

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

September 7, 2018

**National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD**

MINUTES

The National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Council convened on September 7, 2018 in Porter Neuroscience Center (Building 35), Conference Room 620, National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD. Dr. Judith A. Cooper, Acting Director, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), served as Chairperson. In accordance with Public Law 92-463, the meeting was:

Closed: September 7, 2018: 8:30 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. for review of individual grant applications and Board of Scientific Counselors update; and

Open: September 7, 2018: 11:05 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., for the review and discussion of program development needs and policy.

Council members in Attendance¹:

Ms. Lisa Adams	Dr. M. Charles Liberman
Dr. Sarah Blackstone	Ms. Nanci Linke-Ellis
Dr. John Carey	Dr. Cynthia Morton
Mr. Richard Einhorn	Dr. Christoph Schreiner
Dr. Susan Ellis-Weismer	Dr. H. Steven Sims
Dr. Judith Gierut	Dr. Donald Wilson
Dr. Sandra Gordon-Salant	Dr. Charlotte Yeh
Dr. Robert Hillman	Dr. Fan-Gang Zeng
Dr. Sue Kinnamon	

Council members absent:

Dr. Neil Segil

Council ex-officio members in Attendance:

Ms. Christa Themann
Dr. Kristen Casto

The complete Council roster is found in Appendix 1.

¹For 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	Mr. Eddie Myrbeck
Mr. James Burton	Mr. Christopher Myers
Dr. Laura Cole	Mr. Eric Nunn
Dr. Judith Cooper	Dr. Amy Poremba
Dr. Janet Cyr	Ms. Lisa Portnoy
Ms. Susan Dambrauskas	Dr. Alberto Rivera-Rentas
Mr. Hoai Doan	Dr. Elka Scordalakes
Dr. Nancy Freeman	Dr. Lana Shekim
Ms. Maria Garcia	Dr. Kathy Shim
Dr. Andrew Griffith	Dr. Sheo Singh
Mr. Howard Hoffman	Dr. Melissa Stick
Dr. Craig Jordan	Dr. Susan Sullivan
Dr. Kelly King	Ms. Kelli Van Zee
Dr. Eliane Lazar- Wesley	Dr. Bracie Watson
Dr. Chuan-Ming Li	Ms. Ginger Webb
Dr. Trinh Ly	Mr. Timothy Wheelles
Ms. Nakia Makonnen	Mr. Eric Williams
Ms. Laura Mannella	Mr. Baldwin Wong
Dr. Castilla McNamara	Dr. Shiguang Yang
Dr. Roger Miller	

Other federal employees present during portions of the meeting:

Dr. Biao Tian, CSR
Dr. Wind Cowles, CSR
Dr. Ying-Yee Kong, CSR

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

Dr. Christopher Platt
Ms. Julie Bellinger, International Hearing Society
Ms. Barbara Kelley, Hearing Loss Association of America
Ms. Kate Carr, Hearing Industries Association
Ms. Lindsay Robinson, Hearing Industries Association
Ms. Torryn Brazell, American Tinnitus Association
Ms. Deborah Outlaw – American Tinnitus Association

CLOSED SESSION

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks Dr. Judith A. Cooper

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Cooper, Acting 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 11:00 a.m.

III. Council Consideration of Pending Applications

A. Research Project Grant Awards

1. Consideration of Applications: On the Council's agenda was a total of 115 investigator-initiated R01 grant applications; 102 applications had primary assignment to NIDCD, in the amount of \$36.1 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 12th percentile.

B. Special Programs Actions

1. NIH Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award (K08): The Council recommended support of one application.
2. NIH Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23): The Council recommended support of three applications.
3. NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99): The Council recommended support of three applications.
4. NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (R13): The Council recommended support of three primary applications and support of one secondary application.
5. NIH Exploratory/Development Research Grant Award (R21): The Council recommended support of six applications.
6. NIDCD Early Career Research (ECR) Award (R21): The Council recommended support of eight applications
7. NIH Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I (R41): The Council recommended support for three applications.
8. NIH Small Business Innovation Research Awards (SBIR): The Council recommended support for four Phase I (R43) applications.

