

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – April 2, 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:

Sen. Dick Durbin (@SenatorDurbin)

Last week's omnibus spending bill represents a significant victory for medical research. We must continue ensuring that our doctors and scientists have the funding they need to develop new vaccines and discover better treatments and cures for diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's.

1. Bloomberg BNA: How NIH, FDA Became the Cool Kids in the Capitol

A March 28 [article](#) in Bloomberg's Health Care Blog discussed how both NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, and FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, MD, gained the respect of lawmakers from both sides of the aisle. The article notes NIH's \$3 billion increase in the fiscal year (FY) 2018 omnibus, and points out the request granted to Dr. Collins to incorporate "other transactions authority" for the NIH's opioid initiatives.

2. Science: Congress Gives Science a Record Funding Boost

On March 30, an [article](#) in Science highlighted the "\$4.8 billion increase that the U.S. Congress showered on nine leading civilian science agencies," including the \$3 billion NIH boost to NIH. The article also, however, points out that most of the government spending laid out in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 was provided in fiscal year 2018, saying "researchers shouldn't expect a repeat of this year's windfall in fiscal 2019, which starts on 1 October 2018."

3. House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee Posts Public Witness Hearing & Testimony Instructions for FY 2019

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies [released](#) a notice for its FY 2019 public witness hearing and instructions to submit testimony for the record. The hearing will be held on April 26 at 10am in 2358-C Rayburn House Office Building. The subcommittee set an April 6 deadline to submit a request to testify and an April 26 deadline to submit written testimony for the record.

4. House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee FY 2019 Members Day Hearing Scheduled

The FY 2019 Members Day [hearing](#) for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies has been scheduled for 10am to noon on April 17. The hearing will take place in 2358-C Rayburn House Office Building.

5. Deadlines posted for Senate Labor-H FY 2019 Outside Witness Testimony

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies [posted](#) instructions for submitting outside witness testimony ahead of its work on FY 2019 appropriations. According to the instructions, testimony should be no longer than four pages and sent to the Subcommittee no later than close of business June 1.

6. 9th Annual Medical Imaging Technology Showcase – April 10

From 5 to 7pm on April 10 in 902 Hart Senate Office Building, the Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research and the Coalition for Imaging & Bioengineering Research will host an event to showcase advances in cutting-edge medical imaging technology. The event will include hands-on displays, academic research posters, and personal interactions with researchers, patients, and industry partners. The event will also show how federally-funded research supports the development of a range of impactful innovations. Please RSVP by emailing etownley@acadrad.org. See the [event flyer](#) for more information.

7. Senate NIH Caucus Briefing on a Universal Flu Vaccine – *Postponed*

The April 18 Senate NIH Caucus briefing titled, “A Universal Flu Vaccine: Making a Better Vaccine to Protect against Seasonal and Pandemic Flu,” has been postponed. Stay tuned for updates on additional Senate NIH Caucus events. For questions about the Senate NIH Caucus, email Debbie Forrest at debbie.forrest@actfor.nih.gov.

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

On April 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](#).

9. Fogarty’s 50th Anniversary Symposium – May 1

On May 1, the Fogarty International Center (FIC) will host an event to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The event includes a day-long symposium at Natcher Auditorium on the NIH campus (Building 45). The event will review the accomplishments of global health research and training, as well as look to the future to consider where the gaps and greatest opportunities are, as the FIC plans its activities for the years to come. The symposium agenda is posted at <http://bit.ly/Fogarty50agenda>. The Foundation for NIH is sponsoring a reception immediately following in the Stone House. There is no fee to attend but seating is limited, so be sure to register for both the symposium and reception: <http://bit.ly/Fogarty50register>.

10. Call for Golden Goose Award Nominations

The [Golden Goose Award](#) team is accepting nominations for the 2018 year. The Golden Goose Awards honor 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.

11. 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.