

NIH Fellows Committee Agenda
Thursday, November 6th, 2014
Wilson Hall Third Floor, Building 1
Call-in number: 1 866 772-5230, Passcode: 8168509

1. Welcome New Members
2. Introductions
3. October minutes- approval
 - a. Minutes approved
4. Remarks (10 Minutes):
 - a. FelCom Officers
 - Lucie Low, Natalia Chalmers, Anna Sundborger, and Joseph Tiano
 - b. Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE)
 - Lori Conlan and Shawn Mullen
 - c. Office of Intramural Research (OIR): Charles Dearolf
5. New Business (15 minutes)
 - a. FARE Elections
 - b. Creating new opportunities and activities
6. Subcommittees and Liaison Announcements (10 Minutes)
7. Any other business (10 minutes)

a. Animal Research Advisory Committee	Lara el Touny
b. Career Development Committee	Jennifer Plank & Ben Blehm
c. Child Care Board Liaison	Kristin Dupre & Anastasia Aksyuk
d. Clinical FelCom	Natalia Chalmers & Sid Kerkar
e. Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics Liaison	Peter Winter
f. FAES Liaison	Jessica Mann & Ji Yan
g. FARE Committee	Sudhir Rai & Hien Dang
h. Graduate Medical Education Committee	Ricardo Correa & Ali Abbas Syed
i. Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee Liaison	Jeanelle Spencer
j. IPRWH Liaison	Ni Hong
k. Medical Executive Committee Liaison	Natalia Chalmers & Sid Kerkar
l. Mentoring	Jessica Pierce & Libby Barksdale
m. National Postdoc Association Liaison	Monica Deshpande & Tara Burke
n. Recreation and Welfare Committee	Jeanne Morin Leisk Tim Petrie
o. Service Outreach Subcommittee	Tilman Rosales, April Killikelly & Douglas Dluzen
p. Social Committee	Anna Sundborger & Christiane Kuschal
q. Training Directors Committee Liaison	Andres Canela Rodriguez & Lucie Low
r. Visiting Fellows Committee	David Sanchez-Martin & Jithesh Veetil
s. WALs Committee	Shan He & James Keller
t. Women Scientist Advisors Committee Liaison	Ulrike Klenke and Danielle Friend
u. AFTR Liaison	Arunima Gosh & Soumya Chatterjee

8. Adjournment

OITE

- Next week (Wednesday, November 12) is the special leadership training session, “Recruiting, Retaining and Bringing out the Best in Volunteers”. As trainee leaders within NIH, you are all invited to attend what has been touted as an excellent workshop. See below for further details and RSVP to Lori Conlan (conlanlo@mail.nih.gov) if you are interested. Please note that this is an invite-only event and is NOT open to all fellows
- OITE offices will be getting a facelift (paint and new carpets) soon. They will be temporarily relocated from their home in building 2 until the facelift is over. You will still be able to make appointments with the career counsels during this time. Look for e-mails for more information

OIR

- Last month the mentoring committee presented their “field guide for post-docs”
 - o <https://www.training.nih.gov/felcom/minutes>
- Their field guide for post-docs was presented to the training directors at the training directors meeting and Michael Gottesman said it was a great idea and there were no objections from the other training directors

FelCom Officers

- Last month Felcom discussed a focus group put on by the Intramural Committee of the Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers. See the minutes for more information.
 - o <https://www.training.nih.gov/felcom/minutes>
- This month we got a brief update. The focus group was initially only of U.S. citizens and the international fellows felt that their voices needed to be heard. The Intramural Committee of the Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers has now said that future focus groups will be held for international fellows.
- Also the focus groups revealed some surprising findings that differed from the last focus group held 5 years ago. The results will be revealed sometime in the future

FelCom Secretary

- When submitting SUBCOMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS please do not copy and paste images or pdf files because they are not 508 compliant (cannot be read by a computer for the visually impaired). Please either describe it the best you can or past a link to the original source.

How to prevent Felcom subcommittee and liaison’s from either not submitting monthly reports or submitting nothing to report

- Maybe having two subcommittee co-chairs (not liaison co-chairs) will alleviate the time pressures of the position and allow for more time to attend meetings and write reports
 - o If the liaison co-chair feels that their position is beyond the scope of one person then they can petition Felcom to have their position expanded to two co-chairs instead of one
 - o The Felcom members liked this idea and we will vote on implementing at the December meeting
- Maybe have each committee submit two goals at the beginning of each year on what they plan to accomplish over that year.
- Please think about ideas for next month’s meeting as we will continue this discussion

How can Felcom better communicate with the postdoc community?