IV. Report of the Board of Scientific Counselors Dr. Andrew Griffith

Next, Dr. Cooper welcomed Dr. Andrew Griffith, Director of NIDCD's Division of Intramural Research. As stipulated by law, each institute must provide annually to its National Advisory Council an overview of the Intramural Research Program. The overview includes reports of the Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC), and the responses of the Scientific Director. This presentation is informational; Council members are not asked to recommend approval or disapproval of the reports or to modify them in any way. However, the Council may make recommendations to the Director, NIDCD regarding such research on the basis of the materials provided.

Dr. Griffith presented Reports of the BSC regarding the review of several intramural laboratories. He then presented his responses to the reports and responded to questions from Council.

[Executive Secretary Note: During the BSC presentation, attendance was restricted to the Council members, the Executive Secretary and a few senior NIDCD administrators.]

V. Tour of Intramural Labs in Porter Neuroscience Center Dr. Griffith & Staff

The John Edward Porter Neuroscience Center (PNC) is one of the newest research buildings on the NIH campus, and its opening in 2014 allowed NIDCD's intramural researchers to move their laboratories onto the NIH campus. The move to PNC was a great accomplishment for NIDCD that required many years of negotiations and effort. Though members of Council have heard of this building in recent years, we wanted to take advantage of today's meeting location to provide a tour of the facilities and allow a few NIDCD investigators the opportunity to highlight their research efforts.

OPEN SESSION

VI. Opening Remarks Dr. Cooper

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

Recognition of New Members

Mr. Richard Einhorn is a consultant with Einhorn Consulting LLC, and advocate for people with hearing loss with appearances in major media including New York Times, Washington Post, NPR, MSNBC, and ABC News. He has an extensive background in professional audio production and engineering, music technology and music composition. His interests include designing innovative assistive systems based on smartphones, including apps design for manufacturers of Personal Amplifier Products and private clients. Mr. Einhorn formed a company to develop algorithms to improve speech perception in hearing loss. His interests in hearing aids and hearing assistance products stems from his experience with sensorineural hearing loss. Mr. Einhorn is a member of the NY Board of Governors and the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. He holds multiple positions at the Hearing Loss Association of American, including Vice-Chairman, National Board of Trustees and member of the Hearing Loop Advocacy Committee. He has published many articles on hearing loss and made many presentations.

Dr. Robert Hillman is Co-Director and Research Director of the Center for Laryngeal Surgery and Voice Rehabilitation at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. He received his doctoral degree in

Speech Science from Purdue University. His research focuses on mechanism for normal and disordered voice production, evaluation and development of methods for (laryngectomy) speech rehabilitation, development of objective physiologic and acoustic measures of voice and speech production, and evaluation of methods used to treat voice disorders. Dr. Hillman is an elected Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and is one of only six Speech-Language Pathologist in the country to be elected as an Associate Member of the American Laryngological Association. He is published widely and has served on many editorial boards such as the *Journal of Speech-Language-Hearing Research* and *Phonoscope-online*. He has presented at national and international forums.

Dr. Cynthia Morton is the William Lambert Richardson Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School and Kenneth J. Ryan M.D. Distinguished Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She received her doctoral degree in Human Genetics from the Medical College of Virginia. Her research interests are in molecular cytogenetics, hereditary deafness, genetics of uterine leiomyomata and human developmental disorders. Dr. Morton has received many honors including the Scientific Advisory Board-Ludwig Boltzman Institute for Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases. She is a member of numerous professional organizations including the Association for Research in Otolaryngology and Past President of the American Society of Human Genetics. Dr. Morton is a frequent presenter at scientific meetings, is widely published and has served on numerous peer review and editorial boards, including Co-Editor for *Human Genetics*.

Dr. Fan-Gang Zeng is Director of the Center for Hearing Research at the University of California-Irvine and Professor in the Departments of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Biomedical Engineering, and Cognitive Sciences. He is also Research Director in the Department of Otolaryngology. Dr. Zeng received his doctoral degree in Audiology and Neuroscience from Syracuse University. His professional interests include cochlear implants, auditory neuroscience, psychophysics, speech perception, and auditory neuropathy. His research extends to normal and hearing-impaired listeners. Dr. Zeng has received many honors and awards. He is a member of professional organizations including the Association for Research in Otolaryngology, a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, and Elected Member, Collegium ORLAS. Dr. Zeng is published widely and has served as conference organizer for many national/international scientific meetings. He often serves as a peer reviewer and frequently interviewed or featured in media venues. He has obtained patents for his inventions in the areas of cochlear implants, signal algorithms, and sensory stimulation.

