 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: This committee did not produce any reports during this reporting period. URL: This committee does not have a dedicated website. Committee Decision Maker and Designated Federal Official are the same individual based on assigned duties within the National Library of Medicine. Dr. Michael Boehnke and Dr. Jianzhi Zhang were both reappointed for an additional year.

## Designated Federal Officer

JAMES M. OSTELL DIRECTOR, NCBI

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
BOEHNKE, MICHAEL	07/01/2014	06/30/2019	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
DE CRECY-LAGARD, VALERIE	07/01/2013	06/30/2018	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
GREEN, RACHEL	07/01/2014	06/30/2018	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
GUY, RODNEY	07/01/2013	06/30/2018	DEAN	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
MAKOVA, KATERYNA	07/01/2018	06/30/2022	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
POLLARD, KATHERINE	07/01/2018	06/30/2022	DIRECTOR, SENIOR INVESTIGATOR & PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
RELMAN, DAVID	07/01/2015	06/30/2019	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
SALZBERG, STEVEN	07/01/2017	06/30/2021	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
SLONIM, DONNA	07/01/2018	06/30/2022	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
ZHANG, JIANZHI	07/01/2014	06/30/2019	PROFESSOR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 10**

## Narrative Description

The Board of Scientific Counselors advises the NLM and its research directors by assessing the research in progress, assessing proposed programs, and evaluating the

productivity of staff scientists. The Board has served as an impetus in guaranteeing the quality and effectiveness of the research programs of the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

**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**

N/A

**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 disease.

**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 suggestions and 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**

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**

As part of the reports to the Board of Scientific Counselors, the Executive Secretary presents appropriate remarks regarding actions taken to implement the Board's recommendations and guidance from previous meetings.

**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, NCBI has adjusted institute resources for senior investigators and evaluated program priorities based on increasing constraints on program budgets.

**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 the National Library of Medicine Committee Management Office.