- Are we sending too many emails?
- Are we sending too few emails?
- Is the information contained in Lori's weekly emails a more effective way to communicate to fellows than fellow-L
- Why are only $\frac{1}{4}$ of fellows on fellow-L?
- Can we increase this percentage?
- Please bring your ideas to next month's meeting

Elections

- Elections for the FARE committee co-chair were held
- Five people ran for the position (their statements are below) and the top two vote getters will be co-chairs
 - o Every eligible voter placed one vote
- Jessica Mann received the most votes
- Patricia Kiesler received the second most votes
- Congratulations to Jessica and Patricia on becoming the next FARE co-chairs

Next month we will elect a new NPA liaison

Next meeting: December 4th, 2014

SUBCOMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

Animal Research Advisory Committee

Lara el Touny (NCI)

During the October ARAC Meeting, a resource for CO₂ chamber calculations for rodent euthanasia was introduced. This calculator allows for determining how to adjust the mandatory CO₂ regulators to achieve optimal displacement rates that follow NIH and AVMA guidelines for humane euthanasia of rodents. The interactive excel sheet can be obtained from Lara se Touny eltounylh@mail.nih.gov

Career Development Committee (NIDDK)

Ben Blehm (NCI) & Jennifer Plank

Our next Career Development committee meeting is this Thursday, Nov 6th at 3 pm. We had a successful Careers in Product Development panel on Oct 14th and will have our next panel, Careers in Science Outreach, Nov 18th, at 3 PM, in Bldg 35A rm 620/630.

Childcare Board Liaison

Kristin Dupre (NINDS) & Anastasia Aksyuk (NIAMS)

October, 2014 Child Care Board report.

The schedule for the construction of the new Northwest Child Care Center is being finalized. The previous issue with the construction companies seems to have been resolved.

There is an HHS-approved package for fellows and trainees to be considered Federal Employees when it pertains to child care resources, including the subsidy program. The Legislative Committee will continue to track the progress of this issue.

The Board is working on the ability to partner with outside Childcare agencies. This is another legislative issue that the subcommittee is working on in order to increase NIH child care resources for employees and trainees.

The Board reviewed the Presidential Memorandum, which is available at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-06-27/pdf/2014-15334.pdf>. The NIH is setting a nice example, as we already have most of the President's recommendations implemented. The biggest room for improvement is in the issue of adult dependent care. Francis Collins wrote a letter to the Board thanking their hard work and suggesting that "*the NIH can and should be a model employer in this regard* [the issue of adult dependent care]." The Dependent Care committee gave a presentation and discussed several issues, including the "sandwich generation", meaning individuals who have to provide support for both their children and their parents. They are taking suggestions to improve dependent care for the NIH community. If interested, please contact Erin Williams or Eva Chen.

The Life @ NIH Survey indicated that most individuals look to websites (80%) and management/supervisors (14%) to get information about NIH services. As such, the OHR created a “one-stop shop” for Work/Life at NIH: <http://hr.od.nih.gov/workingatnih/worklife/default.htm>. Although this website is extremely useful, getting the knowledge of this website to the NIH community will be the next step, as well as the possibility of training supervisors and indicating whether there are any differences between IC’s that could be useful. The Strategic Planning/Marketing and Outreach committee will be addressing these issues. Please contact Kristin Dupre (kristin.dupre@nih.gov) for suggestions as to improving information flow to postdocs and fellows.

The OD/ORS representative to the Health and Wellness Council, Chris Gaines, gave a presentation to the Board. He discussed the prevalence of obesity in the general population is the same as that on the NIH campus (30%). The efforts of the council include: Focus on You Wellness lectures, Take a Hike Day, Safety Health and Wellness Day, and a recently revised website: wellness@NIH.gov. Future plans include a new fitness center to replace the old ones. **Another important issue discussed by the Health and Wellness Council is Adult Dependent care.** Childboard is working closely with the Council on possible options and services for the employees with regards to the Adult Dependent care. This council is not currently represented by FELCOM!!! **Could we have our R&W Felcom Liaison join this council or elect another individual for this position???** **How do we go about doing this?** Chris Gaines says that the council would be open to a Felcom liaison position.

