

NIH Fellows Committee Agenda
Thursday, November 14, 2013
ROOM CHANGE: Building 31 Room 10
Call-in number: 1 866 772-5230, Passcode: 4413222

1. **Welcome New Members**
2. **Introductions of Committee At-Large**
3. **August September minutes- approval**
 - a. Approved
4. **Remarks:**
 - a. FelCom Officers
 - b. Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE)
 - c. Office of Intramural Research (OIR)
5. **New Business**
 - a. Bylaw Changes
 - b. Elections:
 1. FelCom Basic Science co-chair: **Lucie Low and Sandip De**
 - a. LUCIE won (by 2 votes)
 2. FARE (2): **Sudhir Rai, Parmit Kumar Singh**-(stepped down), **Hien Dang**
 - a. SUDHIR and HIEN won
 3. NPA (1): **Tara Burke, Kevin Ramkissoon, Ben Boyerinas, Ping Chen**
 - a. TARA won in a close race
 4. Mentoring (2): **Jessica Pierce, Libby Barksdale**
 - a. JESSICA and LIBBY won
 5. SOS Committee (2): **No Nominees**

6. Subcommittees and Liaison Announcements

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| a. Animal Research Advisory Committee | <i>Lara el Touny</i> |
| b. Career Development Committee | <i>Sandip De & Elyssa Monzack</i> |
| c. Child Care Board Liaison | <i>Wendy Knosp and Anastasia Aksyuk</i> |
| d. Clinical FelCom | <i>Kenneth Remy & Sid Kerkar</i> |
| e. Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics Liaison | <i>Peter Winter</i> |
| f. FAES Liaison | <i>Jue Chen & Ji Yan</i> |
| g. FARE Committee | <i>Iain Scott & Clarisa Buckner</i> |
| h. Graduate Medical Education Committee | <i>Dawn Ionescu & Ali Abbas Syed</i> |
| i. Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee Liaison | <i>Jeanelle Spencer</i> |
| j. IPRWH Liaison | <i>Ni Hong</i> |
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| k. Medical Executive Committee Liaison | <i>Sid Kerkar & Kenneth Remy</i> |
| l. National Postdoc Association Liaison | <i>Monica Deshpande</i> |
| m. Recreation and Welfare Committee | <i>Jeanne Morin-Leisk</i> |
| n. Service Outreach Subcommittee | <i>Shu Chen & Julien Senac</i> |
| o. Social Committee | <i>Anna Sundborger & Christiane Kuschal</i> |
| p. Training Directors Committee Liaison | <i>Cristina Rangel & Julien Senac</i> |
| q. Visiting Fellows Committee | <i>Vatsalya Vatsalya & Jithesh Veetil</i> |
| r. WALS Committee | <i>Shan He & James Keller</i> |
| s. Women Scientist Advisors Committee Liaison | <i>Clarisa Buckner & Ulrike Klenke</i> |
| t. AFTR Liaison | <i>Arunima Gosh & Soumya Chatterjee</i> |

7. Adjournment

Next meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2013 in Building 1, Wilson Hall

Current committee and liaison chairs – please check that these are correct and report any inaccuracies to the FelCom secretary (Joe Tiano, joseph.tiano@nih.gov).

FelCom Officers	
Lucie Low	Co-Chair, Basic Science
Kenneth Remy	Co-Chair, Clinical Fellows
Anna Sundborger	Membership Secretary
Joseph Tiano	Administrative Secretary

Committees	Chairs
Career Development Committee	Elyssa Monzack &
Clinical FelCom Committee	Kenneth Remy & Sid Kerkar
Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE) Committee	Sudhir Rai & Hien Dang
Mentoring Committee	Jessica Pierce & Libby Barksdale
Service Outreach Committee	Shu Chen & Julien Senac
Social Committee	Anna Sundborger & Christiane Kuschal
Visiting Fellows Committee	David Sanchez & Jithesh Veetil
Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) Committee	Shan He & Pere Puigbo

