

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – July 10, 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:

Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research (@FundNIH)

Fact: The NIH's Human Genome Project (HGP) has resulted in nearly \$1 trillion of economic growth — a 178-fold return on investment. #FundNIH

1. House Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee Markup of FY 2018 Bill

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education [scheduled](#) a markup for the FY 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill. The markup is scheduled to take place at 4:30pm on Thursday, July 13 in 2358-C Rayburn House Office Building. According to the Subcommittee website, the markup will be webcast.

2. Tampa Bay Times Opinion: Proposed federal policy would cripple university research

On July 6, the Tampa Bay Times [published](#) an opinion piece by David Norton, PhD, vice president for research at the University of Florida and 11 other officials from 11 Florida Universities, which discusses the impact of cutting reimbursements provided to universities for facilities and administrative (F&A) research costs. Dr. Norton says the administration's proposal to cut F&A reimbursements "threatens to destroy" the partnership between universities, industry, and the federal government. Dr. Norton writes that the policy proposal, "would place the universities in the state of Florida, and every other state, in an impossible situation. Either subsidize federally funded research with other university money, or quit doing research on next-generation technologies and medical treatments."

3. Detroit News Opinion: NIH Budget Cuts Threaten Research, Innovation

On July 9, The Detroit News [published](#) an opinion piece by Stephen Lanier, PhD., vice president of research at Wayne State University, Jack Sobel, MD, dean of the Wayne State University School of Medicine, and M. Roy Wilson, MD, president of Wayne State University and chair-elect of the Board of Directors of the Association of American Medical Colleges. The authors lay out the impact of the president's proposed cuts to the NIH on Wayne State University, including the impact of a funding cap on F&A costs saying, "[Wayne State University] would not be able to sustain a robust research and discovery environment" if the administration's proposal were to be implemented.

4. Washington Times Letter to the Editor: 'Indirect costs' hardly luxuries

On June 27, The Washington Times [published](#) a letter to the editor written by Sherwood Boehlert, former chair of the House Science Committee. The letter was written in response to current House Science Committee Chair Lamar Smith's (R-Texas) June 19 [opinion piece](#) on F&A, or indirect, costs. Chairman Boehlert challenges Chairman Smith's assertion that federal payments for F&A costs are rising saying the statement is "off the mark." Chairman Boehlert points out that "there is little if any evidence" that F&A costs are rising and that F&A costs have been capped "for the past 25 years."

5. FasterCures Convenes "Partnering for Cures" in Boston and San Francisco

Since 2009, [Partnering for Cures](#) (P4C) has been convening leaders with the experience, creativity, and motivation needed to transform the medical research system. The event is convened annually by [FasterCures](#), a center of the Milken Institute, and connects decision-makers from across diseases who are motivated by the same mission – to reduce the time and cost of getting new therapies from discovery to patients. *FasterCures* is taking P4C on the road and convening a smaller, cross-sector group of medical research leaders twice – once in Boston and once in San Francisco. Registration is now open for P4C Boston on July 12 and P4C San Francisco on Nov. 14. Find out more information at <http://www.partneringforcures.org/>.

6. Congressional Briefing, Screening, and Poster Session for Dry Eye Awareness Month

On July 12, the Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (AEVR), in conjunction with the Tear Film & Ocular Surface Society (TFOS), will host a Capitol Hill luncheon briefing from noon to 1:15 p.m. in 2168 Rayburn House Office Building (Gold Room). The briefing will feature a panel discussion on the just-released TFOS Dry Eye Workshop II (TFOS DEWS II™) Report on Dry Eye Incidence, Diagnosis, and Treatment. A “Test Your Tears” screening and poster session will coincide with the luncheon briefing from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please see the attached flyer. To RSVP, contact Dina Beaumont (202-407-8325 or dinabeau@aol.com).

7. Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus: NIH 101

Join the Coalition for the Life Sciences and the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus for an NIH 101 briefing featuring Keith Yamamoto, PhD, from the University of California, San Francisco. The briefing will provide an overview of the NIH peer review process and the types of grants funded by the agency. In addition, Dr. Yamamoto will discuss how NIH sets research priorities and solicits input from the scientific community and the public. This briefing will take place on Friday, July 14 from noon to 1:00 p.m. in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building. Boxed lunches will be available for attendees. RSVP by visiting www.coalitionforlifesciences.org/events/ or emailing cls@coalitionforlifesciences.org. More info on the attached flyer.

8. AACR Congressional Briefing on the Progress in Immuno-Oncology

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the Society for the Immunotherapy of Cancer invite you to a congressional briefing on Wednesday, July 19 titled, “Progress in Immunology: Delivering Hope and Clinical Benefit to Cancer Patients.” This briefing will highlight some of the exciting innovations that are being delivered through immuno-oncology, illustrate the hope that these advances are bringing to cancer patients, and note the challenges that still need to be overcome so that even more cancer patients can benefit from these revolutionary treatments. The briefing will be held from 12 to 1:30 pm in 485 Russell Senate Office Building. For a list of speakers and additional information, please visit the event [website](#). You may RSVP [here](#). Lunch will be provided at this widely attended event.

9. Golden Goose Awards

The [Golden Goose Awards](#) celebrate the stories of how basic research delivers major societal impacts – from NIH-funded [massages for baby rats](#) that changed how we treat premature babies (and saved billions in health care costs) to the once canceled NIH-funded [adolescent health study](#) that informs everything from school curricula to public health programs. Each year, three teams of researchers are showcased through written stories and documentary videos, and honored with an award ceremony in Washington, DC each fall. The award depends on the support of partners in the science community, and more than twenty different organizations in our community and beyond contribute each year. Attached are the 2017

Golden Goose Award Sponsorship opportunities (also on the Golden Goose Awards [website](#)). The deadline for sponsoring is Sept 6.

10. Join the 2017 Rally for Medical Research Hill Day: Sept 13-14

[Registration](#) for the Rally for Medical Research is now open. For five consecutive years, the Rally for Medical Research Hill Day's has raised awareness during a critical time about the urgent need for an increased investment in the NIH to improve health, spur more progress, inspire more hope and save more lives. The Rally for Medical Research Hill Day is scheduled to take place on Thursday, Sept. 14, in Washington D.C. A reception will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 13 on Capitol Hill from 5:30 to 7:30 pm following a Hill Day training session at 3:00 pm at the [Grand Hyatt](#). Additionally, a hotel room block has been reserved on a first come, first served basis at the Grand Hyatt, Washington DC. Specific questions may be directed to info@rallyformedicalresearch.org and for organizations interested in sponsoring the event, more information is available at: <http://rallyformedicalresearch.org/Pages/Hill-Day-Sponsors-2017.aspx>. Follow the Rally on Twitter @RallyforNIH or join the group on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RallyMedRes/>

11. Job Opening: Communications Manager at FASEB

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), a non-profit scientific organization, seeks a Communications Manager to develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive public relations program for the Office of Public Affairs, including managing FASEB social media accounts and programs. A [position description](#) is available on FASEB's website. Applications can be submitted online through the [FASEB Employment Opportunities portal](#). NOTE: this position is different than the Director of Communications opportunity that was advertised in April.

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.