Clinical FelCom

Natalia Chalmers (NIDCR) and Sid Kerkar (CC)

- Subcommittees
 - ClinFelCom Executive Committee
 - Graduate Medical Education Representatives
 - Medical Executive Committee Representatives
 - Department of Clinical Research Informatics representative
 - American Federation of Medical Research

- Quality Improvement Committees
 - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
 - Clinical Quality
 - Credentials
 - Ethics
 - Hospital Infections Information Technology
 - Pediatric Care
 - Pharmacy and Therapeutics
 - Safety
 - Surgical Administrative
 - Transfusion

- ClinFelCom Initiatives

- Annual Clinical Fellows Day
- Annual Patient Care and Safety Survey
- Quality Improvement Committees Representation
- Lunch Talk Series for Clinical Fellows –"Preparing clinical data for statistical analysis" Xiongce Zhao, PhD November 18 at 12:00 in the FAES dining room. Located on the building 10 2nd floor. Room 2C116. Lunch will be provided.
- Clinical Fellows Grant Writing and Grantsmanship Course
- Fellow Mentoring Initiative
- AMSA Mentoring
-

Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics

Peter Winter (NIBIB)

No report submitted.

FAES Liaison
(NIAAA)

Jessica Mann (NIAID) and Jia Yan

FAES Liaison November 2014 Report

A summary from the Education Committee Meeting, individual meetings with FAES executive director, Christina Farias, and the semi-annual board meeting

Education

1. FAES student enrollment is up 24% this fall as compared to last fall! This is likely because of a variety of changes, including but not limited to outreach, targeted emails, an updated catalog book, better utilization of NIH ListServes and personal communications. Some of the outreach includes contacting local organizations and biotech firms, which could also represent networking opportunities for fellows participating in the same classes.
2. FAES is actively working on implementing a new education platform for online registration. This should be up and running for the spring semester.
3. They will be considering more 8-week classes to better accommodate the schedules of fellows.
4. FAES will be doing more communication (oral and written) focused classes for non-American fellows. These classes have been particularly difficult at maintaining attendance in the past so they are really evaluating the best approach.
5. Given the changing model for education, they are evaluating the implementation of hybrid classes with both in-person and online aspects. As a tool, they are negotiating with Amazon web services for utilization with distance learning.
6. In order to better serve the fellows:
 - a. FAES recently sent out a survey for better clarification of Fellow's needs. They have been getting a low number of responses so please encourage friends to participate or SPEAK UP so that they can continue to adapt to the needs of the fellows.

- b. Additionally, if you and a group of students have a particular class in mind, don't hesitate to pitch the idea – they are open to suggestions.
- c. They will likely be doing focus groups in the coming months to also survey the community for thoughts and ideas.
- d. After classes, particularly the 8-week long courses, they will survey students to determine if there should be follow-up courses to complement the material.

Education Outreach and Training

- 7. They would like to offer short classes (no charge) before/after WALs lectures, which would provide appropriate background material relevant to the speakers' topics and give more opportunities to learn more about each topic and speak with lecturers. If Fellows are interested, they should communicate their support in various ways.
- 8. FAES have recently expanded to offer management classes and other business focused classes. These classes complement and expand upon the material and classes already provided by OITE.
- 9. Currently, there aren't enough instructors for courses that FAES would like to offer. FAES would like to seek experts in different subjects as well as to increase ways for fellows to gain teaching experience via structured teaching courses in addition to teaching opportunities.
- 10. They have an interest in bridging the gap with industry and nonacademic careers through employer outreach. These would likely be in the form of informational and networking sessions. If you have an interest in a particular company, or more likely, a category of business you would like to see please SPEAK UP!

Insurance

- 11. A new insurance platform has been implemented, which will have online functionality for fellows and will be up and running in a few months. The new tool will allow individuals to sign up and update information online.
- 12. Because of changes in costs, insurance may change in the coming New Year; however, they are actively working to avoid any further changes in policy and provider but will pursue the best possible coverage for fellows they can get. For fellows currently enrolled in the policy, an up-to-date summary of benefits will be mailed to them. For fellows or family members of fellows who are not currently enrolled, open enrollment is coming up from December 1 through 12.

