NIH Fellows Committee Agenda  
Thursday, June 6, 2013  
Wilson Hall, 3rd Floor, Building 1  
Call-in number: 1 866 772-5230, Passcode: 4413222

1. Welcome New Members  
2. Introductions of Committee At-Large  
3. May minutes- approval  
   a. Minutes approved  
4. Remarks:  
   a. FelCom Officers  
   b. Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE)  
   c. Office of Intramural Research (OIR)  
5. New Business  
   a. Visiting Fellows Liaison Position - Jitesh Veetil  
   b. Upcoming year’s Goals and burning issues  
6. Subcommittees and Liaison Reports  
   a. Animal Research Advisory Committee  
   b. Career Development Committee  
   c. Child Care Board Liaison  
   d. Clinical FelCom Committee  
   e. Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics Liaison  
   f. FAES Liaison  
   g. FARE Committee  
   h. Graduate Medical Education Committee  
   i. Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee Liaison  
   j. IPRWH Liaison  
   l. Medical Executive Committee Liaison  
   m. National Postdoc Association Liaison  
   n. Recreation and Welfare Committee  
   o. Service Outreach Subcommittee  
   p. Social Committee  
   q. Training Directors Committee Liaison  
   r. Visiting Fellows Committee  
   s. WALS Committee  
   t. Women Scientist Advisors Committee Liaison  
   u. AFTR Liaison  

7. Adjournment

Next meeting: Thursday, August 1, 2013 in Building 1, Wilson Hall

OITE
Let the summer interns know about what OITE has to offer
The OITE curriculum for postdocs will start in August

**OIR**
Clarisa Buckner talked, on behalf of the FARE committee, to the scientific directors on Wednesdays (June 5th?) about the FARE awards and their positive impact on NIH fellows. The SDs decided to support the FARE program next year. Congratulations to FARE co-chairs Iain Scott & Clarisa Buckner, the FARE committee and all those who participated in judging the FARE abstracts, especially FelCom members who serves as chief judges.

**Service and Outreach Subcommittee**
Lab Challenges is no longer on the plate. Please see the web link below for more information on this program.

The NIH office of science education (http://science.education.nih.gov/home2.nsf/feature/index.htm) is closing and will no longer award grants or serve as a volunteering resource for fellows. It will be closing because there is too much redundancy in science education within the government.

See ScienceInsider from the AAAS website for a great article on STEM education and restructuring of outreach programs (http://news.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2013/06/house-panel-questions-obamas-pla.html). Not sure what the NIH will do to provide fellows science education outreach opportunities. Other opportunities are there for outreach → look out for e-mails.

**FelCom**
The VFC co-chair, Jitesh Veetil, will be leaving for a tenure track position at Louisville (Congratulations!!!) so the VFC is now seeking candidates for co-chair. Please see below for more information on how to apply.

Faculty and training directors are not showing up for events held on post-doc appreciation day. Can try calling the training director’s secretary or AO.

**Possible goals for the fellows committee to take on for the year 2013 – 2014**
Cannot change parking or improve the infrastructure of aging buildings. Sorry 😞

1. Maybe develop a mentoring subcommittee → **strong approval from FelCom members**
   - Develop a formal structure for helping fellows develop their IDP and hit their milestones
   - A poll conducted during the meeting showed that 90% of present Felcom members were satisfied with their current mentoring while >70% thought their mentoring could be improved.
   - more help with grant writing and preparing new investigators for starting their careers
   - a lot of mentors do not know about visa issues and other challenges facing visiting fellows (60% of all 3600 NIH fellows are visiting fellows)
   - There is a NIH alumni database that fellows can access to reach out to past NIH fellows for career advice and mentoring
   - The VFC can create a small subgroup of visiting fellows who will agree to mentor/address question that new/current visiting fellows have
   - Fellows can take the initiative and seek out their own mentor
- Ask faculty to volunteer to be mentors to fellows who want additional mentors. Mentors do not have to be in the mentees department or even in the same institute
- Award mentoring awards to faculty who go above and beyond other faculty in mentoring students to recognize their wonderful contributions. Some institutes already do this.
- Hire an ex-faculty member to serve as a mentor to fellows.
- Peer mentoring. An advanced post-doc mentors a new post-doc one-on-one.

