

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human
Services

2. Fiscal Year

2025

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Science Advisory Board for
Biosecurity

3b. GSA

Committee No.

21482

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

5. Current Charter

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

No 04/07/2024 04/07/2026

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

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

42 USC 217a, Section 222 of
the PHS, PAHPA PL
109-417, Section 205, 120
Stat. 2851

13. Effective Date

11/22/1962 Continuing No

14. Committee Type

14c. Presidential?

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program
Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

17b. Closed

17c. Partially Closed

Other Activities

17d. Total

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. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 18d. Total | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE) | 0.00 | 0.00 |

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The purpose of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) is to provide technical advice, guidance, or recommendations, to relevant Federal departments and agencies related to biosafety and biosecurity oversight of biomedical research, including — (1) oversight of federally-conducted or federally-supported dual use biomedical research, such as the review of policies or frameworks used to assess and appropriately manage safety and security risks

associated with such research, taking into consideration national security concerns, the potential benefits of such research, considerations related to the research community, transparency, and public availability of information, and international research collaboration; and (2) pursuant to section 205 of the PAHPA, when requested by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (Secretary) (a) a core curriculum and training requirements for workers in maximum containment biological laboratories; and (b) periodic evaluations of maximum containment biological laboratory capacity nationwide and assessments of the future need for increased laboratory capacity.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

In advising on the efficient and effective oversight of dual use life sciences research, the NSABB must consider both public health and national security needs and the needs of the research community. Because this requires a diverse range of expertise, the NSABB will consist of not more than 25 voting members who provide broad expertise in areas such as molecular biology/genomics, microbiology (bacteriology), microbiology (virology), clinical Infectious diseases/diagnostics, institutional and/or laboratory, biosafety and biosecurity, public health/epidemiology, health physicist/radiation safety, pharmaceutical production, veterinary medicine, plant health, food production, bioethics, national security, military biodefense programs and military medicine, intelligence, biodefense, law and law enforcement, academia, scientific publishing, export controls, industry perspective and public perspective. In appointing these members, careful consideration is also given to

geographic, gender, and race/ethnicity balance. In addition, nonvoting ex officio members represent HHS.

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

Meetings of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) will be held approximately three times within a fiscal year and may be convened on an as-needed basis. There were no meetings of the NSABB or workgroup sessions convened, nor new reports or recommendations generated, in Fiscal Year 2024 as the NSABB did not have an active charge issued by the U.S. Government (USG) during this period while the USG worked to develop and issue a new federal oversight framework for conducting and managing certain types of federally funded life sciences research involving biological agents and toxins informed by the NSABB's multiyear deliberations and final report that was delivered to the HHS Secretary in Fiscal Year 2023, which included 12 recommendations made by the Committee.

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

The NSABB is the only Federal advisory committee chartered to advise the Federal Government on the management and oversight of dual use research; a constantly evolving challenge with significant implications for national biodefense, biosafety and biosecurity, and maintenance of a strong U.S. bioeconomy. The NSABB brings together a unique and broad range of perspectives and expertise, including biomedical, plant, and animal research; biosecurity, law, law enforcement, scientific publishing, biodefense, and intelligence.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

This committee did not produce any public reports this fiscal year. Membership: Dr. Pamela A. Silver's term concluded on December 6, 2023. Dr. Christina Egan's term ended on June 14, 2024. Ms. Rachel E. Levinson's member term will expire on November 30, 2024. Subsequently, she will assume the role of Chairperson, effective December 1, 2024. Administrative Extensions: The following NSABB members have received administrative extensions - Drs. Denison, Fletcher, Grabenstein, Parker, Mr. Bernard, and Ms. Levinson until November 30, 2024; Dr. London until December 5, 2024; Drs. Haynes, Metzger, Ms. Benjamin, and Ms. Madad until December 11, 2024. Ex Officio (Reappointments): Dr. Segaran Pillai, Director of the Office of Laboratory Safety at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, was reappointed as an Ex Officio member of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) on May 8, 2024. Ex Officio (New appointments): William Beaver - Biodefense Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Defense; Dr. Kathryn Brinsfield - Director of the National Counterproliferation and Biosecurity Center at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Joseph R. Graber - Senior Technical Advisor of Office at the U.S. Department of Energy; Dr. Julia Limage, Director of the Office of Strategy, Policy, and Requirements Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, joined the NSABB as an Ex Officio member on the same date, succeeding Dr. David C. Hassell, whose term expired on June 14, 2023.; Dr. Samuel

Howerton Chief Scientist at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Joseph P. Kozlovac - Biological Safety Specialist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. Kristen Kulcsar Weand - Head of Strategy at the U.S. Department of State; and Stephen Welby - Deputy Director at The White House. The Designated Federal Officer and Committee Decision Maker positions are held by the same individual based on assigned duties within the IC. Per the Charter, NSABB will consist of not more than 25 voting members, including the Chair. There may be nonvoting ex officio members including at least one representative of each of the following: (i) The Department of Health and Human Services; (ii) The Department of Defense; (iii) The Department of Agriculture; (iv) The Department of Homeland Security; (v) The Department of Energy; (vi) The Department of State; (vii) The Office of Science and Technology Policy; and (viii) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence. At this time, there are 11 voting members and 10 ex officio members. The number of ex officios could change as the Charter doesn't specify a maximum number for ex officio members.

