

**NATIONAL DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

May 18, 2018

National Institutes of Health

Bethesda, MD

MINUTES

The National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Council convened on May 18, 2018 in Building 31, Conference Room 6, National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD. Dr. James F. Battey, Jr., Director, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), served as Chairperson. In accordance with Public Law 92-463, the meeting was:

Closed: May 18, 2018: 8:30 a.m. to 9:55 a.m. for review of the NIDCD's Scientific Director and the review of individual grant applications.

Open: May 18, 2018: 10:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for the review and discussion of program development needs and policy

Council members in attendance via teleconference¹:

Ms. Lisa Adams	Dr. David Lee
Dr. Sarah Blackstone	Dr. Jian-Dong Li
Dr. Diane Bless	Dr. M. Charles Liberman
Dr. John P. Carey	Dr. Christoph Schreiner
Dr. Susan Ellis-Weismer	Dr. Neil Segil
Dr. Judith Gierut	Dr. Steven Sims
Dr. Sandra Gordon-Salant	Dr. Donald Wilson
Dr. Sue Kinnamon	Dr. Charlotte Yeh

Ex-Officio Members Participating:

Ms. Christa Themann	Dr. Kristen Casto
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Council Members Absent:

Ms. Nanci Linke-Ellis	Dr. Richard Smith
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The complete Council roster is found in Appendix 1.

¹ For the record, it is noted that members absent themselves from the meeting when the Council is discussing applications (a) from their respective institutions or (b) in which a real or apparent conflict of interest might occur. This procedure applies only to individual discussion of an application and not to "en bloc" actions.

NIDCD employees present during portions of the meeting:

Dr. Kathy Bainbridge	Dr. Roger Miller
Dr. James Battey	Mr. Eric Nunn
Ms. Cara Brennan	Mr. Christopher Myers
Mr. James Burton	Mr. Eddie Myrbeck
Dr. Laura Cole	Dr. Amy Poremba
Dr. Judith Cooper	Ms. Lisa Portnoy
Dr. Janet Cyr	Dr. Kausik Ray
Ms. Susan Dambrauskas	Dr. Alberto Rivera-Rentas
Mr. Hoai Doan	Mr. Mark Rotariu
Dr. Nancy Freeman	Dr. Elka Scordalakes
Ms. Maria Garcia	Dr. Lana Shekim
Dr. Andrew Griffith	Dr. Katherine Shim
Mr. Howard Hoffman	Dr. Sheo Singh
Ms. Debbie Holmes	Ms. Nanette Stephenson
Ms. Nikki Howell	Dr. Melissa Stick
Dr. Craig Jordan	Dr. Susan Sullivan
Dr. Kelly King	Dr. Bracie Watson
Dr. Eliane Lazar-Wesley	Ms. Ginger Webb
Dr. Chuan-Ming Li	Mr. Timothy Wheelles
Dr. Trinh Ly	Mr. Eric Williams
Ms. Nakia Makonnen	Mr. Baldwin Wong
Ms. Laura Manella	Dr. Shiguang Yang
Dr. Castilla McNamara	Ms. Kelli Van Zee

Other federal employees present during portions of the meeting:

Dr. Biao Tian, Center for Scientific Review
Dr. Wind Cowles, Center for Scientific Review

Members of the public present during open portions of the meeting:

Dr. Christopher Platt
Mr. Adam Finkel, American Academy of Audiology
Ms. Carrie Kovar, American Academy of Audiology
Dr. Argye Hillis, Johns Hopkins University
Ms. Susan Lott, ASHA
Ms. Lisa Hamli, HLAA
Ms. Nichele Westiz, ACIA
Ms. Toryn Brazell, American Tinnitus Association
Ms. Barbara Kelley, HLAA

CLOSED SESSION²

I. Call to Order and Opening RemarksDr. James F. Battey, Jr.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Battey, Director, NIDCD, who expressed appreciation to the entire Council for their service and advice.

