

# NIH Fellows Committee Agenda

## Thursday, April 5, 2012

### Wilson Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Building 1

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#### Welcome New Members

#### Introductions of Committee At-Large

#### February & March Minutes – approval

#### Presentation: Child Care Board (Mary Ellen Savarese)

Tonya Lee summarized the Dependent Care programs available to NIH fellows, the key points were:

- NIH Childcare has slots for 450 children, from age 6 weeks and up.
- The NIH childcare waitlist is over **1400** children long
- The proposed new on-campus childcare facility may provide an additional 170 slots
- NIH Childcare provides a free Resource & Referral service for families that are not able to get into the on-campus care
- The NIH has just launched a 3-year Dependent Backup Care pilot program that all NIH employees are entitled to use, at modest cost, up to 10 days per calendar year (including while on official government travel)

#### Presentation: Office of Clinical Research Training & Medical Education (Robert Lembo, Terra Moody)

Terra Moody summarized the OCRTME's new pilot course meant to introduce graduate students to clinical & translational research:

- PhD student summer course (2-week program), with the goal of introducing more PhDs to the realm of clinical research, earlier in their careers.
- Lecture & protocol-based instruction, with a class size of 10-12 students
- Travel, room & board to be covered by students, but no additional cost for the course
- Looking for NIH graduate students for pilot run of program, so be selected by nomination from students' Mentor/Advisor, including student's resumé/CV & personal statement (due to Terra Moody by April 30, 2012)

Some discussion was had about why this program includes only graduate students, and not fellows. At this time, the OCRTME felt it only has the resources to focus on a relatively small pilot. If the program is successful, similar opportunities for fellow trainees may be made available.

## Remarks:

### a. FelCom Officers

Matt Wenham:

- Read a letter from the Safra Lodge, thanking the FelCom SOS committee for their volunteer work at the lodge.
- May will be Matt's last meeting with us, as he transitions into a new job outside the NIH. Therefore, the NIH basic co-chair position will be up for election next month, as will the position of NPA liaison.

### b. Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE)

Lori Conlan:

- Mark your calendars for the NIH Career Symposium, on May 18, 2012; registration is now open online, and is open to ALL trainees who would like to attend.

### c. Office of Intramural Research (OIR)

OIR has been following the issue of delayed tax forms for NIH visiting fellows this year, and will be looking for ways to speed up the process for future tax seasons.

## Bylaws amendments

### Hot topics

#### a. MOMADOCS

Aviva Ellenstein outlined the MOMADOCS program:

- Designed to help NIH trainees manage the balance of parenting and career development
- Program made connections of interested mentors with groups of advisees, but does not currently have the manpower to actively organize meetings, so participation level has been highly variable, and lower than ideal
- Looking to form a more well-defined, small committee of interested fellows to increase effectiveness of the program (WSA liaison indicated interest)

#### b. FelCom website

#### c. Strategic planning – May meeting

Kenneth Remy (FelCom co-chair) would like to spend some of the May meeting on planning FelCom's strategic role. Please consider the following issues, and be prepared to discuss at next month's meeting:

- What new things should FelCom be trying? What programs should be continuing? What programs need updating/revision?
- Subcommittee co-chairs – please check the information for your committees on the FelCom webpage to see that it is up to date. If there is

none, or it is out of date, please provide 4-5 sentences describing the goal of your committee and its activities.

## IC Reports

### a. NCI-CCR

Discussion highlighted the new challenges with NIH retreats/colloquia brought on by the new government restrictions on meetings.

### b. NIDDK

## FelCom Subcommittee and Liaison reports

a. Animal Research Advisory Committee	<i>Lara el Touny</i>
b. Career Development Committee	<i>Cory Lago &amp; Meghan Mott</i>
c. Child Care Board Liaison	<i>Clara Bodelon &amp; Nirali Shah</i>
d. Clinical FelCom	<i>Kenneth Remy &amp; Srinivas Vourganti</i>
e. Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics Liaison	<i>Michele Kadnar</i>
f. FAES Liaison	<i>Caroline Jochems</i>
g. FARE Committee	<i>Ryan Petrie &amp; Lindsey Garver</i>
h. Graduate Medical Education Committee	<i>Banidele Adesunloye &amp; Jose Franco</i>
i. Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee Liaison	<i>Joseph Kim</i>
j. IPRWH Liaison	<i>Remy Brim</i>
k. Job Networking Committee	<i>Phoebe Lee &amp; Kevin Brown</i>
l. Medical Executive Committee Liaison	<i>Srinivas Vourganti &amp; Anita Kohli</i>
m. Mentoring Committee	<i>Aurelie Neveol</i>
n. National Postdoc Association Liaison	<i>Matt Wenham</i>
o. Publicity & Publications Committee	<i>Tracy Ruckwardt &amp; Julien Senac</i>
p. Service Outreach Subcommittee	<i>Shu Chen &amp; Julien Senac</i>
q. Social Committee	<i>Anna Sundborger &amp; Christiane Kuschal</i>
r. Training Directors Committee Liaison	<i>Mawadda Al Naeeli</i>
s. Visiting Fellows Committee	<i>Xiao-Li Du &amp; Santosh Mishra</i>
t. WALs Committee	<i>James Keller &amp; Shan He</i>
v. Women Scientist Advisors Committee Liaison	<i>Clarisa Buckner &amp; Aimee Hollander</i>

