

2017 Current Fiscal Year Report: Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

2. Fiscal Year

2017

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues

3b. GSA

Committee No.

73519

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

03/10/2016 03/10/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

09/30/2017

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

EO 13708, dated 9/30/2015

8c. Actual Term Date

09/30/2017

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Presidential

12. Specific Establishment Authority

EO 13521

13. Effective Date

11/24/2009

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

Yes

15. Description of Committee

National Policy Issue Advisory Board

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	\$566,017.00	\$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	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$893,983.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$1,500,000.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	6.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

To accomplish its purpose, the Commission (1) identifies and examines specific bioethical, legal, and social issues related to the potential impacts of advances in biomedical and behavioral research, healthcare delivery, or other areas of science and technology; (2) recommends any legal, regulatory, or policy actions it deems appropriate to address these issues; and (3) critically examines diverse perspectives and explore possibilities for useful international

collaboration on these issues.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Commission members are drawn from fields of bioethics, science, medicine, technology, engineering, law, philosophy, theology, or other areas of the humanities or social sciences. At least one, and not more than three, members are bioethicists or scientists drawn from the Executive Branch, as designated by the President.

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

The Commission meets, at a minimum, four times a year on a quarterly basis. The Chair convenes and presides at the Commission meetings. The meeting agendas are developed by the Chair, in consultation with the Vice Chair and DFO. However, the Commission did not meet in 2017 since the new Presidential Administration did not seek guidance from the Committee.

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

The advice or information the Commission provides cannot be obtained elsewhere because there is no other source of independent, trans-agency advice on bioethical issues that may emerge as a consequence of advances in biomedicine and related areas of science and technology.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

The Commission was established by a

Presidential directive, Executive Order 13521, dated November 24, 2009. Therefore, appropriate action must be taken by the President or agency head to authorize continuation of the Commission. With Executive Order 13811, dated September 29, 2017, the President did not give authority for the Commission to continue to operate after September 30, 2017. Therefore, the Commission has been terminated, and the website is no longer available.

Designated Federal Officer

Vacant Vacant

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Allen, Anita	04/19/2010	01/19/2017	Vice Provost for Faculty, Henry R. Silverman Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Atkinson, Barbara	04/19/2010	01/19/2017	Founding Dean, University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Farahany, Nita	04/19/2010	01/19/2017	Director of Science & Society at the Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy, Director of the M.A. in Bioethics & Science Policy, and Professor of Law and Philosophy at Duke University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Grady, Christine	04/19/2010	01/19/2017	Chief of the Department of Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Gutmann, Amy	11/24/2009	01/19/2017	President and Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Professor of Communication, University of Pennsylvania Director of UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, and Robert A. Fishman	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hauser, Stephen	04/19/2010	09/30/2017	Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurology, University of California, San Francisco Paul C. Cabot Professor, Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School; Professor, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital Colonel, Medical Corps, US Army, and Director of the U.S. Military HIV Research Program, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Kilbride-Clinton Professor of Medicine and Ethics, Department of Medicine and Divinity School, and Associate Director, MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, University of Chicago	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kucherlapati, Raju	04/19/2010	01/20/2017		Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Michael, Nelson	04/19/2010	01/19/2017		Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Sulmasy, Daniel	04/19/2010	09/30/2017		Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Wagner,
James

04/19/2010 01/19/2017

President, Emory
University

Special
Government
Employee
(SGE)
Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

The Commission advised the President in accordance with EO 13521 on bioethical issues that may emerge as a consequence of advances in biomedical and related areas of science and technology. The Commission pursued its work with the goal of identifying and promoting policies and practices that ensure scientific research, healthcare delivery, and technological innovation are conducted in an ethically responsible manner.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

Not Applicable

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

We are unable to determine at this time.

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

100

Number of Recommendations Comments

During FY 2017, the Commission did not produced any new recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

10%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Approximately 10% of the recommendations were judged to have been fully implemented by the agency. However, due to the large breadth and complexity of the recommendations, as well as a lack of enough time passed, it is hard to determine which recommendations have been fully implemented solely in response to the Commission's activities. Also, a number of recommendations are directed to parties outside the government.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

67%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Approximately 67% of the recommendations were judged to have been partially implemented by the agency. However, due to the large breadth and complexity of the recommendations, it is hard to determine which recommendations have been partially implemented solely in response to the Commission's activities. Also, a number of recommendations are directed to parties outside the government. Some of the "partially"

implemented recommendations are deemed so due to their ongoing nature (e.g., ethics education and fostering accountability).

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

Not Applicable

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The administration has proposed revisions to 45 CFR 46 (human subjects protections) using work of the Bioethics Commission to support numerous proposed revisions. The Commission makes broad recommendations for action by both government and non-government entities. We do not receive specific responses to the recommendations.

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

No

Grant Review Comments

The Commission is not engaged in the review of applications for grants.

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



Other



Access Comments

NA