

NIH Fellows Committee Minutes

Thursday, October 4th, 2018

Wilson Hall, 3rd Floor, Building 1

Call-in number: 1 866 772-5230, Passcode: 8168509

1. **Welcome New Members**
2. **Introductions**
3. **Approval of August minutes**
4. **Remarks (10 minutes):**
 - a. FelCom Officers: Katherine Reding, Peter Demaria, Eric Gonzalez, Allison Cross
 - b. Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE): Lori Conlan
 - c. Office of Intramural Research (OIR): Charles Dearolf
5. **New Business (25 minutes)**
 - a. Election for liaison to the Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics
 - b. "Bethesda Postdocs" Facebook Page and Google Group – Feedback from members
 - c. Presentation of results from "Loss of Infertility Coverage by FAES Insurance" Survey
6. **Subcommittee and Liaison Announcements (15 minutes)**
7. **Any other business (5 minutes)**

Next meeting: November 1st, 2018

- 1) meeting called to order 4:03
- 2) September Minutes Approved
- 3) **Remarks**
 - FELCOM Officers
 - Katherine
 - there will be 2 elections at the next meeting -
 - (a) FARE committee co-chairs
 - (b) 2 liaisons for the Women Scientist Advisory (WSA) Committee
 - thank you to those who helped out and hosted the FELCOM booth at the postdoc appreciation ice cream social
 - VFC will be hosting the International Opportunities Expo and Career Fair on Oct 18th from 12-5pm
 - (a) for more information about the event please see the attached flyer
 - (b) FELCOM is looking for 3-4 volunteers to work a booth during the event and talk about who we are and what we do
 - Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE):
 - Lori Conlan
 - career symposium is set for May and they are currently recruiting for volunteers to help organize the event
 - OITE will be having Halloween event- giving out candy in OITE office from 11-12pm on Halloween, also hosting a costume contest for trainees
 - Office of Intramural Research (OIR):
 - Charles Dearolf - no update
 - question was raised about FTE promotions and what this status was- Charles explained individuals can currently be appointed as FTE but every institute has limit and each institute has to decide how to use their allocated numbers of FTEs (how many will be research fellows vs other positions)
 - 4) **New Business**
 1. Election for liaison to the Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics

- a. 3 people running Mary, Nicole, Christina
- b. Congrats to Christina Fang!
2. "Bethesda Postdocs" Facebook Page and Google Group – Feedback from members
 - a. Concerns about the name being "Bethesda Postdocs" as being too limiting
 - other suggestions - 1) Club PCR-Postdocs 2) Club Seq
 - b. Steve- they are considering turning Facebook page into private group as this will be more user friendly and easier for people to post about and share events- will be able to see group publicly but will need to ask to be a member as it will be private group
 - c. Lori asked how legacy is going to be passed on-
 - Steve → currently have 6-8 admins on page and all these people can make other people admins
 - suggestion to make FELCOM subcommittee members and leaders all administrators to page
 - someone suggested making a ghost account and this username and password will be passed on to whomever is running the page each year
 - d. if you want to get involved in development of Facebook group page, email Steven (steven.brooks2@nih.gov) or Kathy (katherine.reding@nih.gov), they will be having a meeting in mid-October to discuss things further
 - e. note- there is no way to link google group and Facebook
3. Presentation of results from "Loss of Infertility Coverage by FAES Insurance" Survey
 - a. Katherine
 - goal of survey was to get personal veinlets and stories from fellows regarding loss of FAES fertility coverage
 - **104 responses**
 - **37 personal stories/opinions**
 - **survey will be open for 1 more week**
 - Kathy and Patrick want feedback on best way to present the data to the FAES committee at the October meeting
 - see agenda for breakdown of the responses received from the survey
 - b. Patrick - people filled out their own testimonials
 - got around 30 highly personal and very impactful stories
 - looking for suggestions about how to present these stories to FAES- he wants to be impactful but not be too aggressive or overbearing
 - he has broken stories into categories - wants to touch on each perspective and present best picture- what is best way to portray message with not going overboard?
 - Categories of responses/stories
 - a. people directly affected
 - b. know someone who will be directly affected
 - c. people who may want to use this coverage in the future
 - current plan for the meeting is to highlight under about 10 testimonials -- probably only have 5-10 minutes
 - c. Discussion about best way to present data
 - Andrew from NIDA- he wants to raise concerns about other changes, like increase in prices and copay in addition to just the loss of infertility coverage
 - Katherine- FAES liaisons are focused on infertility because it is still being discussed and may still be on table for future year, thinks we may be able to change this, not sure if we can have effect on other changes, but willing to bring up other changes at meeting as well
 - Liaison are trying to figure out best way to present concerns of fellow without sounding ungrateful
 - concerns raised about what the best way would be for FAES liaisons to have more of an impact - maybe it would be best for liaisons to sit it on the meeting between the Scientific Directors (SDs) and FAES or meet with SDs separately

