

## Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – May 28, 2019

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 we welcome suggestions from the community for future issues of the Weekly Round Up. Here is this week's featured tweet:

### [Golden Goose Award @GoldGooseAward](#)

"There's nothing in the world more powerful than a good story..." The Golden Goose Award celebrates the benefits of basic research by sharing the stories behind [#federallyfunded](#) scientific successes that have led to major societal breakthroughs. <http://goldengooseaward.org>."

### 1. Budget Caps Negotiations Stall

Congressional and Trump administration leadership met May 21 to discuss a two-year budget deal, with the potential to include a debt ceiling agreement in the package. Negotiators did not come to a consensus over the course of the day-long talks, with Democrats mentioning the need for continued discussion around domestic spending ([Bloomberg](#), subscription required).

Reaching a deal on budget caps for FY 2020 is important for the continuation of the work of appropriators to fund the government in FY 2020. The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research joined a May 17 [letter](#), which is signed by 15 research coalitions representing over 500 member organizations, urging the president and Congressional leaders to "reach a bipartisan budget agreement to raise the defense and non-defense discretionary spending caps for FY20 and FY21 above the levels specific in the Budget Control Act (BCA)."

### 2. FY 2020 Public Witness Testimony Deadlines

The Senate Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee posted [instructions](#) for submitting outside witness testimony ahead of its work on FY 2020 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 3.

### 3. NIH Partners with Radiology Societies to Set Goals for AI in Medical Imaging

The NIH May 28 released a [press statement](#) describing a new report which "provides a roadmap for translation research on artificial intelligence (AI) in medical imaging." NIBIB contributed to the report, alongside several radiology societies. NIBIB Director of Research Science and Strategic Directions Krishna Kandarpa, MD, PhD, noted, "This roadmap is a timely survey and analysis by experts at federal agencies and among our industry and professional societies that will help us take the best advantage of AI technologies as they impact the medical imaging field."

### 4. *Open Mike*: Outcomes for NIH Loan Repayment Program Awardees

NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research Michael Lauer, MD, wrote a May 21 [Open Mike blog post](#) about the NIH Loan Repayment Program (LRP). Through the LRP, NIH can "can repay up to \$35,000 in [educational loans](#) per year" for early stage investigators. A recent analysis of the LRP shows awardees demonstrate increased research persistence, a measure that includes "submitting grant or fellowship applications, receiving grant or

fellowship awards, and publications.” This persistence is evident 15 years after the LRP award.

#### **5. International Commission on Genome Editing Launched by National Academies**

The National Academy of Medicine May 22 [convened](#) a new international commission “to develop a framework for scientists, clinicians, and regulatory authorities to consider when assessing potential clinical applications of human germline genome editing.” Commission participants represent international universities, research societies, and industry and are charged with seven tasks, including identifying: scientific issues with potential applications of gene editing; appropriate protocols for validating use; and appropriate protocols for patient consent.

#### **Upcoming Hill Briefings and Other Events**

##### **6. Congressional Briefing on National Science Foundation-Supported Research – June 4**

Please join the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) for a Congressional briefing on research supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The briefing will take place June 4 from 12-1:30pm in the Capitol Visitors Center room 268. Please see attached for additional information and RSVP to Benjamin Krinsky at [bkrinsky@faseb.org](mailto:bkrinsky@faseb.org).

##### **7. Parkinson’s Disease Educational Briefing – June 12**

Please join the Alliance for Aging Research for a Congressional briefing titled “Silver Book: Parkinson’s Disease Educational Briefing.” The event will take place June 12 from 12-1:30pm in Room HC-8 of the United States Capitol. Please visit the event [website](#) to learn more and to register.

##### **8. Hopkins on the Hill Research Showcase – June 12**

Please join Johns Hopkins University for a showcase of the range, value, and impact of federally funded research and programming at the university. The event will take place on Wednesday, June 12 from 5:30-7:30pm in the Rayburn Cafeteria, Rayburn House Office Building. See attached for additional information, and RSVP [here](#).

##### **9. Bayh-Dole Briefing – June 13**

Please join several academic, scientific, and research societies at an education briefing titled, “Scientific Progress and the Bayh-Dole Act: Exploring the Role and Significance of a Landmark Law.” The briefing will be held Thursday, June 13, at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Auditorium at 1200 New York Avenue NW from 10-11:30am with a networking coffee break from 9:30-10am. Please see attached flyer for additional details, and register to attend [in person](#), or view the [livestream](#).

##### **10. NIH ACD Meeting: June 13-14**

In a [Federal Register notice](#), the NIH announced the next Advisory Committee to the Director meeting will be held June 13-14 at the National Institutes of Health, Building 1, Wilson Hall, 1 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892. Preliminary agenda items include: the NIH Director’s Report, ACD Working Group Reports, and Other Business of the Committee.

### **11. Congressional Briefing on the Biosensor Revolution – June 14**

Please join the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) for a Congressional briefing titled, “Biosensor Revolution, Protecting our Health. Keeping our Land, Water, and Air Safe.” The briefing will take place Friday, June 14 from 12-1pm in 2044 Rayburn House Office Building. Please see the [event flyer](#) for additional detail, and RSVP to [smandell@aimbe.org](mailto:smandell@aimbe.org).

### **12. Congressional Life Science Fair and Reception – June 20**

Please join the Coalition for the Life Sciences (CLS) and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) for the second annual Life Science Fair and Reception on Capitol Hill. The event will take place Thursday, June 20 from 5-7pm in 2043, 2044, and 2045 Rayburn House Office Building. You can register [here](#) and see attached flyer for sponsorship information.

### **13. Rally for Medical Research – September 18-19**

Join a broad coalition of stakeholders representing millions of patients and other advocates from the medical research advocacy community on September 18-19, 2019, for the next Rally for Medical Research Hill Day and help raise awareness of the urgent need for continued investment in the NIH to improve health, spur more progress, inspire more hope, and save more lives. Please visit the [event website](#) for more information and to register. Registration closes August 30.

### **Job Postings**

#### **University of Florida Seeks Assistant Director of Federal Relations**

The University of Florida Seeks an Assistant Director of Federal Relations for the Washington, D.C. office. Essential job functions include: manage and execute the government relations program for a portfolio of the University's federal interests; anticipate, monitor and analyze federal policy; and more. Details and application instructions are available on the [job posting site](#).

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 Christa Wagner at [chwagner@aamc.org](mailto:chwagner@aamc.org) or Tannaz Rasouli at [trasouli@aamc.org](mailto:trasouli@aamc.org).