Consideration of Minutes of the Meeting of May 18, 2018

Dr. Cooper called the members' attention to the minutes of the May 18, 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, January 25, 2019.

VII. Report on the NIDCD Budget Mr. Eric Williams

NIDCD's Budget Officer, Mr. Eric Williams, presented information on three topics; current budget, success rates, and budget outlook. The current budget information consisted of a side-by-side comparison of NIDCD's fiscal year 2017 and 2018 mechanism tables. These tables provide a break-down of primary budget activities and their associated budgeted dollars and grant counts. The success rate information consisted of two charts comparing NIDCD's Research Project Grants (RPGs) and Fellowships (F's) success rates versus the NIH average from fiscal years 2008 through 2017. A success rate is determined by dividing the number of grant awards by the number of applications (the number of applications does not include those that are withdrawn by the investigator). The budget outlook information consisted of three proposed fiscal year 2019 budgets: the President's Budget Request, the House Mark and the Senate Mark.

[A copy of the slides Mr. Williams used for this budget presentation is included in Appendix II]

VIII. Report of the Director, Division of Intramural Research Dr. Griffith

NIH policy requires that the National Advisory Council for each institute review the activities of their respective intramural program once a year. Dr. Andrew Griffith, Scientific Director of NIDCD's Division of Intramural Research, presented the 2018 report.

The intramural program is currently composed of nine tenured investigators, two tenure-track investigators, and four surgeon scientists along with a large contingent of supporting scientists.

Dr. Griffith provided information about the NIDCD's Otolaryngology Surgeon-Scientist Program that is geared toward an integration of clinical and basic research opportunities in a mentored environment. The goal is to provide early career faculty development through graduated independence and resources. In addition, the intramural program provides a culture of scholarly inquiry and scientific rigor in conjunction with opportunities to maintain their important surgical skills. He also noted the strategic relationships for NIDCD with three local hospitals including the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC), Suburban Hospital and Georgetown University where these surgeon-scientists can not only build their skills as researchers, but also as surgeons in the field of otolaryngology. The WRNMMC includes an otolaryngology residency program that also contributes residents into this strategic relationship.

The fifth EARssentials course was held in July 2018 at the Porter Neuroscience Research Center with the focus being, "Concepts and Techniques of Contemporary Hearing Research." The primary target audience was new NIDCD intramural trainees; however, the course was offered free of charge and was open to any interested individual, even scientists from outside the NIH. The week-long course included morning lectures and afternoon laboratory sessions. In 2018, several laboratory slots were reserved for extramural trainees and attendees included individuals from four extramural research organizations from across the country.

IX. Report of the Director, Division of Extramural Activities Dr. Jordan

Dr. Jordan reminded the Council of the NIH's Next Generation Researchers Initiative using a timeline of events starting with the 21st Century Cures Act passed in December 2016. The goal of this initiative is to ensure the long-term stability of the biomedical research enterprise. The NIH Director has charged a workgroup (NGRI WG) of the Advisory

Committee to the Director (ACD) to help refine and implement the initiative. Dr. Jordan reviewed the efforts of the NGRI WG based on their presentations at the December 2017 and June 2018 ACD meetings. At the June meeting, the interim recommendations were for NIH to continue to monitor and emphasize support of Early Stage Investigators (ESI) and the newly defined “At Risk” investigator. An ESI is a Program Director / Principal Investigator (PD/PI) who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later, within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award. An ‘At Risk’ Investigator is defined as an investigator who has not received funding on any major award/source of independent NIH funding in fiscal year 2018 or whose NIH funding will end in fiscal year 2018 (includes New Investigators). The community was informed of NIH’s plans to follow these recommendations in the NIH Guide Notice, NOT-OD-18-214, published on July 26th. The work of the NGRI WG continues and the final report is planned for the December 2018 meeting of the ACD. NIH will continue to update the community.

Based on the interim guidance from the NGRI WG, NIH has set 2018 expectations of:

- ICs targeting applications $\leq 25^{\text{th}}$ percentile (or P.S. ≤ 35) with the NIH goal of supporting more ESIs than in recent years.
- At Risk Investigators (including New Investigators) also are receiving special monitoring at the NIH and IC level through $\leq 25^{\text{th}}$ percentile.