- Lori- recommends FAES liaisons go to *Sharon* to talk about how to best present the stories/concerns of the fellows while maintaining good relationship with FAES
 - Charles- suggested postdocs could take concerns to training directors who can talk to scientific directors
 - Both Lori and Charles emphasized that the debate about the insurance was a hot debate, it was pro-fellow but there was disagreement on how to best be pro-fellow, health insurance costs are going up everywhere and FAES did present data showing that health insurance given to NIH fellows is better than insurance provided from outside source or to fellow at different institutes
 - had to wrap up discussion due to time
4. International Expo is coming up - please see flyer attached to the minutes
- hosted by VFC- Oct 18th
 - open to everyone, 22 organizations/companies will be hosting booths and presenting international working opportunities
 - very insightful for those looking for international career opportunities- will run 12-5pm and be followed by networking event in Bethesda
 - VFC will be sending out email regarding event again but IC reps please pass out info to individual institutes

5. **Subcommittee and Liaison Announcements** (15 minutes)

We ran out of time for these announcements, **PLEASE see the agenda** for all this information

Next meeting: November 1st, 2018

MEMBERSHIP

FelCom Subcommittee	Co-Chairs
Career Development Committee	Suna Gulay & Fany Messanvi
Clinical FelCom	Peter Demaria & Chris Pleyer
FARE Committee	Ying Fu & Carlos Guardia
Mentoring Committee	Fei Mo & Anshika Jain
Public Relations Subcommittee	Alexis Carter
Service and Outreach Subcommittee	Sarah Hawes & Mahamat Babagana
Social Committee	Yingxi Chen & Steven Brooks
Visiting Fellows Committee	Ulrike Boehm & Daphnée Villoing
Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS)	Salina Gairhe & Valerie Darcey

FelCom Liaison Position	Liaison(s)
American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR)	Amit Dey
Animal Research Advisory Committee	Guru Nagarajan
Child Care Board	Blake Warner & Cynthia Abou Zeid
Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics	<i>VACANT</i>
Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES)	Patrick Wright & Katherine Reding
Graduate Medical Education Committee	Jessica Zolton & Kannan Kasturi
Graduate Student Council (GSC)	Assaf Magen
Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee (HSRAC)	Rachel Sparks
Medical Executive Committee	Peter Demaria & Chris Pleyer
National Postdoc Association	Helena Farkasova
Outreach Liaison	Craig Myrum
PRAT Liaison	Abhi Subedi
Recreation and Welfare Committee	Nisha Nagarsheth
Training Directors Committee	David Borrego & Belinda Hauser
Women Scientist Advisors Committee (WSA)	Fatima Ali-Rahmani & Jessica Petrick

Institute/Center	Representative(s)	Institute/Center	Representative(s)
CCR-FYI (NCI)	Allison Cross	NICHD	Suna Gulay
FDA	Narayana Garimella	NIDA	Andrew Wright
NCATS	Eric Gonzalez & Atena Farkhondeh Kalat	NIDCD	Matt Fishl
NCCIH	Eleni Frangos	NIDCR	Belinda Hauser
NCI-CPFP	Joe Shearer	NIDDK	Shyamala Jadhav
NCI-Shady Grove	David Borrego	NIEHS	David Crizer
NEI	<i>VACANT</i>	NIGMS	Abhi Subedi
NHGRI	Xin Huang	NIMH	Kathy Reding
NHLBI	Fei Mo	NIMHD	Tingfen Yan
NIA	Christina Banuelos & Rebecca McPherson & Maja Mustapic	NINDS	Brian Trummer (Clinical) & Patrick Wright (Basic)
NIAAA	Carlos Cortes (Clinical) & Chuck Chen (Basic)	NINR	Cassandra Pattinson
NIAID	Steven Brooks	NCBI/NLM	Gurmeet Kaur
NIAMS	<i>VACANT</i>	USUHS	Faith Bloom
NIBIB	Sumit Chaturvedi	VRC (NIAID)	<i>VACANT</i>

COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR)

Amit Dey

No report submitted.