Other

- 13. FAES provides many services to the NIH community and they are now doing it even better than ever! Their conference management department has undergone significant changes and is now running more efficiently than ever, providing great services to many organizations on and off campus.
- 14. FAES bookstore continues to offer some really great NIH gear for all members of the NIH campus community. If you have any recommendations for logo gear you would like to see, don't hesitate to SPEAK UP.

FARE Committee

Sudhir Rai (NICHD) & Hien Dang (NCI)

FARE was started in 1995 to recognize outstanding fellows at the NIH with a \$1000 travel award. Every year, the FARE subcommittee members help lead the FARE competition, which gives out \$250K/year in travel awards. Their main responsibilities are:

- Notify and advertise Intramural postdoc community about the competition
- Enroll FARE judges (i.e. Felcom members, previous FARE winner (Required), Principal Investigators, and Staff scientists)
- Respond to emails
- Assigning all applications, judges, and chief judges according to specific study sections
- Check abstracts for originality and make sure all applications are in accordance to FARE rules
- Once the competition is done, FARE co-chairs are required to present FARE results to the Scientific Directors, inform winners and non-winners, and help organize the FARE ceremony during the NIH research festival.
- Apart from FARE responsibilities, co-chairs are required to attend all FELCOM meetings and report monthly to FELCOM.

****All FARE committee members are not eligible for the FARE competition.

Names and statements of the interested parties for the FARE co-chair elections at the end

Graduate Medical Education Committee *Ricardo Correa (NICHD) & Ali Abbas Syed (NCI)*

First of all, we want to excuse ourselves for not been present at this meeting. Abbas is busy in a course at the FDA and I am going to Dallas to present my project in a conference. If you have any question or want to give us comment please feel free to email us.

1. CLER visit

ACGME CLER visit occurred the second week of September. Previous to the visit as GMEc we have several meeting to prepare and clarify the purpose of this visit. We also have meeting with the clinical fellows to answer their entire question and in some departments we have presentation about the 6 important areas of CLER.

During the visit, many fellows help in the different sections. For example 19 fellows participate in the fellows' discussion with the site visitors, 10 fellows participate as escort to the site visitor during the different areas of the CRC. The final impression of the site visitor was that fellows were really prepare for the visit and enjoying spending time with them. Regarding the final report from the site visitor, Dr. Lembo, DIO, have presented it to ClinFelCom meeting and to the GME entire committee. Some of the points regarding professionalism and hand off will be address by ClinFelCom. Our goal is to improve and follow all the recommendation they gave to us.

2. Distinguished Clinical Teaching Award

We are proud to announce that we received more than 8 fantastic and amazing applications from outstanding NIH teacher. Important to mentioned that this nominations come from the clinical fellows. Then, following our rules, we conducted an electronic voting among the ClinFelcom members. The winner of the 2015 DCTA award was Dr. Raganath Muniyappa from NIDDK. The award was given in September 10 during NIH grand round with the presence of CRC clinical Director and ClinFelcom members.

3. Internal programs review

Since August, a special group from GMEc including Abbas and myself has been participating in the internal review for the different clinical program that NIH have. These reviews are for preparing the program for the ACGME site visit next year. Every month, we reviewed one program and give comments and recommendation for improving. Up to now fellows have been very active and all our recommendation has been taking into account. We consider that we are the most important part in the system so our voice should be heard and changes should be making. As an example, including lecture about fatigue management has been one of our recommendations. We still need to review other programs.

4. Outside collaboration

As member of the GMEc, we continue doing some work to improve gradual medical education at a local and national level. Next month an article about leadership in medicine were I am one of the authors will be publish in the journal of graduate medical education. Besides that we continue participating as national members of ACGME. On the other hand, we continue stimulating the participation of our fellows in outside organizations like Maryland Medical Society. The idea is to integrate our group to other group that has similar ideals.

This is just a brief summary of what we are doing at the level of the GMEc. We will like to thanks our chairs Natalia and Sid for all the support received from them. The work in medical education is difficult but a strong ClinFelcom has made the difference.

Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee

Jeanelle Spencer (NCI)

No report submitted.

IPRWH Liaison

(NIDDK)

Ni Hong

No report submitted.

Medical Executive Committee

Natalia Chalmers (CC) and Sid Kerkar (CC)

Mentoring Committee
(NIDDK)

Libby Barksdale (NICHD) and Jessica Pierce

The mentoring subcommittee meet with Shawn at OITE to construct our website. He has a demo version put together which we are reviewing. The liason to the Training Directors and Chuck Dearolf recommended that we meet with them at one of there upcoming meetings to discuss post doc mentoring and we have been added to their agenda for December.

