

## Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – April 23, 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:

### AAMC (@AAMCToday)

*Doctors and researchers are changing the way we treat autism in this country — and @NIH is a big reason why. #AutismAwareness [owl.li/uGNY30jrvmf](http://owl.li/uGNY30jrvmf)*

### 1. House Appropriations Labor-H Subcommittee Public Witness Hearing This Week

The House Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-H) Subcommittee [will hold](#) its fiscal year (FY) 2019 public witness hearing on April 26 at 10am in 2358-C Rayburn House Office Building. Interested parties can [submit](#) written testimony for the record until April 26. According to the subcommittee website, the hearing will be webcast.

### 2. NIH Announces Retirement of Director of Center for Scientific Review

On April 18, NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, issued a [statement](#) on the retirement of Richard Nakamura, PhD, who serves as the director for the NIH's Center for Scientific Review. Dr. Collins highlighted Dr. Nakamura's "illustrious 39-year career at NIH." The statement also says, "Following Richard's departure and while we conduct a national search for a new director, I have asked Noni Byrnes, Ph.D., to serve as acting director." Dr. Nakamura's retirement is expected "later this month."

### 3. NIH Principal Deputy Director Discusses "Optimize NIH" at Town Hall

The NIH Record [posted](#) an article that detailed a presentation by Lawrence Tabak, DDS, PhD, principal deputy director for the NIH, in which he provided updates on an agency plan called, "Optimize NIH." This agency plan is in response to a directive from the Office of Management and Budget to make the federal government "lean, accountable and more efficient." As a result, the Department of Health and Human Services created its "Reimagine HHS" initiative and, subsequently, the NIH created its initiative. This initiative is expected to take 2-3 years to complete.

### 4. NIH Council of Councils Meeting – May 18

Through a Federal Register [notice](#), the NIH announced 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.

#### **5. 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.

#### **6. 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](mailto:info@societyforpediatricresearch.org). See attached flyer for more information.

#### **7. 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](#).

#### **8. Fogarty’s 50<sup>th</sup> 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>.

#### **9. 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](mailto:inigro@mednet.ucla.edu). The deadline to RSVP is April 26. Lunch will be provided.

### **10. 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](mailto:lmарquis@coalitionforlifesciences.org)) or Jennifer Zeitzer ([jzeitzer@faseb.org](mailto:jzeitzer@faseb.org)) if you have questions or need additional information. Please see the attached flyer for details and sponsorship opportunities.

### **11. 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](http://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.

### **12. 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-tps/contact-tps/jobs-at-tps>

*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](mailto:jbanez@aamc.org) or Tannaz Rasouli at [trasouli@aamc.org](mailto:trasouli@aamc.org).*