## Adjournment

***Next meeting: Thursday, May 3, 2012 in Building 1, Wilson Hall***

# FELCOM April 2012: IC REPORTS

## NCI-CCR – National Cancer Institute – Center for Cancer Research

*Basic Science Bethesda Representative: Maria Cristina Rangel*

*NCI Frederick Representative: Jason Stagno*

### 1. Training and Mentoring

The following resources are provided to NCI-CCR fellows through the CCR Office of Training and Education (OTE)

- Courses and training opportunities, including *Translational Research in Clinical Oncology (TRACO)*, *Statistical Analysis of Research Data (SARD)* and *Writing Cancer Grant Applications (WCGA)*.  
[http://ccr.nci.nih.gov/careers/courses\\_and\\_workshops.asp](http://ccr.nci.nih.gov/careers/courses_and_workshops.asp)
- Individual Development Plans are completed upon arrival of the fellow and a Training Plan Update has to be completed prior to each fellowship renewal. The goals of these plans are to enhance communication between fellows and their mentors, as well to encourage a career development plan. All the development and training plans are reviewed by the CCR Director for Training and Education, Dr. Jonathan S. Wiest.

### 2. CCR Fellows and Young Investigators Association (CCR-FYI)

This Committee is designed to support, advocate and represent the interests of fellows and young investigators in all aspects of their professional training and career development. It is composed by:

- Postdoctoral and Clinical fellows
- Graduate Students
- Post-baccalaureate fellows
- Other young investigators within CCR

Monthly CCR-FYI Steering Committee meetings are videoconferenced to Frederick to ensure participation of the fellows located in NCI-Frederick Campus.

#### **Goals:**

- Enhance intramural training program for all trainees
- Promote communication and networking in the CCR community and across NCI
- Serve as a liaison to administration programs
- Encourage community involvement

#### **Activities include:**

- Liaison with the Office of the Director, OTE, FelCom and NPA
- Development of oral presentation skills through the fellows Presentation Skills Seminars and Scientific Seminars (PASS) in Bethesda, and the Frederick Postdoctoral Seminar Series (FPSS) in Frederick

- Quarterly CCR-FYI newsletter prepared by fellows and reviewed by Dr. Jonathan Wiest Opportunity for fellows to develop writing and editing skills
- Promote on campus and off-campus involvement through the Outreach Subcommittee; organize social events
- Actively promote the annual training plans to ensure discussion of career goals, to encourage communication between mentors and trainees, and monitor fellow's progress
- Linked-In group
- NCI-FYI SmartPhone App (Apple and Android platforms)

### **3. Orientation for New Fellows**

Held bi-weekly in Bethesda and monthly in Frederick with representatives from the CCR-OTE and the CCR-FYI Steering Committee.

### **4. 12<sup>th</sup> Annual CCR Fellows and Young Investigators Colloquium**

It was held March 26-27, 2012 in Natcher Auditorium, NIH Bethesda, MD. Opening Remarks by Dr. Kristin Fabre, Chair of the CCR-FYI Steering Committee, Dr. Jonathan Wiest, Director OTE, CCR and Dr. Robert Wiltrout, CCR Director. Closing address by Dr. Michael Gottesman, Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH.

- Planned entirely by the CCR-FYI Colloquium Subcommittee; providing leading and management opportunities
- Oral and poster presentations by CCR fellows
- Eight travel awards of \$1,000 were offered to outstanding oral and poster presenters, to use for their travel to future scientific conferences (all NCI trainees are eligible for this award)
- One post-baccalaureate fellow was chosen outstanding based on best abstract/oral presentation at the Colloquium and recommendation from the mentor/PI (eligible post-baccalaureate and graduate students within the CCR)

#### **Keynote Speakers**

- Jeffrey Scholm, Ph.D., Head of the Immunotherapeutics Group, Chief, Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology, CCR, NCI
- Natasha J. Caplan, Ph.D., Head of Gene Silencing Section, Genetics Branch, CCR, NCI
- Brigid Hogan, Ph.D., FRS, Professor and Chair, Department of Cell Biology, Duke University

#### **Outstanding Postdoctoral Keynote Speaker**

- Junfang Ji, M.D, Ph.D., Research Fellow, Laboratory of Human Carcinogenesis, CCR, NCI