NPA Liaison

Tara Burke (NICHD)

As an Full, Individual or Affiliate Member, you are entitled to discounts through NPA partner organizations. Below is a link to a list of organizations currently providing discounted services or products to NPA members. Please click on the links for more detailed information.

This includes a discount membership to Zipcar, a car-sharing service, which NIH R&W just added to the MP-11 parking garage!

<http://www.nationalpostdoc.org/membership-6/the-benefits/member-discounts>

Recreation and Welfare Committee

Timothy Petrie (NICHD)

No report submitted.

Service and Outreach Subcommittee *Tilman Rosales (NHLBI), April Killikelly (NIAID), Douglas Dluzen (NIA)*

Service and Outreach Subcommittee

November 2014 Report

(12:00PM - Bldg 50/3328)

Lead-Chair: Tilman Rosales – NHLBI

Co-Chair: April Killikelly – VRC

Douglas Dluzen- NIA/IRP (Baltimore)

Committee Members (bold indicates present): Abramowitz, Lara (NIH/NIDDK); Adikaram, Poorni (NIH/NIDDK); Bossert, Adam (NIH/VRC); **Crotti-Espinoza, Luciana (USUHS)**; Forcinito, Patricia (NIH/NIDCR); Irvin, Veronica (NIH/OD); Knosp, Wendy (NIH/NIDCR); Negbenbor, Nicole (NIH/NHLBI); Singh, Parmit (NIH/NICHD); Vrentas, Catherine (NIH/NIAID); **Williams-Bey, Yolanda (NIH/NIAID)**; Rashid Gazi; Jenny Kim; Yan, Jia (NIH/NIAAA); Lepone, Lauren (NIH/NCI); **Parrow, Nermi (NIH/NIDDK)**; **Dluzen, Douglas (NIA/IRP)**; Shukan, Evan (NIH/NINDS); **Chen, Shu-Hui (NIH/NIAID)**; **Cathcart, Andrea (NIAID)**; **Lepone, Lauren (NCI)**.

A few things that were brought up during the last meeting:

Because of the recent restrictions on posting to NIH Fellow list, we are having discussions about how to disseminate information regarding the different events. Some of the things proposed are a new mailing list, a google hangout or a meetup. The discussion is on going.

Andrea brought some information for **Stand up for Kids** organization where she volunteers. The website is <http://www.standupforkids.org/WashingtonDC/default.aspx>. They have both weekly outreach on Tuesdays 7-9pm and Saturdays 3-5pm, as well as a mentoring program with younger kids (contact is: tashic@standupforkids.org).

Past Events:

- **Capitol Food Bank. We had an event on October 4th.** Please contact Lillian.Kuo@nih.gov or Tilman Rosales at rosalest@nhlbi.nih.gov.
- **Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk in Washington, DC for the American Cancer Society.** (Nermi Parrow)
 - The walk scheduled to take place on Sunday, October 5 2014.
 - The website is live (check it out at www.makingstrideswalk.org/washingtondc)

Future events/Planning updates:

- **DC Central Kitchen. Meal preparation on Dec. 13th.** We are lucky to have eight spots to help with meal preparation. Please contact Tilman Rosales at rosalest@nhlbi.nih.gov for more information.
- **Cross-post: Call for instructors for 2 FAES spring courses BIOL236 and MEDI234.** An excellent opportunity in team teaching for BIOL236 Forensic Science and MEDI234 Introduction to Personalized Medicine courses for the Foundation for Advance Education in Science (FAES) Graduate school in the Spring, 2105. Each course is a short 8-week course that involves a time commitment of 2 hours/week. The goal of MEDI234 and BIOL236 courses is to give teaching experience to postdoctoral fellows. We are hoping that these courses will be instrumental in helping postdocs to prepare for teaching and faculty positions in the future. Please contact Christine Happel at faesshortcourses@gmail.com if you are interested in being an instructor for any of these courses in Spring 2015.

Social Committee

Anna Sundborger (NIDDK) & Christiane Kuschal (NCI)

No report submitted.