Designated Federal Officer

Cari Young Acting Director, Division of Biosafety, Biosecurity, and Emerging Biotechnology Policy

| Committee Members | Start | End | Occupation | Member Designation |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---|--|
| Beaver, William | 08/24/2024 | 08/20/2028 | Biodefense Policy Advisor, U.S. Department of Defense | Ex Officio Member |
| Benjamin, Shannon | 10/24/2021 | 12/11/2024 | Associate Director, Ginkgo Bioworks, Inc. | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Bernard, Kenneth | 10/30/2017 | 11/30/2024 | Retired Consultant | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Brinsfield, Kathryn | 08/21/2024 | 08/20/2028 | Director of the National Counterproliferation and Biosecurity Center at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence | Ex Officio Member |
| Denison, Mark | 09/14/2018 | 11/30/2024 | Edward Stahlman Professor of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University Medical Center | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Fletcher, Jacqueline | 01/21/2020 | 11/30/2024 | Regents Professor Emerita, National Institute for Microbial Forensics & Food and Agricultural Biosecurity, Oklahoma State University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Grabenstein, John | 03/07/2019 | 11/30/2024 | Executive Director, Vaccine Dynamics SP | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Graber, Joseph | 08/21/2024 | 08/20/2025 | Senior Technical Advisor, U.S. Department of Energy | Ex Officio Member |
| Haynes, Karmella | 10/24/2021 | 12/11/2024 | Associate Professor, Emory University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Howerton, Samuel | 08/21/2024 | 08/20/2028 | Chief Scientist, U.S. Department of Homeland Security | Ex Officio Member |
| Kozlovac, Joseph | 08/21/2024 | 08/20/2028 | Biological Safety Specialist, U.S. Department of Agriculture | Ex Officio Member |
| Levinson, Rachel | 12/19/2021 | 11/30/2024 | Executive Director, Federal Research Engagement Office, Arizona State University DC Center | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

| | | | | |
|------------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Limage, Julia | 05/08/2024 | 12/31/2028 | Director, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Requirements, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | Ex Officio Member |
| London, Alex | 08/16/2020 | 12/05/2024 | Professor of Ethics and Philosophy, Director, Center for Ethics and Policy, Carnegie Mellon University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Madad, Syra | 10/24/2021 | 12/11/2024 | Senior Director, Emergency Management New York City Hospital | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Marrazzo, Jeanne | 09/25/2023 | 09/24/2027 | Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH | Ex Officio Member |
| Metzger, Dennis | 10/24/2021 | 12/11/2024 | Professor and Theobald Alumni Chair, Albany Medical College | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Parker, Gerald | 01/02/2020 | 11/30/2024 | Associate Dean for Global One Health, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Pillai, Segaran | 01/14/2021 | 12/31/2028 | Director, Office of the Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration | Ex Officio Member |
| Weand, Kristen | 08/21/2024 | 08/20/2028 | Head of Strategy, U.S. Department of State | Ex Officio Member |
| Welby, Stephen | 08/21/2024 | 08/20/2028 | Deputy Director, National Security Office of Science and Technology Policy, The White House | Ex Officio Member |

Number of Committee Members Listed: 21

Narrative Description

The purpose of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) is to provide advice, guidance, and leadership regarding biosecurity oversight of dual use research, defined as biological

research with legitimate scientific purpose that may be misused to pose a threat to public health and/or national security. The NSABB will advise the Secretary, HHS, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In addition, when requested by the Secretary, HHS, the NSABB will advise the heads of all Federal entities that conduct, support, or have an interest in life sciences research on the matters delineated in Section 205 of the Pandemic and All-Hazards and Preparedness Act. The NSABB advises on and recommends specific strategies for the efficient and effective oversight of federally conducted or supported dual use biological research, taking into consideration both national security concerns and the needs of the research community.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

The Committee advises on significant policy issues that have the potential to affect the oversight of all federally-funded life sciences research. In addition, the policies that are informed by its recommendations help ensure that the scientific community conducts and communicates its research in a responsible manner.

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

This Committee provides advice, guidance, and leadership as stated in the narrative above. It can take many years for the impacts of these recommendations to come to fruition.

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

241

Number of Recommendations Comments

There were no meetings of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) or workgroup sessions convened, nor new reports or recommendations generated, in Fiscal Year 2024 as the NSABB did not have an active charge issued by the U.S. Government (USG) during this period while the USG worked to develop and issue a new federal oversight framework for conducting and managing certain types of federally funded life sciences research involving biological agents and toxins informed by the NSABB's multiyear deliberations and final report that was delivered to the HHS Secretary in Fiscal Year 2023, which included 12 recommendations made by the Committee.

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 on policy and program areas, NIH 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

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

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 checked="" 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 NSABB will advise the Secretary, HHS, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In addition, when requested by the Secretary, HHS, the NSABB will advise the heads of all Federal entities that conduct, support, or have an interest in life sciences research on the matters delineated in Section 205 of the Pandemic and All-Hazards and Preparedness Act.

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

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

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 type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

N/A