#### **Survivorship Highlight**

- Joanna Rudnick, Director/Producer at Kartemquin Films

#### **Workshops**

- Preclinical Research and Development: From Discovery to Therapy
- Careers in Science Writing: Trading the Pippete for the Pen
- Making yourself Marketable
- Careers Outside Academia - Industry, Business and Government

- Careers in Academia and Grants Management
- Communicating Science: Getting the Message Out
- Navigating Work Relationships: Recognizing Conflict Pitfalls and Opportunities

### **Career Fair**

- Several Companies/Organizations, including Biotech/Industry, Professional Societies/Advocacy Groups, International Research Foundations, NIH Resources and Core Facilities, and other Foundations/Organizations were present in the Colloquium.

### **5. Annual survey of CCR Trainees**

Purpose is to provide information to the CCR leadership with the goal of improving training and mentoring for CCR trainees

- Approximately 35% of CCR trainees took the survey
- 2/3 of the population are non-US citizens
- The majority (95%) of trainees are happy with their NCI experience and would recommend it to a colleague
- 1/3 of trainees have not yet taken advantage of career development activities; mainly because they do not have time
- Approximately 40% of trainees are interested in becoming a principle investigator as a career choice; there is also a range of other interests for a “non-traditional” career path
- Approximately 80% of trainees are satisfied with their PI as a mentor
- Fellows would like to see more interest in their PI regarding career planning

Dr. Kristin Fabre presented a poster about CCR-FYI Steering Committee and the Annual survey results at the NCI Intramural Scientific Investigators Retreat on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. It was successful and the majority of PIs were very supportive.

### **6. Grant Writing Experience**

The NCI Director’s Innovation Awards are competed in an annual basis. A 5-6 page proposal is submitted for review and consideration for a monetary award.

- Dr. Harold Varmus presented this year’s award recipients on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012
- 18 proposals from CCR were successfully funded
  - 2 Principal Investigators Awards
  - 16 Career Development Awards

### **7. Grants Compilation**

Dr. Geraldine O’Connor and Dr. Brid Ryan, members of the CCR-FYI Steering Committee, compiled a list of 41 grants available in the U.S. for Cancer research and other research areas. The list contains a link for each grant application and is a very good resource for CCR fellows/researchers.

### **8. Other News**

- NCI (Bethesda/Frederick) is ranked one of the best workplaces for post-docs by *The Scientist*. #13, up 1 spot from its #14 ranking a year ago. Complete results are published in the March 2012 issue of *The Scientist*.

- NCI Director Dr. Harold Varmus recently announced that the NCI-Frederick Campus has been approved to use a new name befitting its status as a National Laboratory - Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research (FNLCR). The title "National Laboratory" is a very special designation with less than 50 national laboratories in the United States.
- NPA liaison: Dr. Majda Haznadar, secretary of the CCR-FYI Steering Committee, attended the NPA Annual Meeting in San Francisco March 15-18, 2012. She represented CCR-FYI and her poster was awarded. Representatives from postdoc associations and offices from various institutions were very impressed with the annual survey results. Through many discussions, they realized that it would be excellent if a standardized survey could be circulated through various institutions to compare the postdoctoral training situation across the country.

### NCI-Frederick

All of the above resources are fully available to postdoctoral fellows at NCI-Frederick. There is a free daily shuttle between NCI-Frederick and Bethesda that can be used to travel to events at NIH. Additionally, NCI-Frederick hosts a variety of activities on the Ft. Detrick Campus.

- Monthly orientations are held at NCI-Frederick for new fellows once a month. Representatives from the CCR-OTE and the CCR-FYI are present to provide an overview of resources available to fellows.
- Office of Intramural Training & Education (OITE) representatives travel to Frederick on a regular basis to offer a variety of workshops such as grant writing, CV/resume critiques, academic job searches, and a variety of other workshops. There are also other courses and workshops sponsored by the Science Applications International Corporation, SAIC-Frederick, available to fellows.
- The National Postdoc Appreciation Week was celebrated on the NCI-Frederick Campus in September 2011. There was a list of activities, such as a Conflict Resolution panel discussion, featuring Kathleen Moore (Ombudsman's Office) and Seldon Cooper (EAP), Postdoc Seminar Series, Movie and Popcorn with the movie "Extraordinary Measures". A group picture of all Frederick postdocs was taken in the Farmer's market, and ice cream was provided.
- The Annual NCI-Frederick and Ft. Detrick Spring Research Festival was held on April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 outside Bldg. 1520. Festival events included Health Education and Community Services Exhibits, Poster Presentations and a Commercial Science and Technology Exposition. Travel awards were available to best poster presentations. There was also a Postdoc/Postbac Symposium on April 26 in Bldg 549. Fellows presenting at the symposium were eligible to receive a travel award for best oral presentation.
- The bi-weekly FPSS provides opportunities for fellows to present their research and receive valuable feedback from other fellows and PIs. This is an excellent opportunity available to fellows to develop their oral presentation skills.