Liaisons	Chairs
AFTR Liaison	Arunima Ghosh & Soumya Chatterjee
Animal Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) Liaison	Lara El Touny
Child Care Board Liaison	Wendy Knosp & Anastasia Aksyuk
Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) Liaison	Jue Chen & Ji Yan
Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) Liaison	Dawn Ionescu & Ali Abbas Syed
Graduate Student Council Liaison	Lucy Kotlyanskaya
Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee (HSRAC) Liaison	Jeanelle Spencer
Intramural Program on Research on Women's Health (IPRWH) Liaison	Ni Hong
Medical Executive Committee (MEC) Liaison	Srinivas Vourganti & Kenneth Remy
National Postdoc Association (NPA) Liaison	Tara Burke
Recreation and Welfare Committee Liaison	Jeanne Morin-Leisk
Scientific Conduct & Ethics Liaison	Peter Winter
Training Directors Committee Liaison	Cristina Rangel & Julien Senac
Women Scientist Advisors (WAS) Committee Liaison	Clarisa Buckner & Ulrike Klenke

MEETING MINUTES

Felcom Chairs

- Overview of what felcom does for the many new members at the meeting
- subcommittee liaisons please send your subcommittee report the week before to the felcom chairs
- you must maintain attendance to vote. Cannot have more than 2 unexcused absences in order to run for an officer position or to vote
- please e-mail all questions and business to all four felcom chairs (Ken, Anna, Joe and the newly elected chair)
- annual holiday party will happen and is in preparation – lookout for the invitation

OITE

- welcome back from shutdown
- a lot of events were rescheduled
- things are finally getting back to normal
- December 6th is the OITE holiday party in the afternoon in the new FAES terrace. Look for e-mails
- Holiday happy hour December 10th at union jacks – the Walter Reed postdocs are hosting
- FELCOM THANKS JULIAN FOR HIS SERVICE AS BASIC SCIENCE CO-CHAIR

OIR

- welcome back from shutdown
- administration not happy it happened
- scientific directors are trying to come up with ways to make a future shutdown work more smoothly should it happen again
- a mentoring survey was done a few years ago
 - o 75% said they had good mentoring
 - o 25% said they had poor mentoring
- not much has been done since the survey and OIR is excited for this group to get started

Elections

- Lucie Low is the new basic science chair
- Sudhir Rai and Hien Dang are the new FARE committee chairs
- Tara Burke is the new NPA liaison
- Jessica Pierce and Libby Barksdale are the new mentoring committee chairs

Bylaw changes

- the bylaw changes were presented to the committee (they are described in this document below)
- the bylaw changes as written below were unanimously passed with no objections
- ideas for a new bylaw change regarding attendance
 - o for an absence to be excused you MUST e-mail the four felcom chairs prior to the meeting with your reason (sick, conference, etc.)
 - o 2 unexcused absences and you cannot vote
 - o 4 unexcused absences and you must leave your position

- these bylaw changes will be written up by the NIDDK representative and be voted on during the December meeting.

Elections:

Basic Science Chair:

Lucie Low

Hi! My name is Lucie Low, and I am a postdoc at NCCAM in the lab of Dr. Catherine Bushnell. We are neuroscientists and work on the effects of chronic pain on brain structure and function. I arrived at NIH from the UK, via 2 years in Montreal, in Summer 2012.

I am applying for this position as I feel I would be an excellent advocate and representative for the approx. 4000 fellows here at NIH, and I'd like to get further involved in FelCom.

Firstly, I have extensive experience of postdoctoral representation and advocacy. I was the elected VP (Finance) for the Canadian Association for Postdoctoral Fellows from 2011-12 (representing 6000 postdocs nationally), and almost single-handedly ran the McGill Association of Postdoctoral Fellows for 2 years, representing around 1000 postdocs, organizing events and attending monthly meetings with university administrators. During that time, I was selected as a career columnist for Nature magazine (<http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/articles/10.1038/nj7352-533a>), and participated in a televised press conference with local media and politicians to advocate for retroactively taxed postdocs at McGill.

I have sat on multiple committees and boards (the McGill Strategic Research Plan Advisory Committee; the Alan Edwards Center for Research on Pain Management Board etc.), and during my PhD organized the London Pain Consortium Plenary Lecture Series from 2008-2010. Overall, these experiences familiarized me with working with administrative powers at both local and national levels, and gave me extensive organizational experience as well as the ability to liaise with a wide variety of people in the pursuit of a common goal.