Dr. Jordan reported that the NIDCD is well on track with meeting these 2018 expectations and has been able to support the vast majority of ESI and At-Risk applicants this fiscal year.

Next, Dr. Jordan informed Council of the recent statement on protecting the integrity of U.S. Biomedical Research released on August 23, 2018 by the NIH Director, Dr. Francis Collins.

Dr. Collins reported three areas of concern that have emerged:

1. failure by some researchers at NIH-funded institutions to disclose substantial contributions of resources from other organizations, including foreign governments, which threatens to distort decisions about the appropriate use of NIH funds;
2. diversion of intellectual property (in grant applications or produced by NIH-supported biomedical research) to other entities, including other countries; and
3. in some instances, sharing of confidential information by peer reviewers with others, including in some instances with foreign entities, or otherwise attempting to influence funding decisions.

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

Dr. Cooper introduced Dr. Lana Shekim to update the Council regarding Administrative Supplements in 2018.

The NIH offers two mechanisms for modifying an award. One is a competitive revision (formerly known as a competitive supplement) and the other is an administrative supplement. The competitive revision is peer reviewed and accepted at the standard receipt dates. The administrative supplements are received at different dates by the various ICs and typically after a targeted solicitation, see <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/pa-18-591.html>

The administrative supplement mechanism is available to meet increased costs that are within the scope of the approved award. These can be special programs announced by the NIH or targeted initiatives issued by the various ICs. At NIDCD, administrative supplements are used infrequently. Award of administrative supplements is restricted to budgetary requests arising from unusual or exceptional circumstances (e.g., natural disasters) and

emergencies. In some fiscal years, NIDCD staff issues targeted solicitations as a strategy to manage a particular year's budget.

In 2018, NIDCD staff initiated two supplement programs: one on microengineering and 3-D modeling and one to incorporate studies using human temporal bone specimens in currently funded research projects. The microengineering supplement had a budget of \$60,000 direct costs; 13 supplements were awarded across all scientific program areas. The human temporal bone supplement had a budget of \$35,000 direct costs and eight supplements were awarded with seven in hearing and one in the chemical senses program.

NIDCD also participated in two additional supplement programs in FY2018. One was initiated and funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and targeted existing awards not currently focused on Alzheimer's disease (AD) and its related dementias (ADRD) to allow them to develop a focus on AD/ADRD. Twelve NIDCD grantees were awarded NIA supplements. The other supplement program was initiated and funded by the NIH Office of the Director and supported research on Down Syndrome (DS). Supplements were available to existing grants already focused on DS as well as those that could extend their current work to a DS population. Three NIDCD grantees received DS supplements.

A presentation about the above activities was presented by Dr. Lana Shekim on behalf of NIDCD Division of Scientific Program staff involved in this years' supplement activities (Drs. Cooper, Cyr, Freeman, King, Poremba, Shekim and Sullivan).

XI. Closing Comments

During the last few minutes of the meeting, members of council expressed their pleasure with the day's tour of intramural labs and suggested such tours be revisited in the future. Members also asked for additional information and/or future agenda topics addressing music in science, accomplishments of the Small Business grant portfolio, what basic science has yielded a broad impact and/or contributed to clinical practice, information about the history of supplement programs, and suggestion on what members of council can do to facilitate/benefit NIDCD.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. on September 7, 2018.

XIII. Certification of Minutes

We certify that, to the best of our knowledge, the foregoing minutes and attachments are accurate and correct².

10/29/2018

/Craig A. Jordan/

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

10/29/2018

/Judith A. Cooper/

Judith A. Cooper, Ph.D.
Acting Chairman
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

² These minutes will be approved formally by the Council at the next meeting on January 25, 2019, and corrections or notations will be stated in the minutes of that meeting.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1	NDCD Advisory Council Roster	11
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Roster
National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Council
 (Terms end on 5/31 of the designated year)

Chairperson
 Judith A. Cooper, Ph.D. Acting Director
 National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
 Bethesda, MD 20892