II. Council Procedures Dr. Craig A. Jordan

Procedural Matters

Dr. Jordan discussed important procedural matters, including requirements imposed by the Government in the Sunshine Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The necessity of members to avoid conflict of appearance thereof was stressed, as was the need to maintain confidentiality concerning the proceedings and materials related to the closed portion of the meeting. Dr. Jordan announced that the Council meeting would be closed for consideration of grant applications during the morning session, but would be open to the public at approximately 10:00 a.m.

III. Council Consideration of Pending Applications

A. Research Project Grant Awards

Consideration of Applications: On the Council's agenda was a total of 134 investigator-initiated research grant applications; 114 applications had primary assignment to NIDCD, in the amount of \$39.8 million first-year direct costs. It is anticipated that, of the applications competing at this Council, NIDCD will be able to award grants to R01 applications scoring up through the 16th percentile with a more generous payline for Early Stage Investigator (ESI) R01 applications scoring through the 25th percentile.

B. Special Programs Actions

1. Research Scientist Development Award (K01): The Council recommended support of three applications.
2. NIH Career Enhancement Award (K18): The Council recommended support of one application
3. Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23): The Council recommended support for one application.
4. NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99): The council recommended support for two applications.
5. NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (R13): The Council recommended support of five applications.

² This portion of the meeting was closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in Sections 552b (c) (4) 552b(c) (6), Title 5 U.S. Code and 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5) U.S.C. appendix (2).

6. Academic Research Enhancement Awards (AREA) (R15): The Council recommended support of two applications.
7. NIH Exploratory/Development Research Grant Award (R21): The Council recommended support of five applications.
8. NIDCD Early Career Research (ECR) Award (R21): The Council recommended support of 10 applications.
9. NIH Small Business Innovation Research Awards (SBIR): The Council recommended support of five Phase I (R43) applications.
10. PAR-15-116 NIDCD Phase I/II/III Clinical Trials in Communication Disorders (U01): The Council recommended support of one application.
11. PAR-18-804 NSF/NIH Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience (CRCNS) (R01): The Council recommended support of two applications.
12. RFA-AG-18-017 Central Neural Mechanisms of Age-Related Hearing Loss (R01): The Council recommended support of two applications.

C. Other Grant Related Discussions

Council members discussed other applications for consideration of funding and/or resolution of administrative and trans-NIH matters.

OPEN SESSION

IV. Opening Remarks.....Dr. Battey

Dr. Battey welcomed additional staff and visitors to the open session of the meeting.

Consideration of Minutes of the Meeting of January 26, 2018

Dr. Battey called the members' attention to the minutes of the January 26, 2018 meeting of the Advisory Council. The minutes were approved as written.

Confirmation of Dates for Future Council Meetings

Dates for the Council meetings through September 2020 have been established. A list of these meetings was distributed to the Council members and posted on the web site prior to this meeting. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Friday, September 7, 2018, in Porter Neuroscience Center, Conference Room 620 on the NIH campus, Bethesda, Maryland.

V. Report of the Director, NIDCDDr. Battey

Introduction of Eric Williams

Mr. Eric Williams has been selected as the NIDCD Budget Officer and Chief of the Financial Management Branch. Eric has been serving as the NHLBI Deputy Budget Officer since 2015. He brings a wealth of experience to the Budget Officer position. He joined NIH in

2015 after completing a 20-year career as a commissioned officer in the United States Coast Guard where he served in numerous roles including Senior Controller and as the Executive Officer of two Coast Guard cutters. Eric received a BS in Electrical Engineering, an MS in Operations Research, and subsequently from Cornell University, an MBA.

Eric's first day with NIDCD was this week. Join me in welcoming Eric to the NIDCD Family.

Budget Update

Dr. Battey began his presentation by pointing out that on March 23 an FY 2018 Omnibus appropriations bill was enacted, providing NIH a \$3 billion increase over FY 2017, the largest dollar increase in NIH history. The NIDCD appropriation increased by \$24 million or 5.5 percent to a level of \$460 million. He stated that the mechanism table is not available yet because it awaits approval from HHS and OMB. In the meantime, he shared the following points about the FY 2018 appropriation:

- Noncompeting grants will be paid at their full committed level—no reduction.
- NIDCD's R01 pay line will increase to "through the 16 percentile" (was previously "through the 13 percentile").
- Stipend levels for Fellowships and Training Grants will increase 2%.
- There is no change in policy regarding Indirect Costs.