Animal Research Advisory Committee

Guru Nagarajan

- A new version of the Animal Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) Guidelines for Expired Medial Products was approved by the ARAC committee on 10/24/18. The new guidelines provide examples of items that can or cannot be used past their expiration dates in survival and non-survival procedures.
- Every year, according to the Public Health Service on Human Care and Use of Laboratory Animals Notice #:NOT-OD-05-034, Animal Incident Reporting's have to reported to the Office of the Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). The ARAC is pleased with the reduced number of Animal Incidents and Noncompliance Reporting's in the recent months. To further improve welfare of research animals, ARAC has provided some examples of reportable and non-reportable situations. Please refer: <https://olaw.nih.gov/guidance/reporting-noncompliance.htm>

Career Development Committee

Suna Gulay & Fany Messanvi

The next panel "Careers in Science Policy" will take place on Tuesday, October 16th 3-5PM in Building 50, Room 1328.

Childcare Board Liaisons

Blake Warner & Cynthia Abou Zeid

Nothing to report.

Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics

VACANT

No report submitted.

FAES Liaisons

Patrick Wright & Kathy Reding

Professional Development: FAES is kicking off a new lunch and learn series next month. In an effort to expose the NIH trainee communities to a broader network of successful professionals, FAES has invited seasoned executives from a variety of backgrounds to talk about their experiences and to give advice that could help guide future leaders to accomplish their dreams and further science in the broadest sense. **Each event will have a great lunch and ten-dollar (\$10) FAES bookstore gift card for all attendees.** Seating is limited, and will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis. Send an email to christina.farias@faes.org to reserve your seat.

Future Session Topics:

- Bench to Business
- Nonprofit Leadership
- Healthcare Leadership
- Creativity in Leadership
- Women in Science and Leadership
- Science Education and Career Development
- "Leading Around in Circles"

Future Dates: (Dates may be subject to change, so please check the FAES online calendar for updates: <https://faes.org/events-calendar>)

- November 8, 2018
- December 13, 2018
- January 28, 2019
- February 13, 2019
- March 7, 2019
- April 12, 2019
- May 2, 2019

Health Insurance:

The “Loss of Infertility Coverage by FAES Insurance” survey distributed by the FAES liaisons and FelCom has received 100 responses to date, with a majority of respondents (80%) supporting a return of the benefit while some remain unsure (15%) or disapprove (5%). Of these respondents the majority are females (62.6%) on the family plan (57.3%), and more than half of are either unsure of the impact of the loss of benefits on their family planning (29%) or will have to alter their current family plans (25%). Finally, most respondents are not currently using infertility benefits, with 30 planning on having children in the next 1-3 years while 37 are not currently planning on having children in the next 1-3 years.

The next FAES board meeting is Tues, October 23rd, and FAES liaisons are working with Lori Conlan and Charles Dearolf to craft a presentation of the results along with 37 testimonials to present at that meeting. If you have any further feedback, please either fill out the survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GXNFSMC>) or contact the FAES liaisons with any concerns/comments that you would like brought up at the meeting.

FARE Committee

Ying Fu & Carlos Guardia

Nothing to report.

Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee

Rachel Sparks

Nothing to report.

Medical Executive Committee

Peter Demaria & Chris Pleyer

No report submitted.

Mentoring Committee

Fei Mo & TBD

Nothing to report.

NCI-CCR

Allison Cross

CCR-FYI will be hosting a Fall Outing/Picnic Lunch at Sugarloaf Mountain Winery

- Sunday October 14th at 12pm
- Bring-your-own picnic or purchase a-la-carte at the winery
- Event is weather dependent due to venue size
- For more information about the winery, please visit <https://www.smvwinery.com/visit-sugarloaf-mountain-winery/>.

- Please RSVP using the link below so we know who to expect and can plan any carpools if necessary https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXfLJFWlvb-HCiZDudfWBnaG53Pu5fgxV7AcDRaxhyaw7XeA/viewform?usp=sf_link

NCI Shady Grove – DCEG

David Borrego

The inclusivity minute initiative has gone live! This is a partnership between the DCEG Fellows Committee and the DCEG Director, Dr. Stephen Chanock, to increase awareness of issues related to diversity, inclusion, and equity. To learn more about this initiative and see past emails visit this website.