Training Directors Committee

Andres Canela Rodriguez (NCI) and Lucie Low (NCCAM)

In the last Posdoctoral Subcommittee meeting on October 8th, it was discussed (1) how to collaborate between ICs on training events. In future meetings in the subcommittee each person will present their upcoming training events for the coming quarter, interest, seat availability and if

this is a opportunity to design something collaborative. (2) With the recent raise in the NRSA stipend, some intramural programs are reassessing whether to encourage their postdoctoral trainees to apply for an F32. Dr. Lori Conlan will ask Dr. Charles Dearolf about implications beyond pay difference, such as eligibility for insurance and travel funding, and the Committee will revisit this. (3) Recent media highlighted postdoc issues and the NAS report will be released shortly and will be a feature agenda item in a next PDS meeting.

In the last Training Director Committee meeting on October 16th, Dr. Patricia Sokolove presented the evaluation of Getting to Graduate/Professional School Activities/Resources of the OITE. These workshops have been offered for more than 10 years. A survey was conducted in spring 2014 as part of the external review of the OITE and 373 responses were submitted (42%). It was more attendance to the graduate series, the most attractive topics were Choosing a School/Program and Personal statement. Speakers and content were highly rated. Only some attendees used additional OITE resources, they were mostly interested in personal statement reviews and rated highly the meeting with OITE staff. Attendees suggested to do these workshops in other campuses, more often, supply information on professional schools other than medicine, create a alumni database. It was an open discussion and it was proposed to make more clear to the attendees that the purpose of the program is not for increase their scores in the MCAT and GRE, also it was asked to follow up the postbacs when they leave, this will be possible in some degree with the alumni database.

Next, Dr. Charles Dearolf presented the IRP Early Independent Scientist Program, it is an intramural to support recent doctoral graduates in independent positions without the need to train further in a post-doctoral fellowship. The ICs can nominate applicants within a year after their PhD. The funding comes from the extramural program with 250K. The is up to 5 years and include salary, lab space, supplies and they can have students but not postdocs. Some Training Directors pointed as a drawback that trainees in this program could not apply later for a K99/R00, so they will be at disadvantage and they would have to apply to a position elsewhere without having a grant and they would not recommend this program to their trainees.

Next, Dr. Melissa Colbert presented the draft for the RCR phase 2: "In person RCR training", Since 2010, the majority of research misconduct cases involved trainees, NIH has ethics training for all new tenure tract investigators and re-training for tenured investigators but we are missing adequate ethics training for our students. The targets of the RCR are postbacs and GPP grad students, and posdocs and research fellows. The objective is to meet face-to-face, instead of an online training, covering all matters from conflict of interest to policies, data acquisition, misconduct and responsible authorship and publication, with the

participation of the faculty, for at least 8 hours. It will be divided in Mandatory Training (within 1st year) covering responsible conduct of research, ethical research practices, reproducibility training and institute offered annual training of scientific staff, and Optional Training choices (to complete the 8 hr requirement) covering: ethical writing, handling allegations of research misconduct and real-life experiences of research misconduct authorship workshops on complex data analysis clinical research topics. About this last topic the complexity of some techniques can lead to misinterpretation, it would be a series of workshops to cover how a technique can go wrong from microscopy to FACS, cell line identifications, also genomics and statistical approaches... it will be available also online, and archived. It was discussed how to evaluate it, an option is asking the trainees for a line about a course that they went. It was also asked about the existence of cultural biases in misconduct, generally it is done by foreigners that want to fit their data in the hypothesis of the laboratory instead of testing it. There are examples of trainees that did not have good primary data and when they typed it into programs such as excel or prism, just changed some digits to make it significant; or cases of trainees that take a project that already started in the laboratory and they cannot reproduce it. The detection of these cases in early stages like in the seminars should be relatively easy as everything fits perfectly in the hypothesis. In the NIH there were 3 cases in the same laboratory and the lab was closed. The laboratory, and the PI, are the responsible to set up the ethics, laboratories that are rigorous remain rigorous. There is an increase in misconduct cases, and this happens at the level of the trainee mostly for the pressure to have the hypothesis of the PI validated, especially in laboratories where if the trainee does not get to validate the hypothesis there is no other project for him or her. About dividing and merging sessions, some have fixed structure and others are optional for each IC.

Visiting Fellows Committee
(NIAAA)

David Sanchez-Martin (NCI) & Jithesh Veetil

Visiting Fellows Committee November 2014 Report

Join VFC...