2. Building community
- More than what the social committee already does (social committee is doing a great job)
- Family picnic?
- Intramural sports? Each institute forms a team and the institutes play each other for a championship.
- NIH already has a softball league and people play soccer on campus.
- Talk to R&W about starting intramural sports

**NO MEETING IN JULY – HAPPY SUMMER!!!
NEXT MEETING IS AUGUST 1ST**
FELCOM June 2013

SUBCOMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

Animal Research Advisory Committee
Lara el-Touny (NCI)

No report submitted.

Career Development Committee
Sandip De (NICHD) & Elyssa Monzack (NIDCD)

Members: Cory Lago (NHLBI), Hui Cheng (NIAID), Lori Conlan (OITE), Chao Jiang (NIAMS), Ashley Kennedy (NIDA), Kristina McLinden (NINDS), Amanda Melillo (FDA/CBER), Amarjit Mishra (FDA), J Jairo Montezuma-Rusca (NHLBI), Jennifer Plank (NIDDK), Meghan Mott (NIAAA), Nadine Samara (NIDDK), Christina Schindler (NICHD), Pabak Sarkar (NIAAA), Oscar Vidal (NHLBI), Olga Pavlova (NIDDK)
GSC Pathway Members: Vandana Sekhar (NIAID)

The Career Development committee last met on 5/2/13 and our next scheduled meeting is on 6/6/13. Our last seminar, “Careers in Core Facilities and Service Companies” (4/22/13) was well attended. The seminar was not videocast, but a writeup of the event will be available soon on the OITE website (https://www.training.nih.gov/FelCom/CareerDevelopment). Our next seminar will be “Careers in Technology Transfer” on 6/17/13 at Building 50, Room 1227 from 3:00-5:00 pm. There will also be a networking event from 5:30-7:00 pm at BlackFinn in Bethesda.

The “Careers in Technology Transfer” seminar will be videocast and a link to the video will be provided on the OITE website for those who are unable to attend.

Childcare Board Liaison
Wendy Knosp (NIDCR) and Anastasia Aksyuk (NIAMS)

1. Results of the Life@NIH Survey were presented & discussed.
   The survey included about 3000 employees; only 9% of those were fellows.
   There were a few unexpected results, including the lack of appreciation of work-life support programs by some supervisors and low awareness about available resources by employees.
   The Board recommends the following as the result of the survey:
   a. Create a virtual one-stop work-life resource page for employees.
   b. Present the results to the Office of the Directors
   c. Provide training for supervisors on the value of work-life supports for productivity, retention, and recruitment and how to communicate about them with employees.
   d. Discussed creating of adult dependent care board, either as a separate group or expanding the childcare board to independent care board to avoid competition for funds
2. New Northwest Child Care Center plans are under revision, no groundbreaking date yet (possibly summer/fall of 2014).
3. Draft of the 2013-2014 NIH Child Care Board Work Plan was discussed. It includes:
   a. Life@NIH Survey follow up & additional actions
   b. Back-Up Child and Dependent Care Pilot Evaluation
   c. Northwest Child Care Center (construction, program requirements, Provider Selection)
   d. Waiting list (review/refine, Northwest Child Care Center)
   e. Increase Community Capacity for NIH employees
4. This was the final meeting of the Child Care Board before the summer, the next meeting will take place in the Fall.

**Clinical FelCom (ClinFelCom)**

*Kenneth Remy (CC) & Sid Kerkar (CC)*

Our next meeting is June 17, 2013 in the Director’s Conference room 6th floor at 4:30. We will be holding elections for GMEC liaison and discussing the first annual clinical fellows day.

**Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics**

*Peter Winter (NIBIB)*

Melissa Colbert from the Office of the Director would like to know if Felcom is interested in hosting presentations of an interactive RCR training video called 'The Lab'. This is part of ORI's attempts to expand RCR training for NIH Fellows

Here is the link to an ORI webpage with more information on the program: [http://ori.hhs.gov/thelab](http://ori.hhs.gov/thelab)

**FAES Liaison**

*Jue Chen (NHLBI) & Jia Yan (NIAAA)*

FAES Executive Director Christina Farias met with FelCom Liaisons, Jue and Jia, to discuss survey questions concerning the FAES bookstore and FAES graduate courses. The following are areas that FAES hopes to get feedback from fellows through surveys:

