

## Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – September 10, 2018

Each week, the Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up will feature hashtags and/or tweets (follow us at [@fundNIH](#)) suggested by members of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) advocacy community. We encourage all readers who are active on social media to use these messages, and we welcome suggestions from the community for future issues of the Weekly Round Up. Here is this week's featured tweet:

Research!America [@ResearchAmerica](#)

The U.S. imported over \$4 billion worth of coffee in 2017, an amount that could fund all [@NIH](#)-sponsored research on sleep for over 12 years. [bit.ly/2JLHIDI](https://bit.ly/2JLHIDI) [#FundNIH](#) [#FundScience](#) [#FridayFacts](#)

### 1. House and Senate to Proceed to Conference on FY 2019 Labor-HHS Bill

The House Sept. 4 voted to proceed to conference negotiations with the Senate on a “minibus” package ([H.R. 6157](#)) including both the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill and the Defense spending bill, opting to bypass full House consideration of the Labor-HHS bill approved by the House Appropriations Committee July 11. The House named its [Republican](#) and [Democrat](#) conferees Sept. 4, while the Senate named [its conferees](#) Sept. 6.

### 2. Senate Executive Session on OSTP Director Nominee

The Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Sept. 5 [held](#) an executive session and voted unanimously by voice vote to refer to the full Senate President Trump's nominee, Kelvin Droegemeier, PhD, to be the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Dr. Droegemeier's nomination next needs to be voted on by the full Senate to confirm the nomination.

### 3. NIH Names New NIBIB Director

NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, Sept. 6 [announced](#) Bruce J. Tromberg, PhD, as the new director of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB). Dr. Collins noted that “[Dr. Tromberg] brings substantial experience in biophotonics, and demonstrated his commitment to state-of-the-art imaging and bioengineering technologies through his research and leadership on numerous advisory committees, including the NIBIB National Advisory Council.” Dr. Tromberg is expected to assume his new role in early 2019.

### 4. Open Mike Blog: Funding Longevity by Gender

Mike Lauer, MD, NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research, posted on his Open Mike Blog this week a [summary of a recent publication](#) by NIGMS staff which attempts to discern what variables are contributing to women's underrepresentation in later stages of academia. The authors assessed funding longevity between men and women by analyzing NIH research project grant awards from nearly 35,000 unique investigators. The group found that approximately 30 percent of first-time grant awardees were women, noting that this initial underrepresentation of women was the most striking difference. Dr. Lauer notes that “many other correlates may also offer insight into women's lower funding longevity, such as age, degree type, type of initial awards, year of first funding, and institutional characteristics.”

### 5. NIH Director's Blog: 3D Action Film Stars Cancer Cell as the Villain

NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, Sept. 6 authored a [blog post](#) about new imaging techniques that allow researchers to visualize live cells in their natural states in real time. The recently published work, partially funded by NIH, shows the result of combining a previously developed “lattice light sheet” imaging with adaptive optics technology to create 3D images and movies of living tissue.

## **Upcoming Hill Briefings and Events**

### **6. NIH Workshop on Single IRB Resource and Infrastructure Development – Sept. 12**

The NIH will be holding a [public workshop](#) on "successful strategies and lessons learned for modifying and enhancing institutional IRB infrastructure for single IRB review of multi-site studies" on Sept. 12 in Rockville, MD. The seven awardees of the NIH-funded [administrative supplements](#) to develop applicable approaches to single IRB review of multi-site studies will present their strategies at the workshop. The meeting is free and will be webcast, but seating is limited, and registration is required.

### **7. Coalition for Health Funding 3rd Annual Public Health Fair – Sept. 12**

On behalf of the Coalition for Health Funding, you are cordially invited to the Third Annual Public Health Fair on Sept. 12 from 12:00pm – 3:00pm. The Public Health Fair will feature representatives from 37 national health organizations and federal health agencies who are working in concert to improve America's health and well-being. This unique event will provide the opportunity to learn more about the full breadth of federally-funded public health and health research programs - from bench to bedside to curbside and beyond - and how these initiatives are helping Americans lead healthier, more prosperous lives across their lifespan. The Fair will take place in the Rayburn Atrium, Rayburn House Office Building. To view the event flyer, click [here](#).

### **8. AACR Annual Cancer Progress Report Briefing – Sept. 12**

The annual [AACR Cancer Progress Report](#) to Congress and the American public, now in its eighth edition, is a cornerstone of the efforts of the AACR to educate the public about cancer and the importance of biomedical research, as well as to advocate for increased federal funding for the NIH, NCI, and FDA. This year's report chronicles how federally-funded research continues to improve lives, and it shows that our ability to fully capitalize on our ever-growing knowledge of cancer is dependent on robust, sustained, and predictable federal funding. Please join AACR for a Congressional Briefing to release the report on Sept. 12 at 12pm in 2168 Rayburn House Office Building. Please see attached flyer, and [RSVP here](#) by Sept. 7.

