

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – April 16, 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 Physiological Society Science Policy Office ([@SciPolsAPS](#))

As Congress shifts focus to 2019 funding, a hint at continuation of increases for #NIH, reports @FASEBorg #FundNIH #scipolicy bit.ly/2EJkLZ1

1. House Labor-H Subcommittee Discusses FY 2019 NIH Budget Request

On April 11, NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, accompanied by the directors of five NIH institutes, [testified](#) before the House Labor-HHS-Education (Labor-H) Appropriations Subcommittee regarding the agency's fiscal year (FY) 2019 budget proposal. The subcommittee gave Dr. Collins a warm welcome, though both Subcommittee Chair Tom Cole (R-Okla.) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) noted disappointment over the funding level proposed for the NIH in the administration's FY 2019 budget request, released prior to enactment of the FY 2018 omnibus that bolstered NIH's budget by \$3 billion. In his testimony, Dr. Collins [highlighted](#) how the NIH has been working to advance medical discovery, and he discussed five key areas to success in science: stable funding support, a vibrant workforce, computational power, new technologies and facilities, and scientific inspiration.

2. NIH Releases FY 2019 Congressional Justification Documents

The NIH has posted its Congressional Justification and materials related to the administration's FY 2019 budget request for the agency to the NIH Office of Budget [website](#). The Overview is available at <https://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/pdfs/FY19/br/Overview.pdf> and justifications for individual institutes and centers are available at https://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/insti_center_subs.html

3. Sen. Richard Shelby Becomes Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee

On April 10, by unanimous consent the Senate adopted [S.Res.456](#) and named Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) as the new chair of the Appropriations Committee. Chairman Shelby takes over the gavel after the resignation of former Senate Appropriations Chair Thad Cochran, who left the Senate April 1 citing that his health "has become an ongoing challenge." Among other shuffling on the committee, Sen. Cochran's replacement, Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) was appointed to the Senate Appropriations Committee and will serve on the Labor-H subcommittee.

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

The FY 2019 Members Day [hearing](#) for the House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee is scheduled for 10am on April 17. The hearing will take place in 2358-C Rayburn House Office

Building. According to the subcommittee's hearing [instructions](#), the deadline for Members of Congress to submit written testimony for the record is also April 17.

5. NIH Council of Councils Meeting – May 18

Through a Federal Register [notice](#), the NIH announced of a meeting of the Council of Councils, scheduled for May 18. Items listed on the agenda include announcements and updates, evaluating the “Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST)” Awards; NIDA update; an introduction to the use of Non-Human Primates (NHP) in addiction research; NHP models of drug addiction. The meeting will take place at NIH campus, 9000 Rockville Pike, Building 31, C Wing, 6th Floor, Conference Room 10, Bethesda, MD 20892.

6. Joint Budget and Appropriations Process Reform Committee Schedules First Public Hearing

The [Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform](#) is scheduled to have its first public meeting on at 10:30am, April 17 in HVC-210, the Capitol. This week's meeting follows the Joint Select Committee [first closed door meeting](#) on March 8.

7. NIAID Director Scheduled to Testify Before the House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee

The House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee [scheduled](#) a hearing titled, “FY 2019 Budget Health and Human Services Biodefense Activities” for 10am on April 18 in 2358-C Rayburn House Office Building. Among the witnesses scheduled to testify is Anthony Fauci, MD, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. According to the committee website, the hearing will be webcast.

8. All of Us Research Program Webinar – April 17

In preparation for NIH's [All of Us Research Program](#) launch this spring, the program's leaders are participating in a webinar April 17, from 3:30 to 5:00pm to talk about the goals of the program and plans for the national launch. The webinar will feature *All of Us* Director Eric Dishman and Chief Engagement Officer Dara Richardson-Heron, MD, who will speak on several topics, including: the basics of the *All of Us* Research Program, data access and future scientific prospects, connecting patient registries, biobanks, and other health databases with *All of Us*, and ways for organizations to support the program at launch and beyond. [RSVP here](#) or send an email to Abby Lore at abigail_lore@hcmstrategists.com.

9. Webinar: Inspiring Others to Be Science Advocates – April 18

The Society for Neuroscience and Research!America will host a webinar on April 18 from 1 to 2 pm titled, “Inspiring Others to be Science Advocates.” Speakers will share insights and tips on building and maintaining relationships with communities through creative programs to foster greater interaction between scientists and non-scientists and engage them in public events such as Science on Tap and Nerd Nite in support of science. Speakers include Monica Linden, PhD,

senior lecturer at Brown University; Cynthia Gibbs, founder and director of Science Pub RVA; and Rick Karnesky, PhD, co-boss, Nerd Nite East Bay. Registration is available at <https://onlinexperiences.com/scripts/Server.nxp?LASCmd=AI:4;F:QS!10100&ShowKey=45892>

10. Congressional Briefing on Pediatric Research – April 25

From noon to 1pm on April 25 in the Congressional Gold Room of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Society for Pediatric Research and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is hosting a lunch briefing titled, “Pediatric Research: Saving Lives.” This briefing features pediatric researchers and a parent of a patient who directly benefited from this research and highlights how federal funding is a critical investment in creating a healthy America. To RSVP, send an email to info@societyforpediatricresearch.org. See attached flyer for more information.

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

The House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee [posted](#) information 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. Although the subcommittee’s April 6 deadline to request to testify has passed, interested parties can submit written testimony for the record until April 26.

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

The Senate Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee [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.

13. 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](#).

14. 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>.

15. Congressional Mental Health Caucus Briefing – May 3

The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, in coordination with the Congressional Mental Health Caucus, invite you to a special lunch briefing on depression by the leaders of the UCLA Depression Grand Challenge. The leaders of the [UCLA Depression Grand Challenge](#) will discuss their project, which is an immense, multifaceted effort to cut the burden of depression in half by 2050 and eliminate it by the end of the century. The briefing will take place from noon to 1 pm on May 3 in 122 Cannon House Office Building. Please RSVP by emailing inigro@mednet.ucla.edu. The deadline to RSVP is April 26. Lunch will be provided.

16. Celebrate Life Science Fair and Reception on Capitol Hill – July 18

The Coalition for the Life Sciences (CLS) and FASEB would like to invite you to participate in the first Celebrate Life Science Fair and reception on Capitol Hill. The Life Science Fair will be held July 18, from 5pm – 7pm, in the House Rayburn Building in rooms 2043 and 2044. The Life Science Fair is an opportunity for the biomedical research community to engage Members of Congress and their staff about how scientific progress advances public health. Scientists will showcase their work and attendees will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on experiments that will bridge the gap between science and the society it serves. Anyone can participate in this event – you don't have to be a CLS or FASEB member. Opportunities are limited due to room space. Please contact either Lynn Marquis (lmарquis@coalitionforlifesciences.org) or Jennifer Zeitzer (jzeitzer@faseb.org) if you have questions or need additional information. Please see the attached flyer for details and sponsorship opportunities.

17. 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.

18. Job Opportunity: Director of Public Affairs and Outreach, Biophysical Society

The Biophysical Society (BPS), which has a membership of nearly 9,000 research scientists worldwide, seeks a director of public affairs and outreach to oversee the Society's policy and advocacy programs and efforts. In collaboration with Society leadership and staff, s/he will develop and execute strategies that educate and engage Society members and the public to advocate for the field of biophysics and for support of science in general. For more information

and to apply for the position, please use the following link: <https://www.biophysics.org/about-bps/contact-bps/jobs-at-bps>

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.