ADAMS, Lisa C., J.D. Founding Member and President Massachusetts Hearing Aids for Children Coalition Newton, MA 02458	2020	HILLMAN, Robert E., Ph.D. Co-Director and Research Director Center for Laryngeal Surgery and Voice Rehabilitation at Massachusetts General Hospital and Professor of Surgery: Harvard Medical School Boston, MA 02114	2022
BLACKSTONE, Sarah W., Ph.D. President and CEO Augmentative Communication, Inc. Monterey, CA 93940	2019	KINNAMON, Sue C., Ph.D. Professor Department of Otolaryngology University of Colorado, Denver Aurora, CO 80045	2019
CAREY, John Patrick, M.D. Professor, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, MD 21205	2021	LIBERMAN, M. Charles, Ph.D. Director, Eaton-Peabody Laboratory Department of Otolaryngology Harvard Medical School Boston, MA 02114	2019
EINHORN, Richard Consultant Einhorn Consulting, LLC New York, NY 10025	2022	LINKE ELLIS, Nanci Specialty Marketing Consultant for Hearing Loss and Vision Impaired Audiences Culver City, CA 90232	2020
ELLIS WEISMER, Susan, Ph.D. Oros-Bascom Professor Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI 53705	2020	MORTON, Cynthia C., Ph. D. William Lambert Richardson Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology and Professor of Pathology, Harvard Medical School Kenneth J. Ryan, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of Cytogenetics, Brigham and Women’s Hospital Chair in Auditory Genetics, University of Manchester Boston, MA 02115	2022
GIERUT, Judith A., Ph.D. Professor Emerita Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences Program in Cognitive Sciences Indiana University Bloomington, IN 47405	2020	SCHREINER, Christoph, M.D., Ph. D. Professor and Vice Chairman Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery	2019
GORDON-SALANT, Sandra, Ph.D. Director, Doctoral Program in Clinical Audiology University of Maryland College Park, MD 20742	2021		

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SEGIL, Neil, Ph.D. 2021
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and Director, Center for Hearing Research
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Ex Officio

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

JORDAN, Craig A., Ph.D.
Director, Division of Extramural Activities
National Institute on Deafness and Other
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Bethesda, MD 20892

