

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – Feb. 12, 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 welcome suggestions from the community for future issues of the Weekly Round Up. Here's this week's featured tweet:

American Society for Investigative Pathology ([@ASIPath](#))

*#ResearchMeansHope for millions of Americans battling disease. #FundNIH
medresearch.tumblr.com*

1. Trump Administration Delivers Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request to Congress

The White House is scheduled to release its second budget proposal at 11:30am ET, which is expected to propose steep cuts to discretionary programs. The [Senate Budget Committee](#) will kick off budget hearings on Feb. 13 at 10am in 608 Dirksen Senate Office Building. Mick Mulvaney, director of the Office of Management and Budget, will testify. Among the other budget hearings scheduled this week is a House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee [hearing](#) at 12:30pm on Feb. 15 in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building, where Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar will testify.

2. Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 Raises Spending Caps, Extends Government Funding through March 23

On Feb. 9, the president signed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (H.R. 1892), after both the Senate, [71-28](#), and House, [240-186](#), approved the package. The agreement extends the previous continuing resolution until March 23, during which time appropriators will be drafting the 12 annual spending bills under the revised discretionary spending caps. As part of the agreement, congressional leaders publicly committed to setting aside at least \$1 billion of the new funding to provide an increase for NIH in each of FYs 2018 and 2019, which appropriators will implement when they draft the upcoming spending bills. The Ad Hoc Group issued a [statement](#) praising the increase in discretionary spending caps, expressing appreciation that the deal acknowledges the NIH as a critical national priority, and reiterating its FY 2018 recommendation of “at least \$36.1 billion for the NIH, in addition to dedicated funding through the 21st Century Cures Act and other funding devoted to specific priorities.”

3. Hill Briefing: Innovations in Asthma & COPD: How Research is Improving Patient Outcomes – Feb. 27

On Feb. 27 from 12:00 to 1:30pm, the American Thoracic Society and AstraZeneca will host a congressional briefing titled, “Innovations in Asthma & COPD: How Research is Improving Patient Outcomes.” This briefing will cover how research at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute at NIH is transforming the lives of people with asthma and COPD and how current efforts are paving the way for better treatments and long-term outcomes for patients. Speakers for the event include James Kiley, PhD, director of the lung division for the National

Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Tonya Winders, president and CEO of the Asthma & Allergy Network; Robert Paine, MD, chief of the pulmonary division at University of Utah School of Medicine; and Greg Keenan, MD, vice president of medical affairs and U.S. head medical officer at AstraZeneca. The event will take place in Capitol Visitors Center, SVC - 210-212 and lunch will be available. Please RSVP by emailing Folasade Pyne at Fpyne@thoracic.org. More information attached.

4. Call for Golden Goose Award Nominations

The [Golden Goose Award](#) team is accepting nominations for the 2018 year. The Golden Goose Awards honors federally funded research that may be odd, obscure or serendipitous but ends up having a major impact on society. To submit a nomination, follow [this link](#), or visit goldengooseaward.org and click on “nominate” in the top right corner. If submitting a nomination, be prepared to talk about who you are nominating, what unexpected impact the research has had, and which U.S. federal agency funded the work. Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year, but for the best chance to be considered for the 2018 award, submit by Jan. 31.

5. Register for COSSA Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day – Apr. 30-May 1

On Apr. 30 to May 1, the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is hosting its annual advocacy day in Washington, DC. The [COSSA Science Policy Conference](#) brings together COSSA members and other stakeholders for a day of discussion about federal policy impacting our science followed by the only annual, coordinated advocacy day in support of all of the social and behavioral sciences. To register and for more information, visit the [COSSA website](#).

6. Job Opportunity: Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator, Infectious Diseases Society of America

The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) is seeking a Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator. IDSA is the professional home for Infectious Diseases scientists and physicians and currently has over 11,000 members. Under the guidance and supervision of the Director for Government Relations, and in collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations team (PPGR), the Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator will execute strategies to maximize the engagement of IDSA members in federal advocacy activities in support of the Society’s strategic priorities. For more information and to apply for the position, please use the following link <https://infectious-diseases-society-of-america.hiringthing.com/job/59575/grassroots-advocacy-coordinator>.

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 Joe Bañez at jbanez@aamc.org or Tannaz Rasouli at trasouli@aamc.org.