1. If you haven’t taken any courses at FAES, what are the reasons that you haven't done so?
2. What format of distant learning would you be interested in seeing in the FAES graduate school: video-cast past lectures, live online classes where you can participate in the discussion, others?
3. What hours and days would you prefer to take classes in FAES?
4. Are you interested in English lessons? If yes, what level and what format of classes would you like to see?
5. For which topics (science, career development, or hobbies) do you wish FAES could offer classes?
6. What types of services do you think the FAES book store should provide? We talked about geeky toys, science T-shirts, online ordering and delivery of books, etc.
7. What kind of books would you like the FAES bookstore to have for purchase?
8. FAES hopes to have 2-3 fellows joining the Technology Advisory Committee to meet quarterly and discuss technology that can be used in teaching and learning.
9. FAES would like to have one fellow participating in Education Committee that will meet monthly to discuss FAES graduate school related businesses. This fellow needs to be currently a postdoc fellow trainee within NIH.

**FARE Committee**

*Iain Scott (NHLBI) & Clarisa Buckner (NIAID)*

**Members:** Anastasia Aksyuk (NIAMS); Meghan O’Donoghue Altman (NIAID); Pere Puigbo Avalos (NLM/NCBI); Jordan Beach (NHLBI); King Leung Fung (NCI); Leah Matzat (NIDDK); Tiffany Nguyen (NHLBI); Jennifer Seedorff (NIAID); Jessica Smith (NCI); Joseph Tiano (NIDDK); Brajendra Tripathi (NCI); Janani Varadarajan (NCI).

FARE 2014 is nearly complete. With the help of 403 judges distributed among 51 study sections, the committee has identified 241 potential awardees from 936 applicants. The FARE co-chairs will present
The results of FARE 2014 were presented to the Scientific Directors on June 5th and formally asked for permission to notify the winners. The SDs may decide to decrease the number of FARE awards allocated for this year's competition depending on funding availability. FARE winners will be notified as soon as possible following the SD meeting.

Besides, approval and notification of winners, the committee will have a debriefing meeting to identify several areas where administrative aspects of the competition could be improved for next year. We also will prepare for the FARE 2014 awards ceremony that will occur one afternoon during the NIH Research Festival (October 7-11, 2013).

**Graduate Medical Education Committee**

*Joel Stoddard and Ali Abbas Syed*

ACGME accreditation is complete and awaiting any citations. Elections for open position on June 17th at Clinical fellowship committee meeting. Nominations for DCTA clinical teacher of the year award will be announced shortly.

**Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee**

*Jeanelle Spencer*

No Report Submitted.

**IPRWH Liaison**

*Ni Hong*

No report submitted.

**Job Networking Committee**

*Shekhar Jha & Adeola Makinde (NCI)*

No report submitted.

**Medical Executive Committee**

*Kenneth E. Remy (CC) and Sid Kerkar (CC)*

Nothing to Report.

**NPA Liaison**

*Monika Deshpande (NCI)*

No report submitted.

**Recreation and Welfare Committee**

*Jeanne Morin-Leisk (NIDDK)*

**R&W Annual Meeting** - Thursday, June 20th from 12pm – 1pm in Bldg. 10, Rm. 2-3330. All are welcome. Come to learn more about the operations of the R&W and the services provided. They are interested in your suggestions for the 2013-2014 year as well. Door prizes include movie tickets and R&W gift certificates.

**R&W Group Game – Washington Spirit vs. Boston Breakers** – The new professional women’s soccer team, The Washington Spirit of the National Women’s Soccer League, will be playing the Boston Breakers on Saturday, July 27th at 7pm at the Maryland SoccerPlex in Boyds (Germantown), MD (18031 Central Park Circle). Tentatively scheduled for postgame is an opportunity for children to meet and talk with Joanna Lohman and some of the Breakers’ players. Tickets are $17.50 each and can be purchased at R&W stores.
Service and Outreach Subcommittee

Committee Members (bold indicates present): Ash, Jessica (NIH/NIA/IRP-Baltimore); Janelsins, Brian (NIH/NIAID; Marino, Natascia (NIH/NCI); Reed, Tiffany (NIH/NCI); Yan, Jia (NIH/NIAAA); Stephanie Petzing (USUHS); Sabrina Joseph (USUHS)

Next Event:
· TBA: Followed up on “Lab Challenge” when all entries are in from Office of Science Education. See the link for more information about this contest: http://science.education.nih.gov/NIHLabChallenge.nsf/index.xsp?page=Home

Still in the works:
Safra Lodge Food drive: Tentative dates will be for Fall (August or September). Jia is contacting R&W to find out the information.