For FY 2019, the president initially requested approximately \$305 million for NIDCD. Then after the Omnibus appropriations bill was enacted for FY 2018, the President's request was revised upward to \$424 million.

[A copy of the slides Dr. Battey used for this budget presentation is included in Appendix 2.]

VI. Report of the Division of Scientific Programs Dr. Cooper

Dr. Cooper introduced Dr. Susan Sullivan who was invited to provide an update for the Advisory Council on the NIDCD Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Program.

The Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Program is a trans-NIH program implemented through the R15 funding mechanism and was formed in 1985 to fulfill a Congressional mandate to stimulate research at educational institutes that have not been major recipients of NIH support.

The goals of the program are to support meritorious research, expose undergraduate and graduate students to hands-on research, and strengthen the research environments of eligible schools. To be eligible, an institution must be domestic and receive less than \$6 million per year in NIH support in 4 of the last 7 years. In addition, investigators may not hold other NIH research support at the time of the AREA award. Some key features of the R15 award are that it is renewable, the project period is limited to three years, and direct costs are limited to \$300,000 over the entire project period.

NIDCD's AREA program has an annual set-aside budget of \$1.5 million which supports about 3 awards per year. If funds are available, additional awards may be made to support highly meritorious applications. The program supports projects in all NIDCD's mission areas and over the last four years has had a success rates between 17 and 20%, with the NIDCD R15 success rate comparing favorably with the overall NIH R15 success

rate. For instance, in FY17 the NIDCD R15 success rate was 20%, while the R15 success rate across NIH was 15.4%.

The popularity of the program has increased over the past decade as indicative by an upward trend in the number of applications received by both NIH and NIDCD. This year (FY18), NIDCD received a historically high number of applications, with 37 applications received.

VII. Congressional UpdateMs. Adrienne Hallett

Ms. Adrienne Hallett, Associate Director for Legislative Policy and Analysis at the NIH agreed to present an update on the activities of the U.S. Congress and explain how they relate to the NIH and NIDCD.

Ms. Hallett began by providing a history of Federal R&D spending and discussing the status of the FY 2018 and FY 2019 budgets for NIH. She noted that the NIH has received nice increases in fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018 and that the NIDCD appropriation tends to track with the overall NIH appropriation. Even now, the FY 2018 appropriation is being challenged by a proposed \$15.4 B Rescission Package. Ms. Hallett mentioned the two-year spending deal negotiated last March that sets expectations for FY 2019 but countered with the reality that the proposed \$14B non-defense increase would need to be spread across eleven different spending bills. She noted that the House held hearings for the FY 2019 budget in April and the Senate held its hearing on May 17th, and while both arms of Congress proposed increases, nothing has been settled about the FY 2019 NIH budget. It is likely that the significant round of primaries and general elections scheduled for this coming fall may impact and/or delay the FY 2019 budget process.

Next Ms. Hallett updated the committee on the status of legislation in the House and Senate. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Amendments Act (HR70) includes language enacting sweeping changes to the NIH Peer Review process and Advisory Council. If enacted, the Act would require significant changes in the way NIH conducts its peer review processes. The status of HR70 is that it has been placed on hold by the Senate. Another piece of legislation being considered in both the House and Senate revolves around Other Transaction Authority (OTA). OTA has been used extensively in other Federal agencies but has only been modestly available to NIH. An increase in OTA would provide increased flexibility in making awards, particularly in urgent situations responding to unanticipated public health threats.

VIII. “Neural and Cognitive Mechanisms of Language Recovery After Stroke” Dr. Argye Hillis

Dr. Argye Hillis, professor of Neurology with joint faculty appointments in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Cognitive Science at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine accepted our invitation to discuss her research. Dr. Hillis provided the following abstract describing her presentation.