In the year since I arrived at NIH, I've been involved in FelCom as NCCAM Basic Science rep, and this year was Section Chief Judge for the FARE awards, judging abstracts and organizing the other section judges. Since joining NIH, I've become acquainted with how FelCom operates; the role of OITE and the training opportunities it offers; the unique positions of Fellows at NIH as non-FTEs/visa holders/parents of young children/supervisors and trainees; and in addition have experienced life as a postdoc in Europe and elsewhere in North America, giving me a broader perspective of where NIH Fellows sit on the postdoc spectrum. This perspective is crucial in identifying areas that need improvement, advocacy, and in liaising with administrative bodies.

In conclusion, I feel that my credentials and experience in postdoc affairs show that I would be an energetic, committed and knowledgeable co-chair of FelCom, and I'd be proud and honoured to represent you all. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sandip De

My name is Sandip De, and I am a visiting research fellow at NICHD in the lab of Dr. Judith Kassis. Our work is on 'understanding the three dimensional genome organization and its impact on gene regulation in *Drosophila*'. I just started third year of my postdoc career at NIH from last month. Before joining NIH- I carried out my PhD work at University of Birmingham and rest of my studies (BSc., MSc.) were in India. I have been involved in different institutional services since my bachelors; at NIH- I was serving as co-chair of Career Development subcommittee (FELCOM) for last 18 months. I also actively participated in the 'NICHD-Program of Genomic Differentiation (PGD) fellows seminar' committee- helping organizing seminars.

There are two major reasons for why I want to stand for co-chair position.

First, I want to work on “starting organizing job fairs or at-least organizing similar kind of events at NIH”. And second, increasing awareness of ‘FELCOM and its related activities’ within fellows working at NIH.

I believe, I have communicated and interfaced regularly with fellows and staff at intramural institutes efficiently to achieve targets during my past service to NIH- fellows community. And in future, I will work closely with every NIH fellows and staffs to help creating ways to solve the above-mentioned issues; side-by-side carrying out other responsibilities associated with the position.

Mentoring:

Jessica Pierce

I am currently a fellow in NIDDK working on the secretion and function of bacterial virulence factors. I recently graduated from Tufts University with a PhD in Molecular and Microbiology. My research interests include how members of the gut microbiome cause disease and understanding their impact on human health. As a graduate student, I was lucky to have multiple faculty mentors who made it a priority to provide students support and had a constant open door policy. However, along with positive leadership and guidance, I have also observed some of the difficulties that arise in mentoring relationships.

In order to seek mentoring outside the lab, I have been a member of the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) in both Boston and DC for the past two years. I have participated in their mentoring program as both a mentee and as a group leader, where my responsibilities have included organizing meetings, communicating with the AWIS board, and introducing and researching topics for discussion.

I would like to be the FelCom liaison to the Mentoring Subcommittee in order to increase the quality of mentoring relationships here at NIH, as well as provide resources for improving mentor-mentee relationships. I am excited about making connections between fellows in order to create a greater network of support here at NIH. By improving the value of mentoring, we can increase the ability of fellows to conduct the top-notch independent research. I think being the liaison to the Mentoring Subcommittee is a great way to promote young scientists in their careers and provide the resources we need for success.

Libby Barksdale

I am interested in chairing the Mentoring Subcommittee because I believe a lot more can, and should, be done to foster better mentor/mentee relationships between postdocs (and grad students and postbacs) and their PIs. With the unfortunate reality of scarce funding and equally scarce faculty positions likely to continue for years to come, postdocs need to be realistic and proactive about their career plans, just as PIs need to take more active roles in the professional development of their mentees. I am eager to work with the administration to identify and implement ways in which the NIH can promote open communication between postdocs and PIs about everything from expectations for projects and lab work to setting and reaching career goals.

National Postdoctoral Association:

Tara Burke

I would like to be considered for the position of chair for National Postdoctoral Association Felcom subcommittee. I am a current member of the NPA and I keep close tabs on their progress and activities. I am a first year fellow at NICHD and I would be able to attend the monthly Felcom meetings as the scheduled time fits well with my schedule. I am very organized and reliable and I would enjoy the chance to obtain a more active role in Felcom as well as the NPA. I would be happy to facilitate communication between Felcom and the NIH postdoctoral community. I hope you will consider me for the position.

