Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – September 30, 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:

**GI and Liver Innate Immunity** @GILiverImmunity
Thank you @nytimes for using #NIH as an answer to the mini-#crossword puzzle. It helps remind #Americans about the importance of #science. #SupportBiomedicalResearch #FundNIH and @FASEBorg advocacy programs. I am #ProudToBeAScientist supported by @NIH

1. **President Signs CR, Allocation Negotiations Expected to Begin**

The federal government will begin the new fiscal year this week (Oct. 1) under a continuing resolution (CR). President Trump signed the stopgap (H.R. 4378), which extends FY 2019 funding levels through mid-November, on Sept. 27, after the Senate approved the measure, 81-16, a day earlier. Senate Appropriations Chair Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) met with the president and senior White House officials on Sept. 27 to discuss the annual spending bills, telling reporters that while their discussion did not resolve specific challenges, the president “basically said, ‘proceed’” with steps to move the process forward.

Chairman Shelby also indicated his hope that the Senate Majority Leader will advance the appropriations bills that have made it through committee with support from Democrats. The Labor-HHS-Education bill is among four Senate spending bills that do not have bipartisan support. Meanwhile, appropriations staff are expected to begin bicameral negotiations on funding allocations for the spending bills while Congress is on a two-week recess.

2. **House Labor-HHS Subcommittee Hearing on Medical Research at NIH**

The House Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee on Sept. 25 held a hearing titled, “Investments in Medical Research at Five Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health.” At the hearing, Subcommittee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) discussed the subcommittee’s recent visit to NIH as an “informative but very moving experience as well,” and emphasized the subcommittee’s bipartisan support for increasing the investment in NIH. Ranking Member Tom Cole (R-Okla.) echoed the chairwoman’s comments about the strong support in both parties for NIH, and highlighted examples of promising research in his state, noting, “There are countless stories like these of groundbreaking research taking part across the United States as a direct result of NIH funding… All Americans benefit from this research.” In addition to testimony from NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, lawmakers also heard from the directors of five NIH institutes and centers: NIBIB, NIMHD, NCCIH, NCATS, and NLM.

**Upcoming Hill Briefings and Other Events**

The Population Association of America (PAA) and the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management will co-host a luncheon briefing on Thursday, Oct. 10 at 12 p.m., examining the fiscal and human implications of high incarceration rates – drawn from analysis of state and federal statistics, as well as the lived experiences of the recently incarcerated. The briefing will feature NIH- and NICHD-grantee Dr. Jeff Morenoff of the University of Michigan and will take place in room 2044 of the Rayburn House Office Building. Find additional information on the PAA website and RSVP to CRDFellow2@dc-crd.com.

4. AAI Research Advocacy Program – October 22

The American Association of Immunologists (AAI) invites policy leaders from patient advocacy and other health and scientific organizations to attend its 2019 Research Advocacy Program (RAP) on October 22. Designed for the general public, the RAP features a series of talks by AAI-member scientists who are engaged in cutting-edge immunological research and who help participants understand the role of the immune system in preventing, causing, and treating disease. For more information see attached flyer and please RSVP to schumacher@aai.org by October 8.

5. NIH Fall Regional Seminar – November 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.