## NCI-CCR – National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

*Basic Science representative: Ahmed Kablan*

The NIDDK intramural research program is a home to 100 investigators and approximately 330 fellows, located in Buildings 5, 6, 8 and 10 on the Bethesda Campus, plus the Diabetes Epidemiology and Clinical Research Branch in Phoenix, AZ.

***The Office of Fellow Recruitment and Career Development***, directed by Dr Louis Simchowitz, coordinates activities for NIDDK fellows. The Fellowship Office conducts orientation programs for new fellows, monitors mentoring progress, provides career development activities and administers several career and fellowship courses and awards. Of particular note is the Nancy Nossal Fellowship Award, which is awarded twice yearly to 8 to 12 postdoctoral and clinical fellows in their first two years at NIDDK, and provides additional compensation for excellence in research based on a submitted grant application. The Fellowship Office also runs a comprehensive series of Grant Writing Workshops, which provide practical training in writing grants for independent funding.

The Fellowship Office is assisted by the ***Fellows' Advisory Board (FAB)***, which provides advice to the office staff on programs for NIDDK fellows. The FAB meets monthly with the director and staff of the office and runs a number of social events throughout the year for the fellowship community.

A key role of the FAB is the planning of the ***Annual Fellows' Retreat***. After the success of last year's retreat of the 6th Annual Retreat which was held on April 7-8, 2011 at the Natcher Conference Center, this year 7<sup>th</sup> annual retreat will be held on April 26-27<sup>th</sup> 2012 at the same location. Over 120 fellows have registered for the retreat this year, that will feature oral and poster presentations by NIDDK fellows, career development panels on academic, science policy and technology transfer careers, and extracurricular activities available to fellows. One added panel in this retreat will be a panel featuring recruitment officers from local biotech firms, and previous winners of the Nancy Nossal Fellowship who have already left the NIH and finished their training. Two keynote addresses will be given by ***Carl Zimmer***, science writer for the New York Times, and ***Dr Andrew Gerwitz*** from Georgia State University. Every Year the fellows compete on 5 Travel awards of a \$1000 value that they can apply it toward domestic or international travel to attend a scientific meeting where they can present their work. These travel awards are given to the best poster and oral presentations judged by their peers.

The Fellowship Office and the FAB also publish the ***NIDDK Fellows' Newsletter – The DDK iNformer***. Written and edited by fellows, the newsletter includes articles on recent scientific events around the NIH campus and the DC area, current political stories, 'Life after NIDDK' profiles of former fellows, career development advice and the popular Dent cartoons and PhD comics. As a result of information shared at FelCom meetings on newsletters from other ICs, The iNformer now also features a 'New Fellows' section, with photos and bio information on recently arrived fellows. The newsletter is published monthly.



# SUBCOMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

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## **Animal Research Advisory Committee:** *Lara el-Touny (NCI)*

No report submitted.

## **Career Development Committee:** *Cory Lago (NHLBI) & Meghan Mott (NIAAA)*

*Members: Nicole Beauchamp (NIDDK), Britni Belcher (NCI), Hui Cheng (NIAID), Lori Conlan (OITE), Sandip De (NICHD), Chao Jiang (NIAMS), Paul Keller (NIAMS), Ashley Kennedy (NIDA), Brenda Kostecky (NICHD), Adeola Makinde (NCI), Kristina McLinden (NINDS), Amanda Melillo (FDA/CBER), Amarjit Mishra (FDA), J Amuricio Montezuma-Rusca (NHLBI), Chien Nguyen (NHLBI), Nesrin Rechache (NCI), Julien Senac (NHGRI), Christina Schindler (NICHD)*

*GSC Pathway Members: Alexis Boyd (NIAID), Vandana Sekhar (NIAID), Wesley Stepp (NIAID)*

The Career Development committee last met on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 and our next scheduled meeting is on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The Biodefense panel on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 was successful and was also videocast for anyone who couldn't make it to the event.

Our next seminar is titled Patent Processing on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 3-5p in Lipsett. This seminar will also be videocast if you are unable to attend.

Our upcoming seminar topics for the 2011-2012 season are:

June 12, 2012, 3-5p Lipsett: Entrepreneur/Business

## **Childcare Board Liaison:** *Adam Lee (NLM), Clara Bodelon (NCI)*

### 1. Updates

- a. Northwest Child Care Center: possibly breaking ground this summer. Will take 18 months start-to-finish if no delays.
  - i. Childkind will be closing when the Northwest Child Care Center opens
  - ii. These children will have priority to be transferred to the new center
- b. Back-up Care Pilot program started in January 2012. This service is set to be provided through Bright Horizons and is a provision of in-home care for NIH families when their child is sick so that they don't have to call out from work and their child can stay at home. Also provides for elder care. Cost \$17/h for in-home care and \$6/h for center care. Pilot program, been granted \$270,000/year for 3 years. The more we use it the more the guarantee that the program will continue. NIH is the only executive branch to offer this pilot.