VFC is currently recruiting interested visiting fellows to join various projects at VFC like SVH, webpage development and new ideas to help the transition from abroad (or leaving NIH!). 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 meeting held at 4:00pm in Bld 2, Rm 2W15, the second Monday of the month. Please come to our next meeting on Nov 17th!

Brown Bag

On November 5th we had the first Brown Bag session in the library. The topic was about the NIH Library and the valuable services that are available to fellows and that every fellow should be taking advantage of. NIH librarians provided information on services including:

- INSTRUCTION/TRAINING SERVICES
- WRITING AND PUBLICATION SUPPORT
- BIOINFORMATICS SERVICES
- 3D PRINTING

Leadership position

Elections for a vacant co-chair position will be announced shortly. Please, let people know about this opportunity and stay tuned for updates.

Reporting for the November 2014 meeting: David Sanchez-Martin and Jithesh Veetil, Co-chairs, VFC.

WALS Committee

Pere Puigbo Avalos (NCBI) and Nermi Parrow (NIDDK)

Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series Subcommittee Co-chair Description

The WALS subcommittee co-chair serves a liaison between the NIH fellows' community and the WALS speakers. Specific duties include:

- Assist with nominations for upcoming WALS season, specifically by encouraging fellow nominations
- Assisting with itinerary planning and hosting WALS speakers that were nominated by fellows (or as requested by the WALS coordinator) on behalf of FelCom (usually 2-3 spots per year; chosen by WALS office)
- Promoting and recruiting fellows for trainee luncheons, as needed by WALS coordinator

WALS speakers for the month of November are:

11/5/14	Christopher Garcia	Tuning cytokine receptor signaling with natural and engineered ligands
11/12/14	Jay Hoofnagle	Past and future therapy for hepatitis C
11/19/14	Roy Bar-Ziv	Programmable on-chip DNA compartments as "artificial cells"

Women Scientist Advisors Committee *Ulrike Klenke (NINDS) and Danielle Friend (NIDDK)*

WSA FelCom Committee Report for October 2014

The WSA held their quarterly meeting on October 31st, 2014. Points on the agenda included the implementation of pay adjustments for faculty in need of competitive pay increases, an update on the postdoctoral fellow focus groups, a call for volunteers to organize and speak at the UMBC-NIH WSA mini symposium, as well as an update on the organization and planning of the Anita Roberts Lecture.

Dr. Peng Loh led the meeting as the new WSA chairperson and the meeting was well attended.

The main focus of the October meeting was the identification of NIH Women Senior investigators and Tenure Track Investigators in need of competitive pay increases. WSA representatives of the institutes within the NIH are currently in the process or have identified women investigators who fall into this category. The NIH has developed a mechanism whereby these women faculty members can receive pay adjustments in order to reach salaries comparable to similarly performing male peers.

Dr. Judie Walters reported on the postdoctoral focus groups that were conducted during the past week. The goal of the focus groups was to examine reasons why male and female postdoctoral fellows choose to leave bench science. The focus groups included the participation of 130 female and 12 male postdoctoral fellows. Dr. Walters reports that the focus groups went well and that data collected during the focus groups will be shared in the coming weeks.

Volunteers to organize and present at the next UMBC (University of Maryland Baltimore campus) - NIH WSA Mini-Symposium was requested. Dr. Wei Shau Hu (past volunteer) and she gave a summary of the last Mini-symposium which focused on HIV. This symposium is a method of attracting minority students to NIH.

The Anita Roberts Lecture is scheduled for Dec. 11th 2014 and Dr. Loh has been chosen as the speaker. The NIH Catalyst and Record have been given the details of the lecture and will advertise accordingly. Ulli and Danielle are currently working on the programs for the event. Posters for further advertising of the event will be completed by mid-November. **The next WSA meeting is January 30th, 2015 in Bldg 1, Rm 151 at 1pm.**

NIDA- Baltimore

Comfort Boateng

No report submitted.

NIA- Baltimore

Jennifer Illuzzi

I just wanted to report from the FelCom Reps in Baltimore at the NIA and NIDA that we are planning our annual Research Symposium set for Monday, December 1st. Presentations will be from the NIA and NIDA FARE award winners, we will have a keynote lecture by Dr. Alan Leshner (CEO of AAAS), and fellow/grad student poster session. All are welcome to attend.

Thank you!

Jennifer Illuzzi and Michael Rouse, NIA

NIEHS-North Carolina

Kristin Gabor and Deirdre Robinson

No report submitted.

