

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – May 1, 2017

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 (@SciPolAPS)

“NIH funding is a down payment on discovery” researchers explain in @voxdotcom #scicomm #FundNIH #NIH bit.ly/2q6q3YG”

1. FY 2017 Omnibus Appropriations Bill Provides \$2 Billion Increase for NIH

The fiscal year (FY) 2017 Omnibus Appropriations Bill [released](#) May 1 includes a \$2 billion increase (6.2 percent) in NIH funding over FY 2016. The bill provides \$34.1 billion to the NIH, including \$352 million from the 21st Century Cures Act. In a [statement](#), the Ad Hoc Group applauded leaders of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for “continuing the longstanding bipartisan, bicameral tradition of championing the national commitment to medical research.” The Senate Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee Chair Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) praised the \$2 billion increase in a [statement](#) saying, “The funding provided in this bill reflects the priorities of the American people, and puts us on track to maintain a robust, sustained federal commitment to medical research.” The ranking member on the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.), also [stated](#) she is “pleased that this Omnibus includes a \$2 billion increase in medical research funding at the National Institutes of Health,” and released a [summary](#) prepared by the House Appropriations Democratic Staff.

2. Science Coalition Report Discusses Economic Impact of Federally Supported Research

The Science Coalition [released](#) a Sparking Economic Growth report that traces the origins of 302 companies – many of them small businesses – back to federally support research. The report is “intended to showcase one of the ways that federal investment in basic scientific research helps stimulate the economy.” Data released in the report shows that 54 of the businesses selected received funding that came from NIH.

3. Opinion: Proposed cuts to NIH will be a devastating blow to medicine

On April 25, five Pennsylvania cancer center leaders joined together to [write](#) an opinion piece in The Philadelphia Inquirer in support of NIH investments. The authors thank members of Congress who “support America’s continuing commitment to medical research to improve the health of all U.S. citizens.” The authors also call on their peers by urging “everyone who is affected by cancer or ill health and who cares for science and training scientists to let your representatives know how much you appreciate their help and to demand their support for the NIH.” The authors who penned the article include: Karen E. Knudsen, PhD, from the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University, Chi Van Dang, MD, PhD, from the Abramson Cancer Center at University of Pennsylvania, Richard I. Fisher, MD, from the Fox Chase Cancer Center at Temple University Health System, Edward Chu, MD, from University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and Dario Altieri, MD, from the Wistar Institute Cancer Center.

4. Discovery Communications Event: First In Human

On May 2 at 6pm, Discovery Communications, in cooperation with the National Institutes of Health, invites you to celebrate the groundbreaking work done at the NIH Clinical Center, Building 10. The evening will feature opening remarks from Francis Collins, MD, PhD, director of the National Institutes of Health, Senate Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee Chair Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo) and

House Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee Chair Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.). The event will take place at the Reagan Building and International Trade Center Amphitheater. Please RSVP to <http://firstinhumandc.com/>.

5. AIMBE BioMedical Technology Exhibition on Capitol Hill

American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE), in cooperation with the Robotics and Research and Development Caucuses, is hosting a BioMedical Technology Exhibition on May 5 in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building. The event will take place from noon to 2 pm. Please RSVP for the exhibition by contacting Sarah Mandell at smandell@aimbe.org. Flyer attached.

6. ASM Congressional Briefing on Vaccines

On Tuesday, May 16, at 9 am in 562 Dirksen Senate Office Building, the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) will host a congressional briefing titled, Vaccines: Healthcare's First Line of Defense. Speakers include Nancy Messonnier, MD, director for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Bruce G. Gellin, MD, MPH, president, Global Immunization, Sabin Vaccine Institute; and Paul A. Offit, MD, Maurice R. Hilleman Professor of Vaccinology, Professor of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Division of Infectious Diseases, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/congressional-briefing-tickets-33623890963>

7. National Women's Health Empowerment Summit

The Coalition for Women's Health Equity will convene a Women's Health Empowerment Summit on May 17 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Newseum in Washington, DC. The summit will explore the rapidly changing legislative landscape and set advocacy priorities through briefings from government and policy experts. It will include testimonials from patients and medical professionals that will highlight the need to align mobilization efforts. For more information and to register, visit https://secure2.convio.net/wzoa/site/Ticketing?view=Tickets&id=103550&s_src=womensSummit-inlineReg&s_subsrc=advocacy

8. Reminder of Upcoming Senate Labor-HHS Subcommittee Deadline

The Senate Subcommittee deadline to submit outside witness testimony related to FY 2018 appropriations is close of business on June 2. All testimony must be in accordance with the [guidelines](#) set out by the subcommittee.

9. NIH to Hold Council of Councils Meeting in May

The NIH [published](#) a Federal Register Notice regarding a May 26 Council of Councils meeting. The meeting will begin at 8:15 am at the NIH in Building 21, C Wing, 6th floor, Conference Room 10. Among other topics queued up for the meeting, agenda items for the open sessions include a discussion of the history of the Knockout Mouse Program (KOMP), background on the NIH and federal budget process, progress and plans at the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and the Common Fund Diversity Program. The open session will be videocast and can be accessed from the NIH Videocasting and Podcasting Web site <http://videocast.nih.gov>.

10. NIH Image Gallery Available Online for Use

The NIH [sponsors](#) a centralized image service for the dissemination of primarily scientific, biomedical, and disease related imagery. Photos of NIH leadership, labs, buildings, and major historical events are also available. Images posted to the NIH Image Gallery are considered free-to-use with credit. This portal

is provided for use by the science and health community, the press that covers health and science, teachers and other educators in health and science and non-profit organizations that produce health and science information. It is not intended for commercial use.

11. Applications Open for the 2017 NIMHD Health Disparities Research Institute

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) will host the Health Disparities Research Institute (HDRI) from August 14 - 18. The HDRI aims to support the research career development of promising minority health/health disparities research scientists early in their careers and stimulate research in the disciplines supported by health disparities science. The due date for submitting an application is May 12 at 11:59 pm EST. Visit the NIMHD [website](#) for more information.

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.