I will show how longitudinal imaging and behavioral studies in stroke survivors has uncovered biological mechanisms that support recovery of language during the first year after stroke. I will present evidence from studies supported by NIDCD indicating that different mechanisms underlie language recovery at different stages: days, weeks, months, and years after stroke. I will illustrate how changes in blood flow in the brain, changes in brain activation, changes in functional connections, and changes in cognitive

mechanisms can lead to improvement in language function. I will also present data on how variables such as brain health and medications can influence language recovery after stroke. The results of these studies have led to novel interventions to improve language at different time points after stroke. Interventions include medical treatments to improve blood flow in the brain at the acute stage, and rehabilitation plus brain stimulation to enhance neural plasticity in the subacute stage. Results have also enhanced our understanding of structure-function relationships in the brain, particularly neural networks that supports specific language functions.

IX. Recognizing Retiring MembersDr. Battey

Dr. Battey thanked the following retiring members for their service on the Advisory Council and presented them with certificates of appreciation:

- *Dr. Diane Bless*
- *Dr. David Lee*
- *Dr. Jian-Dong Li*
- *Dr. Richard Smith (absent)*

X. Report of the Division of Extramural Activities.....Dr. Jordan

Dr. Jordan reminded members that the next meeting of the Advisory Council (September 7, 2018) will be held in the Porter Neuroscience Center, home of a significant component of the NIDCD's Intramural Research Program. He then presented the "2018 Council Operating Procedures" to the group for a vote noting that there were no changes from the 2017 version. Council endorsed the Operating Procedures for another year.

Dr. Jordan then reminded the Advisory Council members that this would be Dr. Jim Battey's last Advisory Council meeting prior to his retirement on June 1st. He chronicled a few of Dr. Battey's accomplishments during his many years at NIDCD, starting in 1995. Some of those accomplishments included:

- March 1995 - appointed as Scientific Director of NIDCD.
- February 1998 - appointed as Director of NIDCD.
- 1999 – phased out the Program Project (P01) to better support the R01 payline.
- Fall 2000
 - Established a Predoctoral fellowship program.
 - Expedited review & award process for all fellowships.
 - Put in place the NIDCD Advisory Council's Early Stage Investigator Letter process.
- September 2002 – Chair of the NIH Stem Cell Task Force
- Fall 2005 – Chair of the Trans-NIH Mouse Initiative
- KOMP (KOMP-2) - NIH Knockout Mouse Project

Dr. Jordan closed with comments praising Dr. Battey's longevity and accomplishments as NIDCD Director, sharing a few accolades from past Council members, and the presentation of a commemorative Public Health Services / NIH certificate in the form of a cake. All attendees were invited to share the cake with Dr. Battey as the meeting ended.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. on May 18, 2018.

XII. Certification of Minutes

We certify that, to the best of our knowledge, the foregoing minutes and attachments are accurate and correct.

7/26/2018

/Craig A. Jordan/

Craig A. Jordan, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary
National Deafness and Other Communication
Disorders Advisory Council

7/26/2018

/Judith A. Cooper/

Judith A. Cooper Ph.D.
Acting Chair
National Deafness and Other Communication
Disorders Advisory Council

Acting Director
National Institute on Deafness and
Other Communication Disorders

Ginger Webb
Council Assistant
NDCD Advisory Council

³ These minutes will be approved formally by the Council at the next meeting on September 7, 2018, and corrections or notations will be stated in the minutes of that meeting.