<https://dceg.cancer.gov/fellowship-training/become-a-fellow/inclusivity-minute>

NPA Liaison

Helena Farkasova

- **NPA meeting abstract submission:** We've decided to submit a general abstract about FelCom and present a poster about a chosen committee. Please report if you would like to have your committee featured this year.
- **NPA announcements and updates**
 - The National Postdoc Association promote National Postdoc Appreciation Week. NPA webpage had 390 submitted events regarding this celebration
 - NPA calls for the applications for the outstanding mentor award. Please submit suggestions by October 12th <https://www.nationalpostdoc.org/news/415323/Nominations-Being-Accepted-for-the-2019-Mentor-Award.htm>
 - The September issue of the POSTDOCKET is now available and includes:
 1. How to reach out to figure out your career path.
 2. Tips how to fight fatigue.
 3. How to find opportunities in the US as an international postdoc.
 4. How to include diversity and inclusion at a conference.
 - One of the NPA leaders, Tracy Costello, was featured in a recent article in science debating careers in career development for PhDs.
 - myPostdoc Monthly featured a webinar about diversity and inclusion called "Diversity 101". This lecture can be found on YouTube.
 - New NPA resource is available discussing mentoring plans for postdoctoral scholars <https://www.nationalpostdoc.org/page/MentoringPlans>
 - POSTDOCKET is open to submissions of articles about various topics concerning postdocs and research.
 - NPA acknowledges NIH addressing the harassment issues "I think NIH is moving in the right direction," Tracy Costello, chair of the National Postdoctoral Association, tells *Science*. "I think it's a very complicated problem and I don't know that there's one quick answer."

JOIN the NPA!

Log on to the NPA member community, and engage with other members through blogs, forums, and member search functionality.

- Remember to join one or more of the committees listed below:
 - A. Outreach Committee:** Promotes the mission, values, goals, and business objectives of the NPA
 - B. The POSTDOCKET Committee:** Plans and publishes *The POSTDOCKET*, the NPA's quarterly newsletter. POSTDOCKET archives is members-only. However, you might be eligible for a free Affiliate membership.

Outreach Liaison

Craig Myrum

1. Please send me ideas for the I am Intramural blog! If you or someone you know recently published a cool study that others might want to know about, let me know so I can write something up about it. It's a great platform to gain attention to your research! Note that takes a couple weeks between submitting and posting since many people must approve them.

2. The Sept-Oct Catalyst article is about the value in Scientific Interest Groups.

<https://irp.nih.gov/catalyst/v26i5/the-training-page>

3. The Nov-Dec Catalyst article will be about a summer intern's experience at NIH (written by that person).

4. If you have ideas for the Jan-Feb Catalyst article, let me know! The deadline is Dec 1, so it needs to be planned well in advance. If you're interested in writing it yourself, let me know! It should deal with some aspect of training that would be useful for trainees to know.

5. Be sure to join the LinkedIn page! Fellows at the NIH - FelCom

Postdoctoral Research Associate Training (PRAT) Program

Abhi Subedi

Nothing to report.

Recreation and Welfare/Health and Wellness Committees Liaison

Nisha Nagarsheth

Nothing to report.

Social Committee

Yingxi Chen & Steven Brooks

The Social Committee is still soliciting feedback for the "Bethesda Postdocs" online social community. Bethesda Postdocs currently consists of a public Facebook page, and an invited Google Group.

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/BethesdaPostdocs/>

Due to difficulties with posting events on the public page, we are considering switching to a joinable Facebook 'Group'.

Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/bethesda-postdocs>

Members will need a personal Gmail account join the Google Group. The Google Group will be the go-to destination for Buy/Sell/Trade, roommate requests, and housing searches. Additionally, people can use the Google Group to look for friends or like-minded people to join in on social sports, running groups, book clubs, hiking clubs, etc.

We would like to emphasize to everyone that these "Bethesda Postdocs" pages are for personal use by postdocs and fellows only; they are not in any way formally affiliated with NIH, OITE, FelCom, or any other governmental institution or agency. Therefore, please do not post official NIH, OITE, or FelCom business on either the Facebook page or Google Group. A separate social media presence can be considered to represent FelCom more officially.

Service and Outreach Subcommittee

Sarah Hawes & Mahamat Babagana

Lead-Chair: Sarah Hawes, NIA (Bethesda)

Co-Chair: Mahamat Babaganda, NIA (Baltimore)

Recent Events:

The September 20th career symposium at Morgan was a success. Baltimore SOS co-chair Mahamat Babaganda spoke in a panel on strategies to succeed in graduate school. Two other postdocs from Baltimore and one from Bethesda attended a career building and one-on-one resume/cv workshop with Morgan State students.