- Encouraged to “pre-register” for the program once it is available so that when you do have a need, care can be provided more quickly.
- i. Developing a sub-committee to discuss eligibility requirement
  - ii. Fellows are eligible
  - iii. Contractors are not
  - iv. They will be coming to FelCOM on 4/5/12 to give a presentation
- c. New representative to the Working Group: Women in Bio-Medical Careers: Catherine Meyerle. Working on several programs
- i. “Keeping the thread” to allow easier re-entry into job for fellows after having a baby.
  - ii. Mentoring program for tenure track female investigators
- d. NCI Move to Shady Grove
- i. Parenting fair on May 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss childcare issues. No onsite care.
- e. Summer camp guides: available at: <http://childcare.ors.nih.gov>
- f. Strategic Planning Committee Report:
- i. Focusing on communication and outreach
  - ii. Working on new outreach programs
- g. Recruiting for membership committee
- h. Announcements: Look forward to upcoming Parenting specialist sessions
2. Next meeting in April 2012 was CANCELLED

**Clinical FelCom (ClinFelCom):** *Kenneth Remy (CC) & Srinivas Vourganti(NCI)*

Clinical FelCom met this past Monday with a discussion regarding a possible clinical fellows day. More details to follow. Clinical FelCom is looking for a computer savvy person to become the Clin. FelCom IT representative/ Department of Clinical research Informatics fellow advisory board. Anyone interested should contact Ken or Sri. Other topics discussed included applications for the Duke Masters Program, LRP, signout, patient safety, career development, alumni data collection, and new grant funding in the upcoming year. The next meeting for Clinical FelCom is Monday, June 18, 2012 in Building 10 Room 42551

**Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics:** *Michele Kadnar (NHGRI)*

The Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics did not meet in March. The next meeting is Friday, April 27th.

**FAES Liaison :** *Caroline Jochems (NCI)*  
*Reserve: Leslie Marshall (NINDS)*

No Report submitted.

**FARE Committee:** *Ryan Petrie (NIDCR) & Lindsey Garver (NIAID)*

*Members: Hannah Arem (NCI); Sheena Aris (NCI); Preethi Chander (NEI); Nicolas Cuburu (NCI); Leslie Hoh (NIA); Kim Jacob (NIA); Madhu Lal (NIA); Meihua Li (NIA); Oliver Ou (NCI); Tiffany Ricks (NIAMS); Iain Scott (NHLBI); Carole Sourbier (NCI); Brajendra Tripathi (NEI).*

No report submitted.

**Graduate Medical Education Committee:** *Bamidele Adesunloye & Jose Franco*  
GMEC meeting of March 7, 2012

### **Grand rounds**

The style will be moving towards system-based practice per ACGME. Among other things, the grand round will cover things ranging from clinical trials to contract negotiation.

### **Travel regulations**

For new employees, payment of relocation expenses is currently being regulated for those that are GS13 or above. This will not affect fellows hence no waiver application is required. However, no payment will be allowed for transporting automobiles.

Fellow do not need to use their annual leave to attend job interviews. Administrative leave should be requested for this purpose.

### **Clinical Fellow Alumni Survey (2010 graduates)**

Response rate was 35% (23 of 66). Four went for further fellowship training, 3 in academia, 2 in private practice, 1 at the FDA, 1 in a State/local government institution, and 1 stayed at the NIH

Overall impact of training on career was 4.5/5

5-year board passage rate (2006-2011) was 93%

### **ACGME proposal**

The proposal that only graduates of ACGME accredited medical schools would be allowed to enter ACGME accredited programs in the US is still being discussed with the ACGME because of the likely impact it would have on the NIH

**Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee:** *Joseph Kim (NIAID)*

The HSRAC met on Friday, March 9, 2012. We talked about a few things as outlined below:

- 1) We reviewed the draft of Policies for the inclusion of employees in NIH intramural research studies. Although NIH employees can and do participating in clinical research studies at NIH, there are a few things to consider especially if it is the study conducted by the supervisor, such as possible bias, confidentiality, pressure and time.

According to NIH guidance, anticipated inclusion of employees in research studies must be approved by the IRB, and when the PI is a supervisor of prospective participants, an independent person (e.g. through Bioethics or HSPU, or other as

approved by the IRB) will monitor the consent process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of Human Subjects Research and Protections (OHSRP) at 301-402-3444.