NIDCD Council Budget Report

Eric Williams, Budget Officer
NIDCD Advisory Council Meeting
September 7, 2018

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

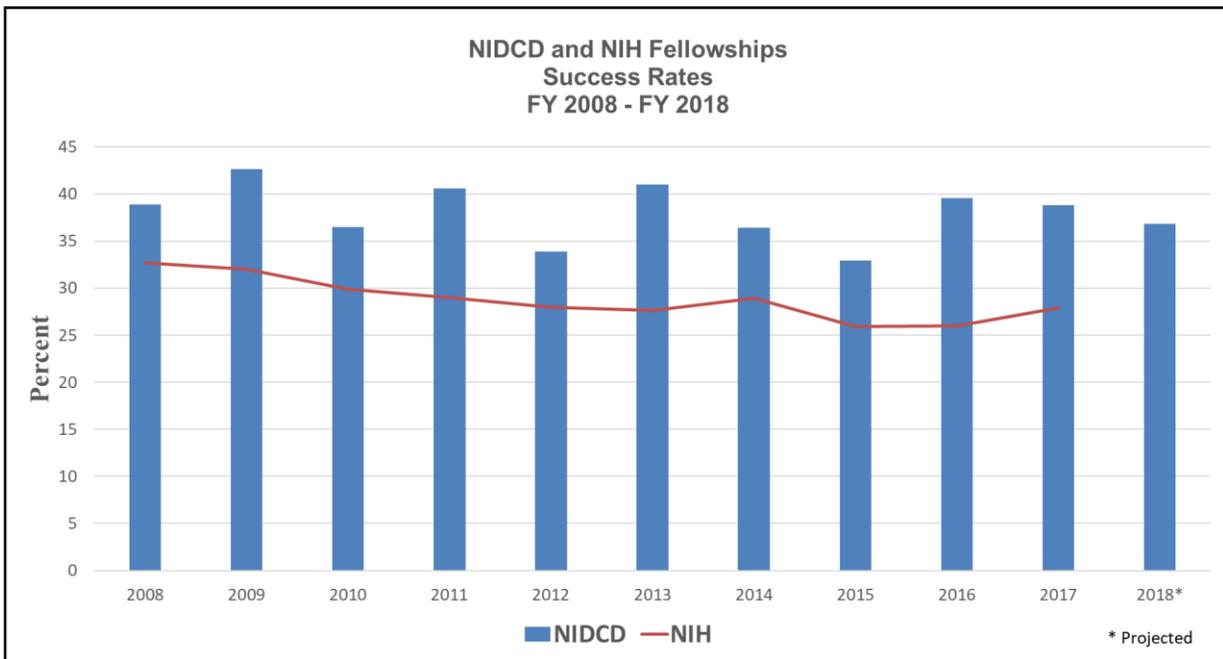
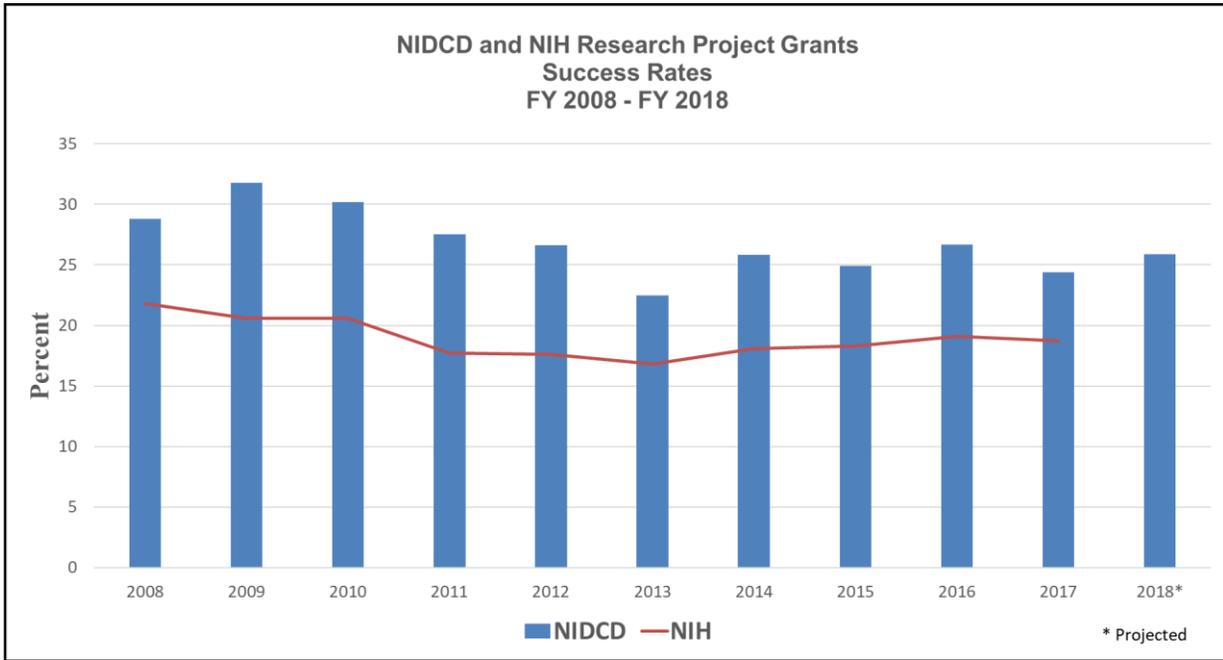
Comparing FY 2017 and FY 2018 Operating Plans (Dollars in thousands)

<i>Budget Mechanism</i>	FY 2017 Final Allocation		FY 2018 Operating Plan*	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Research Projects				
Noncompeting	581	\$226,337	585	\$233,900
Admin. Supplements	29	2,166	27	2,000
Competing	194	73,796	227	86,444
Subtotal	775	302,299	812	322,344
SBIR/STTR	33	13,673	35	14,700
Subtotal, RPG's	808	315,972	847	337,044
Research Centers	8	14,336	7	15,910
Other Research	64	10,186	73	9,750
Total Research Grants	880	340,494	927	362,704
Individual Training	127	5,400	144	6,250
Institutional Training	161	7,927	170	8,520
R & D Contracts	37	19,315	37	19,700
Intramural Research		39,951		41,500
Research Mgmt. & Support		22,817		21,300
TOTAL		\$435,904		\$459,974

*Projected

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

Historical Success Rates FY 2008 – FY 2018



National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

FY 2019 Budget Outlook

FY 2019:

President's Budget Request	\$423,992,000
House Mark	\$465,467,000
Senate Mark	\$474,653,000