

# 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors National Human Genome Research Institute

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of Health and Human Services		2024	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Board of Scientific Counselors National Human Genome Research Institute		1919	
<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	07/15/1994		
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>		<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No			
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b> Authorized by Law			
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
42 USC 282(b)(16)	11/20/1985	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b> Other Committee			
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open</b>	<b>17b. Closed</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	<b>Other Activities</b>
0	0	0	0
<b>17d. Total</b>			
0			
<b>Meetings and Dates</b>			
No Meetings			

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<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>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

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

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.” This Board assesses the quality of the Institute's intramural research programs and evaluates the productivity and performance of investigators, necessary functions for the operation of a highly effective intramural research program 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 entirely of scientific and technical experts. The Board of Scientific Counselors reviews all tenure and tenured-track intramural scientists at NHGRI.

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

The Board of Scientific Counselors consists of nine members, including the Chair. The Chair and members are selected by the Director, NIH, from authorities knowledgeable in the fields of genomics, medical genetics, human and mammalian genetics, cancer biology, molecular biology, developmental biology, biochemistry, chemical genomics and translational research, bioinformatics, and social and behavioral research.

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

The Board of Scientific Counselors meets approximately two times a year to advise the Director, NIH; the Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH; the Director, NHGRI; and the Scientific Director, NHGRI, concerning the Institute's intramural research programs and through periodic visits to assess the research in progress, the proposed research, and the productivity and performance of NHGRI scientists.

The Board conducted one meeting on 11/16/2022-11/17/2022 and made 4 recommendations.

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

The Board of Scientific Counselors is composed of scientific members who provide peer review, advise on policy development, program implementation and development, and identify research needs and opportunities for the Intramural Program of the National Human Genome Research Institute. The quality, scope, and balance of advice from this board cannot be obtained from NIH staff or from other established sources because the membership of the board is constituted to meet the specific requirements of the mandated mission of the board and the National Human Genome Research Institute.

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

The meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors was closed to the public for the review of the laboratories of the Intramural Program of the National Human Genome Research Institute. Section 552b(c)(6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act permit 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 during the fiscal year. The DFO and Decision Maker are the same person, the Scientific Director, National Human

Genome Research Institute. The Board makes recommendations on intramural lab and confidential personnel matters and federal staff involvement is kept at a minimum. Dr. Mildred Cho was omitted from the 2022 report. Her term dates are 8/28/2022 - 6/30/2027. Meetings were held virtually in FY23 due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

## Designated Federal Officer

Charles N. Rotimi SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Amos, Christopher	12/19/2021	06/30/2026	Selzman Endowed Professor, Baylor College of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Barsh, Gregory	03/26/2020	06/30/2024	Investigator and Professor Emeritus, HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cho, Mildred	08/28/2022	06/30/2027	Professor, Stanford University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lozano, Guillerma	12/19/2021	06/30/2026	Chair, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mefford, Heather	01/30/2022	06/30/2026	Full Member, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Siepel, Adams	03/28/2021	06/30/2025	Professor and Chair, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 6**

## Narrative Description

The goal of NIH research is to acquire new knowledge to help prevent, detect, diagnose, and treat disease and disability, for the

rarest genetic disorder to the common cold. The NIH mission is to uncover new knowledge that will lead to better health for everyone. 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 .” This Board assesses the quality of the Institute's intramural research programs and evaluates the productivity and performance of investigators, necessary functions for the operation of a highly effective intramural research program 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.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety                  | <input 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 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 ☐

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 way to treat and prevent diseases.

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

214

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

Recommendations included principal investigators, initiatives and policy changes.

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

100%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Recommendations of the committee were fully implemented.

**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**

N/A

**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 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 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	<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**

IC Committee Management Officer 240-669-5201