### **9. American Lung Association Film Screening: Asthma Alley – Sept. 12**

Please join Congressman José E. Serrano, GroundTruth Films, and the American Lung Association for a pre-release film screening of “Asthma Alley,” a short documentary profiling the challenges of living with asthma in a neighborhood known for extraordinarily high rates of asthma. Following the film will be a panel discussion featuring the filmmaker and additional expert health voices to highlight the intersection of air pollution, pollen, asthma and climate change and identify ways to move forward. The screening will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 12 from 6-7pm in HVC 200 at the U.S. Capitol. Please RSVP to [laura.bender@lung.org](mailto:laura.bender@lung.org) to attend.

### **10. Rally for Medical Research – Sept. 12-13**

Join a broad coalition of stakeholders representing millions of patients and other advocates from the medical research advocacy community on Sept. 12-13, 2018, for the next Rally for Medical Research Hill Day and help raise awareness of the urgent need for continued investment in the NIH to improve health, spur more progress, inspire more hope, and save more lives. Please see attached flyer or visit the [event website](#) for more information.

### **11. Invitation to Golden Goose Award Ceremony – Sept. 13**

On behalf of the Golden Goose Award, an annual [award](#) honoring federally funded research with silly sounding or obscure beginnings that has gone on to have enormous societal impact, we invite you to join us for our 2018 Golden Goose Award Ceremony and Reception at the Library of Congress on Sept. 13, 2018. Please see the attached flyer, and [RSVP here](#) by Monday, Sept. 10. [#GGA18](#)

### **12. Biomedical Research Caucus Briefing: Breaking Down Scientific Silos – Sept. 14**

Please join the Coalition for the Life Sciences for a Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus briefing titled “Breaking Down Scientific Silos: Identifying Commonalities Across Disease.” Nevan Krogan, PhD, of UCSF will share his work in cellular mapmaking to explore how different diseases and infections change cells. Please RSVP to Lynn Marquis ([cls@coalitionforlifesciences.org](mailto:cls@coalitionforlifesciences.org)) and see attached flyer for additional details.

### **13. AEVR Hill Briefing on Age-Related Macular Degeneration – Sept. 27**

Please join the Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (AEVR) for a Hill briefing titled, “Understanding the ‘Dry’ Form of Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) To Develop Effective Treatments.” The event will take place Sept. 27 from 12-1:15pm in 2060 Rayburn House Office Building. Please RSVP to [dinabeau@aol.com](mailto:dinabeau@aol.com) and see the attached flyer for additional information.

### **14. AEVR 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception – Sept. 27**

Please join AEVR for its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and poster session, including 21 Emerging Vision Scientists in the U.S. The reception will be held on Sept. 27 from 5:30-7:30pm in the Rayburn House Foyer. Please RSVP to [dinabeau@aol.com](mailto:dinabeau@aol.com) and see the attached flyer for additional details.

### **15. NASEM: Upcoming Meeting on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Academia**

The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) will [convene leaders](#) including “academic leaders, Title IX and diversity officers, ombudsmen, researchers in sexual harassment, and leaders from professional societies, foundations, and federal agencies to discuss strategies and share promising practices” to discuss sexual harassment in academia. The meeting will be held Nov. 9, 2018, from 9:00am – 5:00pm in Washington DC, and will focus on developing strategies on how to prevent sexual harassment in academia.

### **16. Learn Serve Lead – Nov. 2-6, 2018**

Learn Serve Lead 2018 - the AAMC Annual Meeting is open for registration. The Nov. 2-6 event takes place in Austin, Texas and will draw 4500-plus attendees including a wide range of

stakeholders. In addition to [four plenary sessions](#) including Grit author and researcher Angela Duckworth, PhD, and civil and women's rights leader Anita Hill, JD, there are more than 130 concurrent sessions. Some of the slated sessions include:

- Improving Population Health Through Learner-Engaged Research
- Rightsizing Research Infrastructure
- Achieving Health Equity through Research: Innovations From NIMHD-Funded Science
- Unhealthy Politics: The Battle over Evidence-Based Medicine

[Registration](#) is available online through Thursday, Nov. 1.

## **Job Postings**

### **FASEB Seeks Science Policy Analyst**

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is hiring a [Science Policy Analyst](#) to develop policy positions related to promoting the interests of investigators in the biological and biomedical sciences. The individual will write position statements, meeting summaries, and reports and serve as a liaison to FASEB Science Policy Subcommittees and task forces, in addition to monitoring the Federal Register and attending federal agency meetings. The position is full time, includes benefits, and is located at FASEB headquarters in Bethesda, MD. PhD preferred. Interested applicants can [apply online](#).

Please Note: If you have information of interest to the NIH advocacy community that you would like to share with the Ad Hoc Group, please forward it to Christa Wagner at [chwagner@aamc.org](mailto:chwagner@aamc.org) or Tannaz Rasouli at [trasouli@aamc.org](mailto:trasouli@aamc.org).