Retiring Council Members

- **Guy Padbury, Ph.D.**
  Chief Development Officer
  Scorpion Therapeutics

- **Cathy Wu, Ph.D.**
  Data Science Institute
  Departments of Computer and Information Sciences
  and Biological Sciences
  University of Delaware
Ad hoc Council Participants

- Jani Ingram, Ph.D.
  Professor
  Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
  Northern Arizona University

- Natividad (Natacha) Ruiz, Ph.D.
  Professor
  Department of Microbiology
  Ohio State University
Early Career Investigator *Ad Hoc* Council Participants

- **Anthony Fehr, Ph.D.**  
  Assistant Professor  
  Department of Molecular Biosciences  
  University of Kansas

- **Keolu Fox, Ph.D.**  
  Assistant Professor  
  Department of Anthropology  
  University of California, San Diego
New NIGMS Division Director

Richard Aragon, Ph.D.

- Director of the Division of Data Integration, Modeling, and Analytics (DIMA)
- Had served as acting director of DIMA since January 2020
- Joined NIGMS in 2014 as chief of the former Office of Program Planning, Analysis, and Evaluation
- Previously held two positions in HHS’ Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources and before that was a program director in the Office of Technology and Industrial Relations, National Cancer Institute
New Hires

• Crina Frincu, Ph.D., Program Director, Research Advancement Programs Branch, Division for Research Capacity Building

• Lumy Sawaki-Adams, M.D., Ph.D., Program Director, Research Advancement Programs Branch, Division for Research Capacity Building

• Frank Shewmaker, Ph.D., Program Director, Biophysics Branch, Division of Biophysics, Biomedical Technology, and Computational Biosciences

• Fei Wang, Ph.D., Chief, Biophysics Branch, Division of Biophysics, Biomedical Technology, and Computational Biosciences
Promotions and Reassignments

Promotions

• Katherine Kan, Program Specialist, Administrative Services Branch, Division of Management

• Arthur Silver, Program Specialist, Administrative Services Branch, Division of Management

Reassignments

• Zuzana Justinova, Ph.D., Program Director, Pharmacological and Physiological Sciences Branch, Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry
NIGMS Job Vacancies

- NIGMS Small Business Development Strategy Coordinator
- NIGMS Clinical Research Strategy Coordinator
- Program Director/Health Scientist Administrators:
  Division of Biophysics, Biomedical Technology, and Computational Biosciences
  Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry
- Positions opened on May 17 and will close on May 26

https://nigms.nih.gov/about/job_vacancies
NIH Departure

Christopher P. Austin, M.D.

• Left position as director of the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) in April
• Had served as NCATS director since 2012
• Joined NIH in 2002 as senior advisor and director for the Center for Translational Therapeutics at the National Human Genome Research Institute
• Joni L. Rutter, Ph.D., now serving as NCATS acting director
Save the Dates: Upcoming NIGMS Lectures

Early Career Investigator Lecture*

• Elizabeth Johnson, Ph.D.
  Cornell University
• September 29, 2021

* Re-naming event to honor former NIGMS Deputy Director
  Judith H. Greenberg, Ph.D.

Stetten Lecture

• Trevor Bedford, Ph.D.
  Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
• October 20, 2021
NIGMS Strategic Plan 2021-2025

• Published 5/6/21:

• Input from multiple stakeholders, including from Council and through an RFI

• Sets the direction and priorities NIGMS will pursue over the next 5 years

• Goals, objectives, and implementation strategies build upon successful outcomes of the prior plan:

• Representative targets for each implementation strategy
The NIH UNITE Initiative

**UNITE**

- Understanding stakeholder experiences through listening and learning
- New research on health disparities/minority health/health equity
- Improving the NIH Culture and Structure for Equity, Inclusion, and Excellence
- Transparency, communication, and accountability with our internal and external stakeholders
- Extramural Research Ecosystem: Changing Policy, Culture, and Structure to Promote Workforce Diversity
The NIH UNITE Initiative: E Committee

Understanding stakeholder experiences through listening and learning

New research on health disparities/minority health/health equity

Improving the NIH Culture and Structure for Equity, Inclusion, and Excellence

Transparency, communication, and accountability with our internal and external stakeholders

Extramural Research Ecosystem: Changing Policy, Culture, and Structure to Promote Workforce Diversity

Anna Ordóñez, NIMH; Ericka Boone, OER/OD; Jon Lorsch, NIGMS
Extramural Research Ecosystem

CHARGE

To perform a broad systematic evaluation of NIH extramural policies and processes to identify and change practices and structures that perpetuate a lack of inclusivity and diversity within the extramural research ecosystem

