

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – September 9, 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:

[American Association for the Advancement of Science @aaas](#)

Like the fabled goose that laid the golden egg, [#federallyfunded](#) scientific research has yielded extraordinary, unexpected returns. Join us on September 10 to celebrate the scientific success stories of the 2019 [@GoldGooseAward](#) winners. [#GGA19](#) <http://goldengooseaward.org>

1. Senate Appropriations Mark Ups, House May Vote on Continuing Resolution

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor-HHS [is scheduled to mark up](#) its FY 2020 spending bill Tuesday, September 10, at 11:30am in 124 Dirksen Senate Office Building. The full Appropriations Committee [is scheduled to consider](#) the Labor-HHS bill along with the FY 2020 spending bills for Defense, Energy and Water, and State and Foreign Operations on Thursday, September 12 at 10:30am in 106 Dirksen Senate Office Building. Webcasts of both markups will be available on the relevant committee website.

House Democratic Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) September 5 issued a Dear Colleague letter indicating an expectation that the House would vote the week of September 16 on a Continuing Resolution to fund the government past September 30. [Press reports](#) indicate that the CR will likely extend until late November or December.

2. NCI Releases FY 2021 Plan and Budget Proposal

The National Cancer Institute September 4 released its [FY 2020 annual plan and budget proposal](#). The plan provides an assessment of the challenges and opportunities before the cancer research community and shares the impact of the NCI-supported research on people's lives through patient and researcher stories.

The plan also highlights three specific emerging areas of cancer research: the immune system and microbiome, artificial intelligence, and implementation science. Additional commentary is provided in a recent [Cancer Currents blog](#) authored by Acting Director Doug Lowy, MD.

3. NIH Council of Councils Hears Update from NIH Director

The NIH Council of Councils [convened September 6](#) to hear updates on several grant programs, Common Fund initiatives, and broader NIH topics. [In his presentation](#), NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, highlighted the HEAL Initiative and HEALing Communities study, Advisory Committee to the Director working groups on artificial intelligence and foreign influence on research, and human genome editing.

4. NIH-Funded Research Increases Storage Time of Human Donor Livers

The NIH September 9 [issued a news release](#) presenting new research supported by NIBIB and NIDDK which allows for human livers to be preserved for up to 27 hours before transplantation into a donor, an increase of 18 hours over the current protocol. NIDDK Program Director for Liver Diseases, Averell H. Sherker, MD, noted, "This new liver preservation method exemplifies

NIH's goal to foster the discovery and translation of innovative ideas. With further research, organs will be able to travel greater distances and benefit the most critically ill patients requiring liver transplantation."

5. NIH OLAW Releases Final Report on Reducing Regulatory Burden for Researchers

The NIH's Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) August 28 [issued the final report](#) of a multi-agency working group examining ways to reduce the regulatory burden on researchers using animals in research, while maintaining current levels of protection for research animals' welfare. The report advances several incremental changes to requirements on inspections, protocol review, and reporting. The report also commits to improved coordination among agencies funding animal research.

6. Op-Ed: Animal activists are on the wrong side of the fight against AIDS

Foundation for Biomedical Research President Matthew Bailey authored [an August 30 op-ed](#) in *STAT* titled, "Animal activists are on the wrong side of the fight against AIDS." Mr. Bailey highlighted the role of animal research in multiple aspects of better understanding and treating HIV, leading to the increased life expectancy for those with HIV diagnoses today compared to 30 years ago. He also noted the importance of continued use of animals in developing an HIV vaccine and investigating the use of CRISPR to eradicate the virus after successful results in a mouse model.

Upcoming Hill Briefings and Other Events

7. Golden Goose Award Ceremony – September 10

Save the date! The 8th annual Golden Goose Awards will be held September 10 at 5:30pm at the Library of Congress. This award celebrates federally funded research that may be odd, obscure, or serendipitous but ends up having a major impact on society. Visit the [event website](#) for additional information.

8. Congressional Briefing – The Future of Cancer Immunotherapy – September 11

Please join the Coalition for the Life Sciences as they host a Congressional briefing titled, "The Future of Cancer Immunotherapy," featuring Nobel Laureate Dr. James Allison. The briefing will be held Wednesday, September 11, from 12:00-1:00pm in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building. Please see the event flyer for additional details, and RSVP to cls@coalitionforlifesciences.org.

9. Emerging Vision Scientists Day Briefing and Reception – September 18

Please join the Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (AEVR) as they host two events for Emerging Vision Scientists Day. A Congressional briefing titled, "New Stem Cell-Based Therapies for Age-Related Macular Degeneration and Blast-Related Eye Injuries," will take place on Wednesday, September 18, from 12:00-1:15pm in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building.

AEVR will also host an evening reception featuring early-stage vision investigators from 5:30-7:30pm in the Rayburn House Office Building Foyer. Please see attached flyers for additional details, and RSVP for both events to Dina Beaumont @ 202-407-8325 or dinabeau@aol.com.

10. Congressional Briefing – AACR Cancer Progress Report – September 18

Please join the American Association for Cancer Research at a briefing for the release of their annual *AACR Cancer Progress Report*. The event will take place Wednesday, September 18, from 12:00-1:30pm in 2168 Rayburn House Office Building. Please see the briefing flyer for additional information and [RSVP here to attend](#).

11. 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 for participating in-person and virtually.

12. Reception to Honor NIEHS Director Dr. Linda Birnbaum – September 24

Please join the Friends of NIEHS (National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences) as they host a reception to honor NIEHS Director Linda Birnbaum, PhD, DABT, ATS, in her retirement. The reception will take place on Tuesday, September 24, from 5:30-7:30pm in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building. Please see the flyer for additional information and RSVP to Lesia Griffin at griffin@hmcw.org or (202)544-7499.

13. Congressional Briefing – The Undiagnosed Disease Network – September 26

Please join the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) and American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) as they host a briefing titled, “The Undiagnosed Disease Network (UDN): The Interface of Research and Clinical Care to Solve Medical Mysteries.” The briefing will take place on Thursday, September 26, from 12:00-1:00pm in CVC 268. Please see the briefing flyer for additional information and RSVP to JStaszewski@ashg.org.

14. NIH Fall Regional Seminar – Nov. 6-8

The NIH is hosting the Fall 2019 NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration in Phoenix, AZ, from Wednesday, Nov. 6- Friday Nov. 8. Visit the [website](#) to learn more about the program and to [register](#).

Job Postings

FASEB Seeks Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) seeks an experienced professional to serve as Manager, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives. The successful candidate will work across the FASEB departments and 29 member societies to implement FASEB’s DEI Strategic Plan and the efforts of the DEI Committee. The DEI Manager will also play a critical role in outreach by establishing collaborations with FASEB member societies and related stakeholder organizations and contributing to FASEB communications activities. The position incorporates opportunities for highlighting DEI initiatives in FASEB’s broader advocacy and policy efforts. More details are in the [position description](#) and the [application site](#).

FASEB Seeks Science Policy Analyst

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology seeks a Science Policy Analyst to spearhead its efforts related to research workforce and career development. Excellent

opportunity for someone transitioning from bench to Beltway! Please see the complete [position description](#), and visit <https://bit.ly/2Sefl0u> or email a cover letter, CV/resume, and policy-oriented writing sample to resumes@faseb.org to apply.

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 or Tannaz Rasouli at trasouli@aamc.org.