

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Mental Health

Report Run Date: 04/26/2024 09:03:02 AM

1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Board of Scientific Counselors, National
Institute of Mental Health

3b. GSA

Committee

No.

805

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

01/13/1987

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 USC 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

0 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next
FY 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?

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. The Board reviews the research of each of the NIMH Laboratories and Branches as well as the independent Sections every 4 years or sooner

where appropriate. In FY2023 the Board reviewed several laboratories/branches, sections/units, cores, and investigators in the NIMH intramural program. At the October 2022 BSC Review Meeting, the Section on Critical Brain Dynamics and Section on the Neurobiology and Treatment of Mood Disorders and the Experimental Therapeutics and Pathophysiology Branch were reviewed. At the February 2023 BSC Review Meeting, the Human Brain Collection Core was reviewed. At the June 2023 BSC Review Meeting, the Unit on Neural Computation and Behavior (Tenure Review) and the Molecular Imaging Branch, including the Section on PET Neuroimaging Sciences, Section on PET Radiopharmaceutical, and the Section on Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy were reviewed. At the September 2023 BSC Review Meeting, the Section on Molecular and Cellular Signaling, Section on Instrumentation, and the Human Genetics Branch, including the Genetic Basis of Mood and Anxiety Disorders Section, and Section on Developmental Neurogenomics were reviewed. The Board continues to provide evaluation and advice for the management of the research efforts of the intramural program. The Board provides to the National Advisory Mental Health Council for review a description of its activities annually.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Board consists of approximately twelve members who are outstanding authorities knowledgeable in the basic and clinical medical sciences related to the research activities of the Institute. The advisory role of the Board is scientific and substantive. The Board, through periodic visits to the Laboratories, assesses the

research in progress and evaluates productivity and performance of intramural scientists.

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

The Board holds approximately two meetings each year for the peer review of intramural laboratories on a rotating basis as required by the PHS Act. During this reporting period, the full Board met four times on the following dates 10/12-13/2022, 2/2/2023, 6/7-9/2023, and 9/20-22/2023. The Chair of the BSC participated in two other activities as part of his duties on 2/8/2023 and 5/12/2023.

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

The Board is composed 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 meetings of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Mental Health, were 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. Dr. Jennifer Mehren is both the DFO and the Committee Decision Maker for the BSC based on the assignment of responsibilities within this Institute. Reports: This committee did not produce any reports during the fiscal year.

Designated Federal Officer

Jennifer E Mehren Scientific Advisor

| Committee Members | Start | End | Occupation | Member Designation |
|-------------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Bale, Tracy | 11/20/2022 | 06/30/2027 | Professor and Director, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| FENTON, ANDRE | 11/13/2018 | 06/30/2024 | PROFESSOR, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Fishell, Gordon | 05/21/2023 | 06/30/2027 | Professor, Harvard Medical School | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Fitzgerald, Kate | 10/13/2020 | 06/30/2025 | Associate Professor, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Groh, Jennifer | 01/19/2021 | 06/30/2025 | Professor, Duke University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Haber, Suzanne | 01/30/2022 | 06/30/2026 | Professor, University of Rochester Medical Center | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| MONTEGGIA, LISA | 01/30/2022 | 06/30/2026 | Professor, Vanderbilt University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| PAULUS, MARTIN | 09/15/2019 | 06/30/2024 | Scientific Director and President, Laureate Institute for Brain Research | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Poldrack, Russell | 11/20/2022 | 06/30/2027 | Albert Ray Lang Professor, Stanford University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| TYE, KAY | 09/16/2019 | 06/30/2024 | Professor, Salk Institute for Biological Sciences | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

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.”

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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 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 checked="" 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?

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 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

NA

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

NA

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 checked="" 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. As a result, the following decisions were made: The BSC made recommendations related to the specific research priorities of reviewed laboratories and core facilities, as needed. Additionally, the BSC recommended changes in resources within reviewed laboratories and core facilities, as needed.

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.