Includes developing strategies to address funding disparities and increase applications that would support individuals from under-represented groups
The NIH UNITE Initiative to Strengthen Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Together, We’re Stronger

Extramural Research Ecosystem

FRAMEWORK
CHANGING NIH POLICIES, CULTURE AND STRUCTURES TO PROMOTE EXTRAMURAL WORKFORCE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

URG CAREER PATHWAYS

LIMITED RESOURCES/ CAPACITY AT HBCUs, TCU & MSIs

Evaluation & Stakeholder Engagement

Immediate Actions

Develop Short- & Long-Term Objectives

INEQUITIES AT EXTRAMURAL INSTITUTIONS: ENVIRONMENT & CULTURE

INEQUITIES AT NIH: PROCESSES & PROCEDURES
New NIGMS Initiatives

NIGMS Funding Opportunities:

• Notice of Special Interest: Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Structural Racism and Discrimination on Biomedical Career Progression and the Biomedical Research Enterprise (NOT-GM-21-033)

• Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Structural Racism and Discrimination on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional) (RFA-MD-21-004)

NIH Will Provide $2500 to Fellows and Trainees for Childcare Costs

“NIH recognizes that the high cost of childcare impacts graduate students and post-doctorates funded through NRSA fellowships, and their ability to successfully complete their training and fully participate in the extramural research workforce. Therefore, as part of our ongoing efforts to support family-friendly work environments for the NIH-supported workforce, NIH will begin providing childcare support to recipients of NRSA fellowships, on or after April 8, 2021. In Phase 2 of this initiative, a similar cost will be provided for NRSA-supported trainees (anticipated early FY 2022). For Phase 2 of this initiative, additional information and implementation guidance will be issued.”

NOT-OD-21-074
Supplements for Continuity of Research for First-Time Recipients of NIH RPGs and K Awardees

“This retention program seeks to maintain the productivity of current first-time recipients of eligible independent NIH research project grant awards who are dealing with a critical life event(s), such that they can remain competitive for the first renewal of their award or for a second research project grant award. For retention supplements to support the transition from K award to independence, see the companion NOSI.”

- Up to $50k for events such as childbirth, adoption, and primary care of an ailing spouse/partner or immediate family member

NOT-OD-20-054; NOT-OD-20-055
## Extensions for NIGMS F and K Awardees Significantly Affected by the Pandemic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 2</th>
<th>Round 3</th>
<th>Round 4</th>
<th>Totals to Date</th>
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<td>Percentage</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>31%</td>
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NIGMS Has Issued a Number of Supplement Opportunities

- Equipment
- Training Grant Enhancements:
  - Safe and Inclusive Environments
  - Wellness and Resiliency
  - Mentor Training
  - Lab Safety
  - Undergraduate Curriculum Innovation
  - Program Evaluation
- Undergraduate Summer Research
- Data Science – AI/ML, FAIR Data, Open Software
NIGMS-STRIDES Cloud Computing Pilots

Goal: Democratize high-performance computing and data science

Approach: Provide cloud computing training and cloud credits for research at under-resourced institutions through Google Cloud and Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Cloud Training for up to 500 students/investigators at three levels
- Beginner level (cloud platform users) - class starts on June 4
- Intermediate level (application developers)
- Advanced level (infrastructure developers)

AWS Research Credit Programs (applications open now)
- Cloud Credit for Research (CCR, $250,000 total)
- Diagnostics Development Initiative (DDI, $250,000 total)

Eligibility: Students/investigators from institutions supported by the IDeA and TWD Diversity Enhancing Programs

https://datascience.nih.gov/strides
NIGMS Has Issued a Number of Supplement Opportunities

- SARS-CoV-2 Sequence Surveillance (IDeA & NARCH)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy (IDeA, NARCH, & SEPA)
- IDeA CTR COVID-19 Patient Registry/N3C
- COVID-19 Modeling Research
NIH-Wide COVID-19 Updates

• Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Against COVID-19 Disparities
  - 5 CEAL sites are in IDeA states

• Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics for Underserved Populations (RADx-UP) Phase II

## RADx-UP Phase II Funding

<table>
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<td><strong>Testing / Vaccination</strong></td>
<td><strong>Social, Ethical and Behavioral Implications - SEBI</strong></td>
<td><strong>Administrative Supplements for RADx-UP Phase I</strong></td>
<td><strong>Return to School</strong></td>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>May 14</td>
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<td>RADx-UP Phase I</td>
<td>Invitees from LOI</td>
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<td>Testing with vaccines available</td>
<td>SEBI implications</td>
<td>Vaccine hesitancy</td>
<td>Testing for safe return to school</td>
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</table>
NIGMS Maintained High Investigator Funding and Award Success Rates in FY 2020
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