We are looking into having an outreach Girl Scouts science day with the troop we worked with last year. We had a phone conference with Camillea Graham coordinate dates and time.
· They are also wanting to participate with a hosted event again at the Family Lodge
  o We need dates and times and celebratory ideas to do with the Lodgers.
    § Tentative dates are weekends during the summer.
    · Possibly an pre or post July 4th celebration (I think families might be gone during July 4th weekend and we want to assure a good turn out)
    · Parents Day July 28 celebration?
    · Labour Day celebration?
  o Alternatively, we are welcome to contact the Clinical Center Events Coordinator to set up the science outreach for patient families.
    § Work with the Girls on DNA extractions
    § Have the girls lead DNA extractions at the clinical center
    § Give a short presentation on genetics and SNPs, etc.
    § Q&A
  o We have also had great feed back from the Visitor’s Center and might have opportunities in the future.

OSE collaboration-We need someone interested enough to follow up on this idea. I was thinking this could possibly be an elective through FAES (for postbacs and graduate students) or contacting career counselors at the local universities?
· Topics brainstormed:
  o Postdoc seminar series for college students. May have found support from an IC for this idea. Still in talks.
    § This might be worthwhile if we can collaborate with a college career center and do on weekends/night seminars

Social Committee

Anna Sundborger (NIDDK) & Christiane Kuschal (NCI)

In May we had a Happy Hour on Wednesday 22nd at Black Finn which was very well attended. For June we plan Happy Hour Wednesday 12th at Black Finn and a tour of the Arlington Cemetery Sunday 30th.

Training Directors Committee

Cristina Rangel (NCI) & Julien Senac (NHGRI)
Dr. Sharon Milgram presented data about the Reformatted NIH Academy, a program dedicated to educating trainees about health disparities (https://www.training.nih.gov/assets/NIH_Academy_Flyer.pdf). Dr. Jonathan Wiest met with Dr. Michael Gottesman to discuss about retirement benefits to postdocs. May 1st was the NIH Clinical Center ACGME Site Visit, as reported by Dr. Bob Lembo.

**Visiting Fellows Committee**

Vatsalya Vatsalya (NIAAA) and Jithesh Veetil (NIAAA)

Looking for an opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience? Interested in issues that concern visiting fellows? Wanting an opportunity to develop highly valued transferable skills while at the same time helping out your fellow colleagues? Then serving as a Visiting Fellows Committee Co-Chair can help you to meet those objectives.

The Visiting Fellows Committee (VFC), a sub-committee of the NIH Fellows Committee (FelCom), is seeking submissions for the soon to be vacant VFC co-chair position. All interested and highly motivated visiting fellow or FelCom members/IC representatives are encouraged to apply for this position. This Co-Chair position is an excellent opportunity for a visiting fellow to gain valuable leadership experience, as well as further develop the transferable skills that are highly desired by employers in both academic and non-academic settings. It is also an opportunity to work with a group of highly motivated colleagues in developing programs and pursuing activities that provide visiting fellows with resources for career exploration and skill development, as well as addressing issues that visiting fellows face.

The activities that the VFC currently engages in ranges from the organization the NIH International Opportunities Expo, writing and publishing the VFC Newsletter, organizing the Science Voices from Home and the VFC Brown Bag seminars, maintaining the VFC webpage resource, and building a strong international community through social events coordinated with the FelCom Social Sub-Committee.

As a VFC Co-Chair you would take a lead role in developing the yearly agenda of the committee and work closely with the individual organizers of the various VFC activities to meet the committee’s objectives. You would also be presiding over monthly VFC meetings as well as working with the larger NIH Fellows Committee.

Interested? We are currently looking for a motivated individual who works well in a team environment, but is looking to develop their leadership skills. Prospective candidates should be creative, attentive to detail, and have good communication and organizational skills, and able to fill this position for a two-year term.

Interested Visiting Fellows should submit their name for consideration to either Dr. Vatsalya Vatsalya (vatsalyav@mail.nih.gov) or Dr. Jithesh Velichamthotu (velichamthotuj@mail.nih.gov).

