

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up

December 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 Society for Microbiology Newsroom [@ASMnewsroom](#)

ASM's 5th Agar Art Contest Showcases the Beauty of Microbes with Original [#Bioart](#) - Announcing the Winners of the 2019 [#AgarArt](#) Contest! [#SciArt](#) [#bacteria](#) [#microbiology](#) [skyw.io/em93bp](https://www.skyw.io/em93bp)

Appropriators Continue Work on FY 2020 Ahead of December 20 Deadline

Appropriations Committee leadership December 4 announced plans for subcommittees to finalize each of the 12 individual FY 2020 spending bills by December 6, including the Labor-HHS spending bill to provide funding for the NIH. Subcommittee leaders were also instructed to submit a list of any remaining "unresolved issues" so that Congressional leaders can determine how to move forward in advance of the December 20 expiration of the current continuing resolution.

House Appropriations Committee Chair Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) was quoted on December 6 as saying the House could begin voting on final FY 2020 spending bills the week of December 9, however no additional updates on FY 2020 progress have emerged following a weekend of negotiations ([CQ](#), [subscription required](#)).

R&D Community Sends Letter to Appropriations Leaders

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research joined over 160 other members of the broader research and development (R&D) community in a [December 4 letter urging Congressional leadership](#) to work together in finalizing FY 2020 spending bills quickly. The letter, coordinated by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society for Microbiology, highlights that "uncertainty created by short and long-term [CRs] has severe consequences for science and research" and calls on lawmakers to "work in a bipartisan manner and without delay to complete work on the FY 2020 spending bills so that we can continue to lead the world in science and innovation and improve the health, security and economic strength of our nation."

NIMHD Bill to be Considered at Senate HELP Executive Session

The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee will hold an [executive session on December 12](#) at 10:00 am in 430 Dirksen Senate Office Building, including consideration of [S. 2927, the NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2019](#). This bill would "provide that the authority of the Director of NIMHD to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence."

Reps. DeGette, Upton Call for Comments on Cures 2.0

Reps. Diana DeGette (D-Colo.) and Fred Upton (R-Mich.) [Nov. 22 issued a press release](#) and ["Call to Action" document](#) on their vision for a second iteration of the 2016 law 21st Century Cures. The lawmakers are seeking community feedback as they develop "Cures 2.0" with focus on the areas of digital health, coverage modernization, harnessing data to empower patients,

and caregiver support. Comments will be accepted through December 16 via email to cures2@mail.house.gov.

NEI Seeks Feedback on Future Research Goals

The [National Eye Institute \(NEI\) December 6 issued a press release](#) seeking public comment on two Requests for Information (RFIs): a strategic planning initiative, the 2020 Vision for the Future, and a new research program, the Anterior Segment Initiative (ASI). Comments related to the NEI Strategic Plan are due January 8, and additional information is available on the [2020 Vision for the Future RFI](#) webpage. Comments related to the ASI are due by January 9, and additional details are available through the [RFI notice](#).

Upcoming Hill Briefings and Other Events

NIH Advisory Council to the Director Meeting – December 12-13

The NIH Advisory Council to the Director (ACD) will meet December 12-13 at the NIH Campus, Building 1, Wilson Hall, Bethesda, Maryland, Bethesda MD, 20892. The meeting is open to the public. [Day One highlights](#) include updates from ACD Working Groups on diversity and sexual harassment. [Day Two highlights](#) include updates on foreign influence on research and the NIH-wide strategic plan for FY 2021-2025. All agenda items and more details can be found on the [NIH ACD Meetings website](#).

NIH Data Sharing Webinar – December 16

The [NIH will hold a public webinar](#) on the recently released [Draft NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing and Supplemental draft guidance](#) on Monday, December 16, 2019 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET. Comments on the draft Policy and draft supplemental guidance [can be made electronically](#) through Friday, January 10, 2020.

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.

OSTP Seeks Comments on the American Research Environment – December 23

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) November 25 filed a [request for information \(RFI\) on the American Research Environment](#) via the [Federal Register](#). On behalf of the Joint Committee on the Research Environment (JCORE), OSTP seeks comments on "actions that Federal agencies can take, working in partnership with private industry, academic institutions, and non-profit/philanthropic organizations, to maximize the quality and effectiveness of the American research environment." Comments are due by December 23 via email to the National Science and Technology Council Executive Director, Chloe Kontos at JCORE@ostp.eop.gov.

NIH Regional Seminar in Baltimore, MD: April 20-22, 2020

The NIH is hosting the Spring 2020 NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration in Baltimore, MD, from April 20-22. [Visit the meeting website](#) to learn more about the program and to register; early bird registration rates apply through December 31.

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.

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](#).