- 2) Attendance of non-IRB members at NIH IRB meetings. IRB meeting is not open to public. With a few certain conditions, non-IRB member may attend the IRB meetings. Among them, which may pertain to the FelCom community, individuals who are affiliated with NIH may observe the IRB meetings, at the discretion of the Chair, if the reason for the observation is training related to human subjects research protections. The individual should ask the Chair in advance of the meeting for permission to attend.

When the IRB goes into executive session to make decisions regarding protocols, continuing reviews, amendments and other actions and to vote, only IRB members, IRB administrative staff and OHSRP staff remain in the room. Guests may remain at the discretion of the IRB Chair. IRB members with a conflict of interest in connection with specific protocols are recused, i.e., leave the room and do not vote (7B.7)

- 3) We listened to the presentation about the issues related to induced Pluripotent Stem Cell (iPS) lines created from donor samples. More discussions are to follow in subsequent meetings.

Issue #1 from the report above was highlighted at the meeting.

### **IPRWH Liaison:** *Remy Brim (CC)*

Dr Esther Sternberg, co-chair of the IPRWH, has been working to establish a career transition award between the NIH and the Fonds de Recherche du Quebec (FRQ) since the summer of 2010. On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the new program was founded will bring up to six recent doctoral graduates from the province of Quebec to the NIH for two-to-three year fellowships, which will be encouraged include some focus on sex or gender differences as scientifically appropriate. The trainees will be selected and financially supported by the FRQ, and upon return to Quebec, will be granted \$25,000 for laboratory start-up costs as well as assistance in finding permanent faculty positions. This program joins similar established NIH international career transition awards (more information can be found here [https://www.training.nih.gov/international\\_career\\_transition\\_awards](https://www.training.nih.gov/international_career_transition_awards)).

A signing ceremony was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> that all Canadian fellows were invited to attend. The ceremony participants included Dr. Michael Gottesman, Deputy Director of the Office of Intramural Research, Dr. Janine Austin Clayton, Acting Director Office of Research on Women's Health, Dr. Rémi Quirion, Chief Scientist of FRQ and Julie Payette, Quebec Government Delegate for Science and Innovation. I have been working with Dr. Sternberg and her staff to write the press release from the signing ceremony.

**Job Networking Committee:** *Phoebe Lee (NCI) & Kevin Brown (NCI)*

*Members: Ravikiran Bhairavabhotla (NIAID), Jinxi Li (NHLBI), Jahda Hill (NHLBI), Jonathan Lamb (NHLBI), Tiffany Tuyen Nguyen (NHLBI) OITE support: Lori Conlan and Shawn Mullen*

No report submitted.

**Medical Executive Committee:** *Srinivas Vourganti*

3/20/12

1. At the prompting of the NIH Space Committee, Dr. Gallin is exploring the possibility of a partnership with Suburban Hospital for an off-campus location for the blood bank. There will still be a blood bank on campus.
2. The Monday ABCR meeting will have discussions on the 2013 budget, third party reimbursement, and using the pharmacy and outpatient prescriptions as the model for the party for third party recovery. There will be a spotlight on science and reports from the Board of Scientific Counselors and MEC. The 2013 budget discussion will include a budget option for a 5 percent reduction. These reductions include giving patients prescriptions rather than drugs for standard of care needs. There is some consideration of contracting for a commercial pharmacy in the CC lobby. Reducing inpatient days will be a difficult budget measure. He will present the model for reducing inpatient days at a future MEC meeting.
3. The CC has been working on clinical activity dashboards and is preparing to roll them out to the institutes. The project grew out of the need to capture data at a more refined level in alignment with industry standards. The dashboards were discussed.
4. An update on “asQ'em” – a suicide screening program being implemented by medical and surgical nurses.
5. An overview of Conceded Eminence, a pathway for credentialing those with extraordinary professional achievement to receive a Maryland medical license (or those individuals who have not completed their training in the US).

3/6/12

1. 90 medical, dental, and veterinary students were interviewed for the Medical Research Scholars Program.
2. Applications for the Master’s Program in Clinical Research with Duke University are due April 15. So far, 169 students have enrolled and 81 have completed their degrees.
3. The CC Governing Board approved the Bedside to Bench grant mechanism. The awards require an outside investigator as a PI and an intramural investigator as a co-PI. The grants are for up to \$500,000 per year for three years, renewable. Grant concepts are reviewed by the sponsoring institute and the CC. Information on costs for CC services is needed before the new grant announcement is issued. There likely will be 16 two-year awards at \$135,000 per year. Most will involve intramural and extramural investigators.
4. Security Update - The Community Advisory Board for Security has been meeting on issues related to patient access to campus. Together with the NIH Police, the CC has developed a new process to evaluate those citations issued to patients/patient visitors by the police on campus where extenuating circumstances warrant a review. The police have agreed to hold these citations for two business days while the

citation is reviewed. This adjudication applies only to situations in which there are reasonable mitigating circumstances; criteria for rescinding a citation include vehicles parked illegally due to medical emergencies, handicapped patients' vehicles parked in handicapped spaces without proper identification in which there is a mitigating circumstance, and miscommunication or misdirection from police or security that results in a vehicle unlawfully entering campus or parking illegally. Not all citations issued to patients are in error and it is important that everyone comply with the rules. The criminal background check criteria for issuing patient ID badges were expanded by the Department of Homeland Security last fall, causing an increase in the number of positive hits. To minimize delays, NIH Police have developed a process for on-the-spot decision-making when hits of minimal security risk hold up the process (e.g., unpaid parking tickets).