Please provide a brief bio and statement of interest in serving as a VFC Co-Chair by Close of Business on June 9, 2013. Elections will be held at a special upcoming Visiting Fellows Committee meeting on or before Monday July 8th at 4:00pm in Bld 2, Rm 2W15.

**VFC organizes and hosts the Science Voices from Home (SVH) program** for fellows interested in careers abroad. Science Voices from Home’ hosted a special seminar on funding and research opportunities in **France**. Dr. Mireille Guyader from the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM), Director of the Inserm-USA office at the Embassy of France in Washington, DC presented a seminar titled “Discover career opportunities within the new Alliance for Life and Health Sciences in France, AVIESAN program” on May 30, 2013, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm in Building 50/Room 1227

VFC also promoted the seminar on research and funding opportunities in **Japan** presented by The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS, http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/) and the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST, http://www.jst.go.jp/EN/). This event provided ample info to (1) fellows planning to continue their research career in Japan (2) Fellows interested in a short research visit in Japan (3) PIs/Senior/Eminent scientists interested in long or short research stays in Japan and (4) Scientists interested
in U.S. – Japan research collaborations. Event was held on May 21st 2013 at 1:00 pm in Natcher Conference Room A.

VFC, in collaboration with the NIH Fogarty International Center and the NIH/OD Office of Intramural Training and Education, organized a ‘Science Voices from Home’ event featuring Dr. Shahid Jameel, the new C.E.O. of the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance. This event with Dr. Jameel was targeted to all NIH fellows, scientists and program staff interested in research opportunities abroad, with special focus on India alliances. The event was held on May 13th, 2013, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm at NIH Building 16 / Stone House Conference Room.

**International Night at the Children’s Inn:** VFC and country subgroups are coordinating with NIH-SACNAS Chapter for the International Night event that will be held at the Children’s Inn on June 18th, 2013 from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the multipurpose room and dining room. The NIH-SACNAS Chapter will represent Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Colombia for this event where as VFC & Country subgroups showcase India, Austria etc.

**Interested in a science writing career? Looking to add to your science writing portfolio?** The Visiting Fellows Committee is looking for fellows who are interested in writers and editors for the VFC-Newsletter. The Newsletter is dedicated to providing the NIH Fellow community with news from home, information about overseas funding and research opportunities, sharing success stories, and providing relevant career and professional information. Being a part of the VFC-Newsletter production is an excellent opportunity for fellows interested in science writing and editing careers to gain valuable experience, develop transferable skills, and add to their science writing portfolio. If you are interested in being a part of the VFC-Newsletter team, please submit a statement of intent, not greater than 150 words, to Dr. Anne Miermont-Eltejaye at anne.miermont-eltejaye@nih.gov.

**VFC is currently recruiting** interested visiting fellows to join various other projects at VFC like SVH, and webpage development. All visiting fellows who are interested in participating and bringing fresh ideas of activities to promote international community and career development are encourage joining the VFC monthly held at at 4:00pm in Bld 2, Rm 2W15.

**WALS Committee**  
*Shan He (NIDCD) & Pere Puigbo (NCBI)*

Members:
Sally Davis (NIAID), Panpan Yu (NHLBI), Meghan Drummond (NIDCD), Weili Cai(NICHLD), Shuxi Liu(NINDS)

We’re preparing Dr. Mu-Ming Poo’s visit at June 19th. May need IC representatives to disseminate the info to fellows for lunch.

**Women Scientist Advisors Committee**  
*Clarisa Buckner (NIAID) & Aimee Hollander (FDA-CBER)*

Nothing to report. Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 26th.
**NIA- Baltimore**

Irene Avila & Peter Sykora

- The CCR-FYI Steering Committee Retreat was held on May 30th at the NCI Shady Grove. Welcome from Dr. Jonathan Wiest, presentation on Team Science by Dr. Amanda Vogel, Meeting with Dr. Bob Wiltztrout and a Team Building Workshop by Dr. Lori Conlan, followed by a Happy Hour at the Dogfish Head Alehouse.
- The CCR-FYI and DFel (DCEG) Fellows Committees are starting a “Buddy List” to encourage collaborations between both centers.
- Scientific Interest Groups: the SIG subcommittee compiled a list of all active Scientific Interest Groups at the NIH.

**NIEHS-North Carolina**

Sonika Patial & Jim Aloor

No Report Submitted.

**NCI-Frederick**

Cristina Rangel (NCI)

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