APPENDIX

Appendix I – Meeting Roster	Page 11
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APPENDIX I

ROSTER

National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Council

(Terms end on 5/31 of the designated year)

Chairperson

James F. Battey, Jr. M.D., Ph.D., Director
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Bethesda, MD 20892

<p>ADAMS, Lisa C., J.D. 2020 Legislative Analyst Massachusetts Municipal Association Newton, MA 02458</p>	<p>GORDON-SALANT, Sandra, Ph.D. 2021 Director, Doctoral Program in Clinical Audiology University of Maryland College Park, MD 20742</p>
<p>BLACKSTONE, Sarah W., Ph.D. 2019 President and CEO Augmentative Communication, Inc. Monterey, CA 93940</p>	<p>KINNAMON, Sue C., Ph.D. 2019 Professor Department of Otolaryngology University of Colorado, Denver Aurora, CO 80045</p>
<p>BLESS, Diane M., Ph.D. 2018 Professor Emeritus Departments of Communicative Disorders And Surgery University of Wisconsin – Madison School of Medicine Madison, WI 53792</p>	<p>LEE, David J., Ph.D. 2018 Professor Department of Public Health Sciences University of Miami School of Medicine Miami, FL 33136</p>
<p>CAREY, John Patrick, M.D. 2021 Professor, Department of Otolaryngology The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, MD 21205</p>	<p>LI, Jian-Dong, M.D., Ph.D. 2018 Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar Director, Center for Inflammation, Immunity and Infection Professor, Department of Biology Georgia State University Atlanta, GA 30303</p>
<p>ELLIS WEISMER, Susan, Ph.D. 2020 Oros-Bascom Professor Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Waisman Center University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI 53705</p>	<p>LIBERMAN, M. Charles, Ph.D. 2019 Director, Eaton-Peabody Laboratory Department of Otology and Laryngology Harvard Medical School Boston, MA 02114</p>
<p>GIERUT, Judith A., Ph.D. 2020 Professor Emerita Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences Program in Cognitive Sciences Indiana University Bloomington, IN 47405</p>	<p>LINKE ELLIS, Nanci 2021 Specialty Marketing Consultant Hearing Loss and Vision Impaired Audiences Culver City, CA 90232</p>

SCHREINER, Christoph, M.D., Ph. D. 2019

Professor and Vice Chairman
Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
Center for Integrative Neuroscience
School of Medicine
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA 94158

SEGIL, Neil, Ph.D. 2021

Professor of Research
Keck School of Medicine
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90033

SIMS, H. Steven, M.D. 2020

Associate Professor and Director
Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
University of Illinois Medical Center
Chicago, IL 60612

Ex Officio

BECK, Lucille B., Ph.D.

Director
Audiology and Speech Pathology Service
Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, DC 20422

CASTO, Kristin L., Ph.D.

Audiology Consultant to the Surgeon General
Director, Audiology and Speech Center
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Bethesda, MD 20889

SMITH, Richard J. H., M.D. 2018

Professor
Department of Otolaryngology
University of Iowa – Carver College of Medicine
Iowa City, IA 52242

WILSON, Donald A., Ph. D. 2019

Senior Research Scientist and Deputy Director
Emotional Brain Institute
The Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research
Professor
New York University School of Medicine
Orangeburg, NY 10962

YEH, Charlotte S., M.D. 2021

Chief Medical Officer
AARP Services, Inc.
Washington, DC 20049

THEMANN, Christa, M.S. CCC-A
Research Audiologist
Hearing Loss Prevention Team
Division of Applied Research and Technology
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Cincinnati, OH 45226

AZAR, Alex., J.D.

Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, DC 20201

COLLINS, Francis S., Ph.D., M.D.

Director
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892

Executive Secretary

JORDAN, Craig A., Ph.D.

Director, Division of Extramural Activities
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
Bethesda, MD 20892

APENDIX II

NIDCD Director's Budget

James F. Battey, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
NIDCD Advisory Council Meeting
May 18, 2018

**National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication
Disorders**

**May 2018 Council
FY 2018 and FY 2019 Budget Levels**

FY 2017:

Operating Level	\$435,904,000
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FY 2018:

President's Budget Request	\$325,846,000
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House Appropriations Bill	\$443,624,000
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Senate Appropriations Bill	\$451,768,000
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Omnibus Appropriation	\$459,974,000
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FY 2019:

President's Budget Request	\$304,812,000
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President's Budget Request - revised	\$423,992,000
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