5. Budget update - For FY12, the budget is \$397.2 million, a 3.2 percent increase. This included an increase in capital equipment of \$1.5M and \$600,000 to cover the third party reimbursement pilot planning. Research budgets for CC investigators were reduced by 7 percent, a cumulative decrease of 15 percent from FY10 through FY12. The OD line item budget mechanism is not expected before FY14. However, the difference between the intramural lines and the needs for the hospital comes off the top of the NIH budget. Year to date, admissions are down two percent from this time in FY11. Inpatient days are up by 5 percent. The average daily census for the hospital, which is budgeted for 161 beds, is 152.1, a four percent increase in beds utilized. Average length of stay increased 11 percent due to increased non-behavioral health length of stay due to increased acuity of the patients. ICU days increased as well. Outpatient clinics increased by six percent and new patients increased by five percent. Adjusted patient days started well above the three year average but have since reduced. Year to date adjusted patient days is up 2 percent.

**Mentoring Committee:** *Aurélie Névéol (NLM)*

*Members: Tomasz Adamusiak (NLM-LHC), Mawadda Al-naeeli (NIDDK), Benjamin Jimenez (NIMH), Kara Lukasiewicz (NICHD), Joan Schwartz (OIR)*

No report submitted.

**NPA Liaison:** *Matt Wenham (NIDDK)*

**2012 NPA Annual Meeting**

The 2012 NPA Annual Meeting was held in San Francisco from March 16-18. Julien Senac represented FelCom at the meeting, and Lori Conlan and Shawn Mullen attended from OITE. We are working on implementing at NIH some of the ideas presented at the conference by other postdoc associations.

**Annual Postdoc Conference & Career Fair**

The 2012 Postdoc Conference and Career Fair is Thursday, July 12, 2012. This annual event, being held at the Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center in Bethesda, MD, is designed to appeal to the many postdoctoral fellows who are working in federal and university laboratories in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. At this conference,

postdocs learn about the many professional opportunities that are open to them, and how to present themselves to effectively compete for those positions.

For more information on sponsor/exhibitor participation, and to register for the conference, please visit [www.postdocconference.org](http://www.postdocconference.org).

**Publicity Committee:** *Julien Senac (NHGRI) & Tracy Ruckwardt (NIAID)*

No report submitted

**Service and Outreach Subcommittee:** *Shu Hui Chen (NIAID) & Julien S enac (NHGRI)*  
*Members: Emily Cordas (NIDDK), Aurora Fontainhas (NIDDK), Lillian Kuo (NCI), Adeola Makinde (NCI), Suman Mitra (NHLBI), Sarah Rhodes (NIMH)*

The Safra Lodge FelCom Sponsored dinner, Feb 11, 2012 11AM (Setup) to 3PM, which was co-sponsored by Girl Scouts Troop 6500 co-sponsor. Pictures forthcoming. It was a great event. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Safra Lodge Food Drive March 12-30, 2012 is ongoing. Please make sure you have the boxes set out if not already done so. Bldg. 38A, 35, 40, 10 (Cafeterias 1 and 2), 31, & 50 and Frederick sites are being manned by fellows. We have found volunteers for buildings not taken care of already. Shu will have a car here each Friday contact 312-933-8097, if you would like to set up a pick up time. There are 4 more posters were printed up and laminated. Contact Shu if you need them. Tregaron Conservancy Tree planting with Casey Trees DC, 6 Spots for April 7, 2012. It is in Ward 9 near Kenilworth gardens Woodley Rd (near Cleveland Park metro). Meet at 8:45AM email forthcoming. Hands On Greater DC cares: Lillian Team Captain-**NIH Fellows and Friends**. We can advertise the event, since there is money needed (\$25 registration). The event takes place Friday 4/20- Saturday 4/21 9AM-1PM. Registration has already begun and email will be sent to the listservs by Lillian, and it is advertised on the Felcom webpage. We discussed with Lillian about contacting Lori for IC emails to advertise more. Avon Walk for breast cancer – May 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 It has been suggested for SOS to volunteer, Crew, or Walker? Do we have a person to sponsor??? Julien will send an email to contact fellows to see who participating in the race and maybe we can set up a cheer team for them on during the event

Other remarks: Discussed setting up a Baltimore campus SOS group with Jessica Ash. The idea is to have a branch of the Revolutionary Scholars program as a part of SOS to be established in Baltimore. This program is already in effect in DC and was advertised by Erica Barr in a news letter outlining STEM Outreach opportunities in DC. For DC information contact Dayla Lateef at [dayla.lateef@nih.gov](mailto:dayla.lateef@nih.gov)

We tabled the Avon and Blood band ideas for lack of contact from the other parties. They never got back to us after repeated contacts.

