2023 Current Fiscal Year Report: Vaccine Research Center Board of Scientific Counselors National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Health and Human Services	2023

3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Vaccine Research Center Board of Scientific Counselors National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	1874

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	01/03/1994		

8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No		

9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear	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. Commitee 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 FiscalYear

17a. Open	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	Other Activities	17d. Total
0	1	0	0	1

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
Review of intramural labs and investigators	06/23/2023	- 06/23/2023

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	$0.00	$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	$31,229.00	$32,853.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	$0.00	$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	$0.00	$9,610.00
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.)	$400.00	$404.00
18d. Total	$33,629.00	$44,867.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.20	0.20

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." The Board is composed of scientific and technical experts. The Board continues to provide indispensable evaluation and advisory functions in the science management of the intramural research programs. Besides 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. The actions of the laboratories reviewed are in keeping with the recommendations of the Board. The Board provides the National Advisory Allergy and Infectious Diseases Council with a review and description of its activities.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The committee is composed of approximately 15 members who are authorities knowledgeable in the fields of virology, immunology, structural biology, and other related fields in basic and translational research involved in the development of effective vaccines for human disease related to the research activities of the Institute.

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

The committee met once, June 23, 2023, during this reporting period.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?
This Board is composed entirely 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 meeting of the Vaccine Research Center Board of Scientific Counselors, NIAID was 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: This committee did not produce any public reports. URL: This committee does not have a website. The DFO and Decision Maker are the same person, Director of the Vaccine Research Center, NIAID. Limited resources and the strict confidentiality of the work of this Board make this a necessity. Dr. Georgia

Tomaras was reappointed as chair through 6/30/2025.

Designated Federal Officer

Theodore Pierson Director, Vaccine Research Center

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ahmed, Rafi	12/10/2021	06/30/2025	Professor, Emory University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cameron, Craig	12/05/2021	06/30/2025	Professor, University of North Carolina	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Haynes, Barton	10/23/2022	06/30/2026	Professor, Duke university	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lewis, George	12/10/2021	06/30/2025	Professor, University of Maryland	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McElrath, Margaret	12/10/2021	06/30/2025	Professor, University of Washington	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Muhlberger, Elke	07/31/2021	06/30/2026	Professor, Boston University School of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tomaras, Georgia	12/10/2021	06/30/2025	Professor, Duke University Medical Center	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wilson, Ian	12/10/2021	06/30/2026	Professor, The Scripps Research Institute	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 8

Narrative Description

NIH’s mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability. NIH works toward that mission by conducting research in its own laboratories. 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, 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 Board assesses the quality of the Institute intramural research programs and evaluates the productivity and performance of staff scientists, necessary functions for the operation of a highly effective intramural research programs 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.

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 diseases.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?
47

Number of Recommendations Comments
Reviews of laboratories in the Vaccine Research Center. The Board made four recommendations 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-bil

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. 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	✓
Online Agency Web Site	✓
Online Committee Web Site	
Online GSA FACA Web Site	✓
Publications	
Other	✓

Access Comments

Contact IC Committee Management Officer. 240-669-5201