Upcoming Events:

Disclaimer: These are not NIH-sponsored or endorsed events. If you attend an event, you do so as an individual; you are not representing the NIH and should not represent yourself as such. Volunteering and outreach are valuable components of professional development and help strengthen the scientific community. Fellows should

weigh the importance of this specific activity in their overall career development. If the event falls on a weekday and requires you to leave the NIH during normal working hours, participation depends on permission of your supervisor.

Tree Planting with DC's Casey Trees (October 27th)

Do you love trees, fall color, and playing in the dirt? Enjoy all three alongside fellow NIH postdocs and other Casey Trees volunteers on **Saturday, October 27th from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm**, as we botanically-enhance eastern Washington DC's Carver Terrace. The planting will begin at 9 am with opening remarks and instructions. Please arrive between 8:30 am and 8:50 am to check in, get your gear, and grab a bite to eat! A light breakfast and a celebratory lunch will be provided. We have **just 10 spots** reserved for NIH postdocs, and registration will close after Wednesday, October 17th. To register, please email Sarah.Hawes@nih.gov

Helping Up Mission: <https://helpingupmission.org/> (Baltimore, ongoing)

You can volunteer in downtown Baltimore to help at a homeless shelter doing a variety of activities; GED prep, tutoring, and computer skills. Please contact Maria Wetherington (maweth821@gmail.com) at the HUM for further information on training and participation, etc.

In The Works:

SOS member Allison Cross instigated the beginnings of a dialogue with NCI Scientists in the Community to encourage STEM and STEM careers through outreach to middle and high school students and teachers in Montgomery County schools. SOS and NCI Scientists in the Community will begin meeting in mid-October. Upcoming NCI Scientists in the Community lead events include a Journal Club at Poolesville High School and Glucose tolerance lab at Wheaton High School – both in late October. Event details for these are still being solidified now, and will appear shortly in an email to Fellow-L.

Training Directors Committee

David Borrego & Belinda Hauser

The following are open to all trainees:

1. The NIH Peer Review Process by Christine Piggee, PhD
SRO, Synapses, Cytoskeleton & Trafficking Study Section, CSR
October 10, 2018: Bldg. 35A, Rm GG620, 1:00 – 2:00 PM
2. Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunities in the Pharmaceutical Industry
(Great networking opportunity and last time brought job openings)
October 16, 2018: Bldg. 49, Rm 1A51/1A59, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Visiting Fellows Committee

Ulrike Boehm & Daphnée Villoing

Co-chairs: Ulrike BÖHM and Daphnée VILLOING

Secretary: Amir MANZOUR

Social subcommittee: Michael BUCH, Maja BUSZKO, Andrea CONTE, Subhasis RAY

Country rep. coordinator: Selami DEMIRCI

Sciences Voices from Home (SVH): Charles BOU-NADER, Martin LANG, Fany MESSANVI,

Brown Bag seminars: Aude NICOLAS

Communication - Webpage: open position

OITE advisor: Ella (Ulli) KLENKE

1. VFC Social

Past events:

- *Wednesday, September 19th, 6pm:* DMV Postdoc Appreciation Week Networking Event at Public Bar (Dupont Circle), Washington, DC [80 attendees]
- *Saturday, September 22nd:* Fellows into the Wild! Special Fellows Appreciation Week in Sugarloaf Mountain or Rock Creek Park [28 attendees]

Upcoming events:

- *Thursday, October 4th, 6pm:* VFC Social networking event at Caddies on Cordell, Bethesda, MD

- *Thursday, October 18th, 5pm:* VFC Social Networking Event, special International Opportunities Expo, Cesco Osteria, Bethesda, MD
- *Saturday, October 20th or 27th:* Fellows into the Wild! (depending on weather forecast next week) to hike in the National Arboretum
- *Friday, November 2nd, 6pm:* 2018 VFC Halloween party at FAES house, Bethesda, MD

2. Brown Bag seminars:

Past Event:

- *Thursday, September 20th, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm, NIH Library:* “Immigration: Getting familiar with American culture” with the DIS. [10 attendees]
- Similar Brown Bag Seminars will be organized with the DIS (Ryan Williams, Katie McLaughlin & Cynthia Tasaki) as least once a year from now on.

