

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up

November 18, 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:

NYU Langone Health [@nyulangone](#)

"A new study by [@nyuschoolofmed](#) found that patients who had a routine [#heart](#) procedure did not experience lower rates of cardiac events compared to those treated with medications & lifestyle changes. Learn more about our [#ISCHEMIA](#) trial: <https://bit.ly/37gR3dJ> [@AHA](#) [#AHA19](#)"

Appropriations Negotiations Continue, CR Vote Expected Before Nov. 21 Deadline

Congressional and Appropriations Committee leadership met with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin the week of November 11 to discuss process and topline allocations for the FY 2020 spending bills. House Appropriations Chairwoman Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) noted to reporters that the group hoped to have final 302(b) allocation numbers agreed to by Wednesday, November 20 ([CQ. subscription required](#)).

The House and Senate the week of November 18 will take up a new continuing resolution (CR) expected to extend until December 20. The current CR expires on November 21.

Senate Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing on Foreign Influence

The Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs [Subcommittee on Investigations](#) will hold a hearing titled, "Securing the U.S. Research Enterprise from China's Talent Recruitment Plans." NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research Michael Lauer, MD, will testify. The hearing will take place Tuesday, November 19, at 10 a.m. in 342 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

NIDCR Director to Retire

NIH Director [Francis Collins, MD, PhD, November 14 announced](#) that National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Director Martha Somerman, DDS, PhD, will retire from her role as director on December 31. Dr. Somerman will remain Chief of the Laboratory of Oral Connective Tissue Biology at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). NIH Principal Deputy Director Larry Tabak, DDS, PhD, will serve as interim director while a search for a successor is conducted.

NIH Launches Blog Series on Peer Review Integrity

NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research Michael Lauer, MD, November 12 published the first in a [series of Open Mike blog posts on the integrity of the peer review process](#). The series aims to "raise awareness and inspire creative problem solving of the challenges in maintaining integrity in peer review," with the first post setting the stage to describe a fictitious incident of undisclosed conflict of interest.

Upcoming Hill Briefings and Other Events

NIH Inaugural NExTRAC Meeting — December 5-6

The Novel and Exception Technology and Research Advisory Committee (NExTRAC) to the NIH Director will hold its inaugural meeting December 5-6 on the NIH Campus in Bethesda, MD. Additional details about the [agenda](#), attending the meeting, or viewing the videocast are available on the [NIH Office of Science Policy website](#).

NCATS Workshop on Repurposing Off-Patent Drugs — December 5-6

The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) is hosting the Cures Acceleration Network Review Board Workshop titled, “Repurposing Off-Patent Drugs: Research & Regulatory Challenges” on December 5-6, 2019 in Rockville, MD. The workshop will assess challenges around finding new uses for drugs that are already on the market but lack commercial and regulatory incentives for research and development. Please visit the [Federal Register notice](#) for additional information and to register by December 2.

Call for Nominations for the 2020 Golden Goose Award — December 20

[Nominations are open for the Golden Goose Award](#) which honors federally funded researchers whose work may sound silly, odd, obscure, wasteful of taxpayer funding, or serendipitous, but has had a major, if not unintended, positive impact on society. [Fill out the nomination form](#) by **December 20** for the best chance to be considered for the 2020 award. In addition, please consider spreading the word about the nomination process in your organization’s newsletter or email list, in a social media post, and/or [consider a donation or sponsorship](#) to support the award in 2020. [Contact us here](#) or visit our website for more information.

Job Postings

ASBMB Seeks Federal Affairs Manager

The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) seeks a Manager, Federal Affairs to join the Public Affairs team. The federal manager will assist in the development and execution of ASBMB public affairs programs with respect to federal science funding agencies, help manage Public Affairs Advisory Committee operations, and work closely with ASBMB public affairs leadership in developing, articulating, communicating and implementing public policy positions on behalf of ASBMB. Visit the [posting of the full job description](#) to learn more and review application instructions.

ASM Seeks Federal Affairs Specialist

The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) seeks a Federal Affairs Specialist to work with the Director of Federal Affairs to advance microbial sciences, focusing on agricultural, energy, and environmental legislation and public policy. The position requires working collaboratively with internal departments to gather input from and communicate to stakeholders — including members, organizational partners, and media — about policy and advocacy efforts. Visit the ASM website for the [full job description](#). Please submit salary requirements, cover letter and resume to HR@asmusa.org.

HIVMA Clinical Fellowship Program Application Open

The HIV Medicine Association awards grants to support one-year of HIV clinical training to up to two fellows per year. Grants are made to the institution to support the fellow’s stipend, to offset administrative costs, and to provide for additional educational

opportunities. One of the program's goals is to increase the diversity of the HIV clinical workforce particularly from populations and communities that have been disproportionately impacted by HIV. Physicians who are underrepresented in medicine or interested in working in the Southeastern US are strongly encouraged to apply. The application deadline is January 7, 2020. For more information, please contact [Asha Farrah](#) or [visit the fellowship website](#).

AACR Seeks Senior Manager, Congressional Relations

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) seeks an experienced professional to serve as Senior Manager of Congressional Relations in its Washington, DC office. This position plays an integral role in advancing the AACR's science policy and advocacy work on Capitol Hill. The position assists the Associate Director of Congressional Relations in the communication of the AACR's policy priorities and positions to congressional offices, develops persuasive and informational materials, assists in the development and execution of advocacy strategies, and coordinates special events such as Capitol Hill lobby days and congressional briefings. For more information and to apply, please visit the [AACR Career Portal](#).

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.*