NCI-Frederick

Payal Khanna

No report submitted.

NCI Shady Grove

Anna Coghill

No report submitted.

NEI

Ping Cheng

No report submitted.

FDA CBER/CDER Fellows Association

Evgeniya Volkova

No report submitted.

PRAT Fellows

Carrie House

The PRAT program has finalized its fact sheet and focus for recruitment for 2015 fellows. Please distribute the attached sheet to members for circulation. There will be more information about the application process available between December and January. I will continue to provide updates as I receive them and I can go over all of this formally at the December or January meeting. Please e-mail Carrie House for a copy of the fact sheet. carrie.house@nih.gov

Elections

FARE Co-Chair Statements

Saurav Shrestha (NIMH)

During my PhD training at the joint NIH-Karolinska Institutet (KI) graduate partnership program, I volunteered extensively in both NIH and KI related activities. Soon after beginning my PhD, I ran for and was appointed as the official partnership representative for the joint NIH-KI partnership program, and served in that role during my entire training. As a partnership representative, I helped organize and participated in many events geared towards improving the program, and helping students resolve problems. I also creatively and enthusiastically facilitated many program events such as student recruitment, organizing journal clubs, and fostering a strong sense of camaraderie. I also took the initiative to organize a monthly graduate student seminar series for one and a half years. In addition, I was social chair from 2010-2011. Furthermore, I work together well with my fellow colleagues, collaborators and thrive in challenging environments. I am now a postdoctoral fellow doing translational research on neuroinflammation and have actively initiated several events, including a journal club to better understand the current research pertaining to neuroinflammation.

Yi-Xing Han (NCI)

My name is YiXing Han. I am one of the winners in the last FARE competition and a third year postdoc fellow in NCI. I am very interested to become one of the committee members and a co-chair for the next Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE) 2016 competition. I have been working more than 10 years in biomedical field, with widespread knowledge and comprehensive experience in molecular biology and computational biology. I have strong communication and writing skills developed in advising lab new comers. I was tasked to write grants proposal and they were successfully awarded for our research projects. I also have served as manuscripts and grants peer-reviewer. During my Ph.D. stage, I have served as a member of the student union committee and helped organize academic seminars. I am easy going, creative, motivated and goal oriented person, oriented in developing my skills. I am eager to dedicate my time and service to our NIH community and to grow my time management and leadership development. I assure you my best efforts.

Patricia Kiesler (NIAID)

I am Patricia Kiesler, a postdoc at NIAID. I am highly interested in becoming a co-chair of the FARE subcommittee because I think this would be an excellent opportunity for me to expand my leadership and communication skills. I believe my motivation, commitment, and detail-oriented personality make me a great candidate for the position. In the past, I have belonged to other committees on campus such as the Fellows Advisory Committee at my institute (NIAID) and the Steering Committee for the NIH Career Symposium. As part of those committees, I contributed to the planning, organization, and successful execution of several events.

Ivan Krivega (NIDDK)

I would like to join a FARE subcommittee as a co-chair. Currently I'm a research fellow in LCDB NIDDK. I believe that attending conferences is vital for postdoctoral training. I can tell that based on my own experience, I got FARE award two times (2013 and 2015) during

my visiting fellowship in NIH. Now I am not eligible for the award competition and I would like to help other postdocs get the same opportunity as I got: present and discuss their exiting research, meet with researchers worldwide, be inspired and inspire others. I believe that my organization talents and experience can be useful for FARE subcommittee.

Jessica Mann (NIH/OD)

I would like to express my interest in being considered for a FARE co-chair position. As a previous member of the FARE 2014 Committee, I know the intricacies of the program and its timeline throughout the year. I was a very active member and I enjoyed contributing to the success of this important program. Additionally, I have concrete plans to improve the program's application process and increase the number of applicants. I am an organized and motivated researcher interested in helping my peers travel for their research. Having been through the process as a committee member this past year gives me the insight I need to make this the best FARE yet!

FARE Subcommittee Members that are interested

Lo Lai (lo.lai@nih.gov), NHLBI

Maayan Salton (maayan.salton-morgenstern@nih.gov), NCI

Amanda Conway (amanda.conway@nih.gov), NIGMS – located in Raleigh, NC

Lauren Lepone (lauren.lepone@nih.gov), NCI

Emily Vogtmann (emily.vogtmann@nih.gov), NCI

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