The SOS committee highlighted the tree planting event coming up this Sat., which still has open slots. Please contact Shu if interested.

**Social Committee:** *Anna Sundborger (NIDDK) & Christiane Kuschal (NCI)*  
*Members: Aurora Fontainhas (NIDDK), Katiuchia Sales (NIDCR), Shu Hui Chen (NIAID)*

Very Active...last get together was yesterday at pizzeria da marco!!!

**Training Directors Committee:** *Mawadda Al-Naeeli (NIDDK)*

Nothing to report. The TD committee has not met since January.

**Visiting Fellows Committee:** *Xiao-Li Du (NCI) & Santosh Mishra (NIDCR)*

No report submitted.

**WALS Committee:** *James Keller (NIDCD) & Shan He (NIDCD)*

*Members: Alika Maunakea (OD), Julie Wu (NHLBI), Kristina Lu (NHGRI), Sally Davis (NIAID)*

We're working on a meeting schedule for people who responded to an e-mail Dr. Stefan Kuchen sent to science directors on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting is scheduled 1 week before Dr. Filipowicz's visit on Apr 25<sup>th</sup> to make sure the agenda goes well.

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

Meeting held March Friday, March 23, 2012

Anita B. Roberts seminars April 5<sup>th</sup> at 1pm

Given by Dr. Judith Walters on April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm, "Inside the Parkinsonian brain: Is Too Much Rhythm a Bad Thing"

UMBC/Meyerhoff special project

<http://www.wocrn.nih.gov>

WoCrn is in the middle of a membership drive. If you are interested mentoring minority women in science please join the NIH group on the website. WSA continues to publicize the site in new ways, and improve the website's functionality. Once WSA has a larger representation of volunteers from the NIH, we will invite the students to join.

Scholar selection from the FARE award winners

WSA needs female FARE winners from Felcom by July 2012 and selection committee will select winner by mid-summer. Awards will be presented Fall 2012.

Future Programming:

Fall Anita B. Roberts seminar

Dr. Esther Sternberg Date/Time/ Location TBD

WSA plans to organize a workshop that would be open to all tenure-track investigators at NIH, but targets to the needs of tenure-track women. The program would focus addressing topics such as, working close to home, coordinating with spouse, work-life balance, etc.

WSA reminded Felcom that mentors for minority women in science do not need to be minority women themselves! If you are interested, please consider joining up with WoCrn.

**NCI-Frederick:** *Jason Stagno*

No report submitted.

**NIA-Baltimore:** *John Delaney, Irene Avila, Ipolia Ramadan*

We had our first planning meeting for our 4th annual FARE day and Career Symposium, to be held on Nov. 2nd and we are actively seeking 2 committee co-chair persons for this event. This will give 2 fellows the experience of planning an event. On March 28th, the Women Scientist Association (WSA) Research Awards presentations were given to 1 NIA and NIDA post-doc fellow along with awards to 1 staff scientist from each institute and 1 tenure track investigator. On the first Friday of the month, we had a joint social networking event with NIDA.

**NIDA-Baltimore:** *Natasha Lugo-Escobar & Ross McDevitt*

We had our monthly happy hour on March 2. We started in March our 2012 Fellow's research lunch seminar series. A mentoring survey was sent to all NIDA fellows to get an assessment of mentoring at NIDA IRP from our fellows. Also, NIDA IRP would be holding a mentoring awards ceremony on May 21st, for which nominations were required to be submitted as for today. That same day there would be a poster session to give our fellows the opportunity to present their work. We are already in the process of planning our next FARE 2012 Day.

**NIEHS-North Carolina:** *Sonika Patial & Emily Zhou*

We have compiled a list of past workshops and are working on prioritizing which workshops to bring back first. The Grantsmanship workshop has been scheduled from May 7-11.

We request that everyone on the NTA Steering Committee (SC) write up a description about the sub-committee that they are in charge of and what their duties entail as the committee chair. We would also like the liaisons to write up a brief description about the meeting they attend (info. about the group, where you meet, and important contacts). This information will be compiled into a booklet that all members of the SC receive, and it will also be handed out to new members to help them quickly learn what opportunities are available if they'd like to get more involved.

Our Annual Career Fair registration begins on March 23rd.