

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up

December 2, 2019

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:

David J. Skorton @DavidJSkorton

Since the first observance of [#WorldAIDSDay](#) 30 years ago, advances made possible by [@NIH](#) funded research have led to new methods of prevention and life-saving treatment for patients. Here's to another 30 years of continued progress in the fight against HIV. [#ResearchMeansHope](#)

Congress Continues Work on FY 2020 Appropriations

Appropriators and Congressional leadership will continue efforts to finalize FY 2020 spending under a CR that extends through December 20, and following an agreement between Appropriations Committee chairs Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) and Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) on topline funding levels for all 12 spending bills including for the Labor-HHS spending bill, which includes NIH funding. Labor-HHS Subcommittee Ranking Member Tom Cole (R-Okla.) remains "optimistic" that the Labor-HHS spending bill can be completed by December 20, especially if considered in conference with the Defense, Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Interior-Environment, and Transportation-Housing-Urban Development spending bills ([CQ, subscription required](#)).

House Energy and Commerce Hearing on the Flu Season - December 4

The House Committee on Energy and Commerce will hold a [hearing titled, "Flu Season: US Public Health Preparedness and Response,"](#) on Wednesday, December 4, at 10:30am in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building. National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci, MD, will testify.

NIH World AIDS Day Statement

On November 25, the [NIH issued a statement in advance of World AIDS Day](#), sharing an update on NIH's role in the Department of Health and Human Services' plan to "reduce the incidence of HIV domestically by 75% in 5 years, and by 90% by 2030." Aside from contributions to antiretrovirals, pre-exposure prophylaxis, and vaccine development, the NIH continues to support research in implementation science, "to enable researchers across the United States to collaborate with community partners in developing locally relevant plans for diagnosing, treating and preventing HIV in areas with high rates of new HIV cases."

NIH Updates Notice of Interest in Diversity

The NIH November 22 via the *Federal Register* released an [updated diversity statement](#), including an expanded definition of underrepresented populations amongst US scientific researchers in an effort to increase workforce diversity. NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research Michael Lauer, MD, authored an [accompanying Open Mike blog](#),

noting the rationale in updating the definition of "individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds." Dr. Lauer concludes, "This revised definition should better capture many scientists with a disadvantaged background, and be relatively easy to assess, ensuring we continue enhancing the diversity of the biomedical research workforce."

Upcoming Hill Briefings and Other Events

NIH Inaugural NExTRAC Meeting - December 5-6

The Novel and Exception Technology and Research Advisory Committee (NExTRAC) to the NIH Director will hold its inaugural meeting December 5-6 on the NIH Campus in Bethesda, MD. Additional details about the [agenda](#), attending the meeting, or viewing the videocast are available on the [NIH Office of Science Policy website](#).

NCATS Workshop on Repurposing Off-Patent Drugs - December 5-6

The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) is hosting the Cures Acceleration Network Review Board Workshop titled, "Repurposing Off-Patent Drugs: Research & Regulatory Challenges" on December 5-6, 2019 in Rockville, Md. The workshop will assess challenges around finding new uses for drugs that are already on the market but lack commercial and regulatory incentives for research and development. Please visit the [Federal Register notice](#) for additional information and to register by December 2.

NIH Advisory Council to the Director Meeting - December 12-13

The NIH Advisory Council to the Director (ACD) will meet December 12-13 at the NIH Campus, Building 1, Wilson Hall, Bethesda, Maryland, Bethesda MD, 20892. The meeting is open to the public, and agenda items can be found on the [NIH ACD Meetings website](#).

Call for Nominations for the 2020 Golden Goose Award - December 20

[Nominations are open for the Golden Goose Award](#), which honors federally funded researchers whose work may sound silly, odd, obscure, wasteful of taxpayer funding, or serendipitous, but has had a major, if not unintended, positive impact on society. [Fill out the nomination form](#) by **December 20** for the best chance to be considered for the 2020 award. In addition, please consider spreading the word about the nomination process in your organization's newsletter or email list, in a social media post, and/or [consider a donation or sponsorship](#) to support the award in 2020. [Contact us here](#) or visit our website for more information.

Job Postings

ASBMB Seeks Federal Affairs Manager

The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) seeks a Manager, Federal Affairs to join the Public Affairs team. The federal manager will assist in the development and execution of ASBMB public affairs programs with respect to federal science funding agencies; help manage Public Affairs Advisory Committee operations, and work closely with ASBMB public affairs leadership in developing, articulating, communicating and implementing public policy positions on behalf of ASBMB. Visit the [posting of the full job description](#) to learn more and review application instructions.

ASM Seeks Federal Affairs Specialist

The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) seeks a Federal Affairs Specialist to work with the Director of Federal Affairs to advance microbial sciences, focusing on agricultural, energy, and environmental legislation and public policy. The position requires working collaboratively with internal departments to gather input from and communicate to stakeholders—including members, organizational partners, and media—about policy and advocacy efforts. Visit the ASM website for the [full job description](#). Please submit salary requirements, cover letter and resume to HR@asmusa.org.

HIVMA Clinical Fellowship Program Application Open

The HIV Medicine Association awards grants to support one-year of HIV clinical training to up to two fellows per year. Grants are made to the institution to support the fellow's stipend, to offset administrative costs, and to provide for additional educational opportunities. One of the program's goals is to increase the diversity of the HIV clinical workforce particularly from populations and communities that have been disproportionately impacted by HIV. Physicians who are underrepresented in medicine or interested in working in the Southeastern US are strongly encouraged to apply. The application deadline is January 7, 2020. For more information, please contact [Asha Farrah](#) or visit the [fellowship website](#).

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 or Tannaz Rasouli at trasouli@aamc.org.*