3. Science Voices from Home

Upcoming events (November 2018 and later)

- *Time & location TBD: Science Voices from Home: POLAND*
- *Time & location TBD: Science Voices from Home: JAPAN*

4. International EXPO

- *Thursday, October 18th, 12pm – 4:30pm: 2018 VFC International Opportunities Expo and Career Fair* , FAES terrace and FAES rooms 1-4, Building 10, NIH main campus, Bethesda, MD
 - Followed by a Social Networking event at Cesco Osteria
 - 11 talks, 22 exhibitors (see [program](#)). Registrations open to attendees on October 3rd, 2018.

5. Open Positions at VFC

A position is still open in the **Communication team**, as the new VFC website admin.

6. Country Representatives

There are currently 52 representatives for 44 countries.

7. Next VFC meeting

10/10/2018, **1:00 - 2:00 pm**; Main campus, Building 2, Room 2W15.

Call in No: 1-(866)-556-1965. Participant code: 2706089

WALS Subcommittee

Salina Gairhe & Valerie Darcey

The NIH Director’s Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) will host following speakers for the month of October 2018.

Date	Speaker	Home Institute	Title of the Talk
Oct 10	Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado, Ph.D. (DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Lecture)	Stowers Institute for Medical Research	Understanding the source of regenerative ability in animals
Oct 17	Michael W. Young, Ph.D.	The Rockefeller University	Genes controlling sleep and circadian rhythms
Oct 31	Sarah Teichmann, Ph.D.	Wellcome Sanger Institute	Travelling through tissues one cell at a time: the Human Cell Atlas and barrier tissues

Women Scientist Advisors Committee

Fatima Ali-Rahmani & Jessica Petrick

No report submitted.

ELECTIONS

Liaison to the Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics

1. **Mary Weston, NIDDK**

I believe it is vital that scientific institutions have ethical rules in place and discuss these issues/situations so researchers have the tools they need to conduct themselves appropriately in the workplace. While I do not have much formal experience in ethics, I have been exposed to it in various forms. NINDS holds ethics seminars every year, addressing topics that range from research misconduct to mentorship, and I have really enjoyed and benefited from these discussions. They were thoughtful and challenging, exploring issues where the answer is not always black and white. Additionally, being at NIH as graduate student has shown me many instances of good and bad ethical behavior. I would really like to be involved with a committee that helps establish these guidelines for NIH. Beyond my specific interest in scientific ethics, I am responsible, organized, and willing to devote the time necessary to this position. I have previous experience being on several committees and would report the Ethics committee meeting minutes to FELCOM in a concise and clear manner.

2. **Nicole Armstrong, NIA**

I am interested in becoming a liaison to the Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics. I believe that I have the qualifications that would make me a good fit for being a liaison to this committee. As a post-doctoral fellow in the Laboratory of Behavioral Neuroscience in the National Institute on Aging, I have adhered to the requirements of responsible conduct of research and ethics. Additionally, I have strong ties to the NIH research community. Currently, I am a post-doctoral member of the Women Scientist Advisors committee, a committee in which we highlight the accomplishments and research of women scientists at various phases of their careers. Prior to my graduate studies, I was a clinical research coordinator at Columbia University Medical Center for 3.5 years. I was heavily involved with regulatory paperwork on several clinical trials conducted at the center. I filed serious adverse events to the Institutional Review Board. I was responsible for maintaining records of the clinical trials, and I assisted in audits performed by clinical research associates to ensure that our data collection in the source materials matched the data input into the system. To perform my duties as a clinical research coordinator, I attended training in clinical research coordination at Columbia University Medical Center, and I was certified in clinical research coordination by the Association of Clinical Research Professionals, an independent association of principal investigators, clinical research associates, and clinical research coordinators dedicated to good clinical practice and responsible conduct of research.

3. **Christina Fang, NINDS**

My name is Christina Fang and I have studied neural development as a postdoc at the NIH for a little more than two and a half years. I am very interested in running for the position of liaison to the Committee on Scientific Conduct and Ethics. Throughout my training as a scientist, I have been exposed to a wide variety of scientific cultures. I have worked as an intern in Asian research institutions, I studied for my PhD at the University of Cambridge in the UK, and I briefly worked at NYU before coming to the NIH. Across these different research settings, I have come to appreciate the importance of a universal standard for scientific conduct and ethics. Not only will I bring a unique perspective into the increasingly international pursuit of science, but I believe I bring a real passion for and interest in the ethical issues that impact scientists. I have always found the Ethics Case Discussions at the NIH a valuable platform to discuss the difficult situations that we all could potentially encounter in the lab. As the FelCom liaison to the Committee, it is important to me that the voice of the postdoc community is well-represented. I will strive to ensure that ethical issues are raised and discussed from the perspective of postdoc fellows.