Kevin Ramkissoon

I am currently a postdoctoral fellow at the NHLBI and serve as one of my Institute's representatives to Felcom. Prior to the NIH I did a short postdoc in the biotech industry, which combined with my time at the NIH, has given me a broad perspective of the training opportunities available to postdocs. As Co-chair of the NIH Science Policy Discussion Group (SPDG), I am familiar with many of the policies that affect postdoctoral training, as well as key issues for which NPA advocates. If selected as the NIH NPA liaison, I hope to build on the close relationship between both organizations to ensure that the NIH postdoc community is kept informed of policies that may have an impact on their training while simultaneously continuing to expand my experience in the science policy arena.

Ben Boyerinas

I'm writing to express interest in the NPA subcommittee chair that is currently available. I am a 4th year postdoc in the NCI – my first three years were at the University of Chicago and I am closing in on the end of my first year at the NIH. I have a PhD in Cancer Biology and am currently working in the Laboratory for Tumor Immunology and Biology. That said, I have a wealth of experience as a Postdoc at both the university (basic, non-clinical) and the NIH (clinical, translational) levels. I certainly understand the unique challenges of Postdoctoral life and believe I would be an effective liaison between the NPA and Felcom, NIH. If all goes as planned, 2014 will be my last year as a Postdoc and this experience would be very helpful as I transition toward the next step in my career. I would also enjoy communicating with the NPA about issues concerning Postdoc quality of life and career development, as I believe these are both areas where progress is needed.

Unfortunately, I will be at the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer annual meeting this Thursday, so I will not be able to attend the Felcom meeting. I assume that this will make it difficult to get elected for one of these positions, but I am very interested in becoming more involved with Felcom and would also be interested in one of the other subcommittee chairs available or other available opportunities.

Ping Chen

My name is Ping Chen and I am interested in being a liaison in the NPA (National Postdoctoral Association). I joined NIH in 2011 as a postdoctoral fellow to conduct Immunology related research projects in non-infectious uveitis patients at the clinical center of NEI.

I got my MD degree from Fudan University in China and attended the Joint PhD Program from Fudan University and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. I have actively participated different kind of activities in the universities and college. I was the Chair of the Student Union in the college for three years. I was the chairman of activity in Chinese Student and Scholar Association (CSSA) in the Johns Hopkins University. I organized hiking activity in CSSA. I moderated celebration of Chinese New Year in the Johns Hopkins. I volunteered at the commencement in the Johns Hopkins University and moderated Chinese Scholar Symposium at the Johns Hopkins.

At the NIH, I was the member of organizing committee in the two-day symposium, called 'Focus on Fellow', at the NEI. I was the co-leader in summer students' journal club at the NIH. I volunteered as a judge in graduate students' research symposium at the NIH. I am a writer in the newsletter of Visiting Fellows Committee (VFC) and I am serving as the editor in Fellows Editorial Board (FEB). I am a committee member for Career Symposium 2014 at the NIH.

I have a lot of experiences in organizing activities. I like to involve in the group of people who dedicate their part time to serve the community. It will be a great opportunity for me to be a liaison in NPA to represent fellows and connect fellows at the NIH with NPA. I have high motivation to help groups work

together. I am also actively seeking for different training opportunities for myself to be an independent investigator in science. I believe I will be an excellent liaison at the subcommittee.

Thank you very much for your consideration!

FARE:

Hien Dang

I'm currently finishing up my first CRTA fellowship with the NCI. While I'm in my early stages of my postdoc career, I think it's the best time to be thinking about my future career and see what my peers are doing as well as what opportunities are available at the NIH campus. Furthermore, I'm interested in meeting colleagues outside of lab and being a part of the scientific leadership at the NIH. I'm most interested in being a part of FARE liaison. As a graduate student, I was involved in different committees but did not get a chance to be a part of the scientific decision making. I believe that as a FARE liaison I would be able to learn how the best science is presented and appreciate the difficult decision making of being a leader. While I will mostly benefit from this position, I am excited and committed to be part of FELCOM and look forward to working with everyone.

Parmit Kumar Singh

I am Parmit Kumar Singh, 3rd year Visiting Fellow in the NICHD. I don't know what to write to express my interest but I am very much interested. I have been active at every level of postdoc activity; therefore, I believe I am suitable for this. I can speak if you allow during election.

Sudhir Rai

I was raised in Mumbai, India and did my Bachelor of Science at Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in Microbiology, biochemistry and Medical Lab Technology. During my Masters program, I had my first exposure to research at the Bioengineering and Environmental Center (BEEC), Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), in Hyderabad, AP, India. I was enthusiastic in experiencing thrill of modern research environment in depth. I underwent hardcore industrial oriented research program from the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, at Tezpur University, Assam, India under the guidance of Professor Ashis Kumar Mukherjee, and obtained my Ph.D in 2012. Post completion of doctoral program, I got equipped with various scientific skills such as microbial screen of environmental samples collected from North East India for the development of industrially important microbial enzymes. To further improve my scientific skills, I transitioned my research from protein chemistry to molecular biology in the lab of Dr. Henry Levin. Present opportunities to serve as Felcom member will help me in improving my responsibility skills and by interacting with some of the finest peoples from all over world. And present opportunity also helps me in designing and implementing various programs that will help for postdoc community within NIH and also outside NIH, and I guess if it work successful, then it will help for ex-Postdoc globally.

It will be great opportunity for me to serve NIH Postdoc community and NIH.

Social Outreach Subcommittee:

None submitted

Bylaw Proposed Changes

The Following Changes to the Bylaws are suggested. They are denoted in Red. Deletions are noted in yellow.

Co-chairpersons:

- Two co-chairpersons will be elected by the membership of the committee. Only SD-appointed or at-large members who have been active members of FelCom for a minimum of six months are eligible to be elected co-chair. An active member is defined as having attended at least five of the six meetings in the first six months of membership and then abiding by the FelCom attendance policy from that point on. Members wishing to pursue a co-chair position also need to be active participants in their respective subcommittee, so as to better understand the roles that these play in FelCom. It is highly recommended that **There will be one clinical and one basic science co-chair.** In the event that the committee is unable to find an eligible volunteer to run for a co-chair position that would allow for having one clinical and one basic science co-chair, the committee will be permitted to have either two clinical co-chairs or two basic science co-chairs. However, this is strongly discouraged and every attempt should be made to find an eligible volunteer in order to have one clinical and one basic science co-chair in place.
- Each co-chairperson will serve in that position for a period of 12 months with the ability to run for a second term of 12 months. Therefore, if one of the co-chairs leaves in the middle of his/her term, the replacement would be co-chair for a full year from the month that he/she started. **The basic science co-chair will be elected in July six months prior from beginning the position. The clinical science co-chair will be elected in January six months prior to beginning the position. Thus, the basic science co-chair elect will begin his/her term in January and the clinical science co-chair elect will begin his/her term in July.**
- Each Past Co-chair will remain on the executive board of FelCom if at the NIH for a term of 1 year post position.
- **If a co-chair leaves the NIH prior to the end of term, the co-chair elect will begin his/her term early, however the term end will remain the same. If a co-chair elect leaves the NIH, a new election will be held with the same cycle of term.**
- One co-chairperson will serve as chair for each scheduled meeting. The co-chairpersons may share this responsibility equally if they desire.
- The co-chairs will be either IC-appointed or at-large FelCom representatives.
- The co-chairs are strongly advised to attend the monthly OITE fellows orientation every first Tuesday of the month at 9AM in Wilson Hall, (Bldg 1, 3rd floor), to promote FelCom to the new fellows and to recruit new members.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Subcommittees and Subcommittee Liaison chairs shall be created by nomination and majority vote of those present at the regular monthly meeting, to investigate and recommend action on matters that concern the NIH Fellows Committee. The subcommittees will be comprised of volunteers from the NIH Fellows Committee membership and any special volunteers (ad hoc members). Each subcommittee will have at least one chair who is an IC-appointed or at-large representative who will report to the FelCom co-chairs. Subcommittee chair positions will be for a term of one year and upcoming vacancies will be announced at the FelCom meeting one month before the end of the term. Replacement for the co-chair positions will be decided upon by the current subcommittee. **Subcommittee liaison chairs will be elected one month prior the ending of the current chairs term. Liaison chairs can come from the subcommittee directly, from FelCom IC representatives, or NIH fellows at large.** The duties of a subcommittee and its power to act on

certain decisions shall be outlined at its formation and shall be approved by the Committee. There will be two types of subcommittees that may be formed:

Standing subcommittees: American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR), Career Development, Clinical Fellows, Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE), Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES), Intramural Program on Research on Women's Health (IPRWH), Job Fair, Mentoring, Medical Executive Committee, Publications & Publicity, Social Activities, Recreation and Welfare (R and S), Visiting Fellows, Web Page, and Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) committees