

FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

How FASEB is Working on Funding, Regulatory, and Policy Issues

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May 11, 2017

FDP Meeting

Current Landscape

◆ New Administration Still Getting Organized

- Key science positions are vacant
 - OSTP
 - Presidential Science Advisor

◆ Neomi Rao Nominated As Head of OIRA

- Nomination announced by President on April 7
- Professor, Scalia School of Law, George Mason
- Director, Center for the Study of the Administrative State, George Mason
- Expert in constitutional and administrative law
- Former Associate Counsel, George W. Bush Administration
- Nomination to be considered by Senate Homeland Security & Government Affairs Committee
- Paperwork not submitted to the Senate yet



Current Landscape (cont'd)

◆ Tension Between Congress & Administration Over Policy

- Repeal/replacement of Affordable Care Act
- Entitlement reform
- “Costs” of tax reform
- Foreign policy
- Immigration
- Spending

◆ Recognizing the Separation of Powers

- Role of Judiciary
- Passing legislation vs. governing by Executive Order

◆ Focus on Limiting Size/Scope of government

- Hiring freeze imposed in January – relaxed in April
- OMB Memo (April 12) ordered agencies to draft plans to:
 1. Overhaul operations
 2. Improve efficiency
 3. Cut costs

FY 2016 at NIH

- ◆ Received \$2 Billion Increase From Congress
- ◆ Funded More Research Project Grants
- ◆ Funded More R01 Equivalent Grants
- ◆ Higher Success Rates

	RPG			R01 Equivalent	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Applications	52,190	54,220		28,970	30,106
Awards (n)	9,540	10,372		5,467	6,010
Amount (\$ millions)	\$4,300	\$5,026		\$2,461	\$3,042
Success Rate	18.3%	19.1%		18.9%	20.0%

FY 2017 Funding for Research Agencies

AGENCY	FY 2016 FUNDING LEVEL	FY 2017 FUNDING LEVEL	CHANGE FROM FY 2016-FY 2017
National Institutes of Health	\$32 billion	\$34.08 billion	+\$2 billion (+6.2%)
National Science Foundation	\$7.46 billion	\$7.47 billion	+\$9 million (+0.13%)
Department of Energy Office of Science	\$5.35 billion	\$5.39	+\$42 million (+0.75%)
Agriculture & Food Research Initiative	\$350 million	\$375 million	+\$25 million (+7.14%)

Budget Issues

◆ Debt Ceiling

- Federal debt limit was reached in March 2017
- Congress will have to reach a new agreement on borrowing authority in order to prevent a default on U.S. debt obligations (by Fall)
- Fiscal conservatives may demand spending cuts as a condition of agreeing to increase the debt ceiling

◆ FY 2018 President's Budget

- Outline released March 16
- Recommended \$5.6 B (18%) cut for NIH
 - Elimination of Fogarty International Center
 - Proposed re-organization of NIH
- Proposed \$900 million cut to DOE SC
- Flat funding for agriculture research
- Full proposal with more details to be released on May 22



◆ Fights Over Spending Priorities

- Funding for a wall on the southern border of the U.S.
- Funding for major infrastructure improvements
- Tax reform/ tax cuts
- Immigration enforcement/sanctuary cities

Outlook for FY 2018 Federal Funding

◆ Return of Fiscal Austerity

- Overall spending cap is \$6 billion below FY 2017
- Sequestration will be “turned back on”
- Changing the cap will require a bipartisan agreement

◆ Pressure to Increase Defense Spending

- Priority for President Trump
- Growing support in Congress as well
- No commitment to equal increases for defense/ non-defense programs

◆ Appropriations Process Is Behind Schedule

- Delay in releasing President's Budget
- “Continuing Resolution” in September



Regulatory Burden: Administration Perspective

◆ Regulatory Freeze

- Memo issued by White House on January 20
- No new regs sent to OFR w/o agency approval
- Pending regs sent to OFR but not published in Fed'l Register must be withdrawn
- Postponed effected date of published regs for 60 days



◆ “1-for-2” Executive Order

- Issued on January 30
- For every new agency reg issued, 2 must be repealed
- New regulations must have an incremental cost of zero

Regulatory Burden: Congressional Perspective

◆ Use of Congressional Review Act (CRA)

- Allows Congress to repeal regs with simple majority vote (must be passed by House and Senate)
- Covers regs issued in the last 60 days of the previous administration
- Agencies cannot re-issue repealed regs or “substantially similar” ones
- Regs with economic effect of \$100M+ can’t take effect during review period
- 13 regs eliminated through CRA (as of May 5)
- House CRA window closed April 28; Senate CRA window closes this week!

◆ What Happens Post-CRA?

- Administration can rewrite regs it doesn’t like
- More time consuming; subject to court challenges



Pending Regulatory Reform Bills

◆ **Midnight Rules Relief Act (HR 21)**

- Passed by House on January 4 by a vote of 238-184
- Expands CRA to allow multiple regs issued in the final year of an Administration to be repealed in a single vote
- Senate Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee postponed vote on a companion bill (S 34) sponsored by Ron Johnson (R-WI)

◆ **Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act (REINS Act – HR 26)**

- Passed by House on January 5 by a vote of 237-187 vote
- Requires congressional approval for regs with an annual cost of \$100M+ before they can take effect
- Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee postponed a vote on a companion bill (S 21) sponsored by Rand Paul (R-KY)

Regulatory Burden Provisions in 21st Century Cures Bill

- ◆ **Exempts Voluntary Info Collected By NIH During Research From the Paperwork Reduction Act**
- ◆ **Requires HHS Secretary (by 2018) to:**
 - Review FCOI regs
 - Make revisions to harmonize existing regulations and reduce administrative burden related to:
 - Sub-recipient monitoring
 - Financial reporting procedures
 - Laboratory animal regulations
 - Payroll certification
- ◆ **Requires OMB to Create the “Research Policy Board”**



FASEB Regulatory Burden Recommendations

- ◆ The research community should vigorously and collectively oppose the addition of unnecessary or duplicative regulations
- ◆ The federal government should eliminate unnecessary regulations and streamline those that serve important functions
- ◆ The federal government and research institutions should eliminate duplicative training and certification requirements
- ◆ Investigators and administrators must take steps to promote efficient regulatory compliance practices at their institution
- ◆ The research community should encourage regulatory changes that permit efficient practices such as multi-site IRB's and IACUCs whenever possible



Why Engage In Policy?

◆ Science Impacts Policy and Policy Impacts Science

- You are the best – and sometimes only – advocate for your interests
- Members of Congress want to hear from their constituents

◆ There is Strong Bipartisan Support in Congress for the Research Agencies

- 206 House members signed a letter in March requesting \$36 billion for NIH in FY 2018
- 162 House members signed a letter in March requesting \$8 billion for NSF in FY 2018

◆ Many Members of Congress Are Not Aware of How Federal Research Funding Benefits Their District/State

◆ Voters Are Having a Greater Impact on Members of Congress

Recent Successes

◆ Bills Supporting NIH and Biomedical Research

- FY 2016 & 2017 appropriations included +\$2 billion increase for NIH
- Increases also provided for NSF, USDA, DOE SC
- 21st Century Cures showed strong NIH support

◆ Avoided SBIR Set-Aside Increase

◆ Progress on Regulatory Issues

- Relaxed government travel regulations
- Micropurchasing threshold retained at \$10,000



Best Practices

- ◆ **Make your research relatable**
- ◆ **Identify connections with your elected officials – college, church, hometown, volunteer group, etc.**
- ◆ **Get contact information for key staff aides in Washington & local/state offices**
- ◆ **Subscribe to newsletters from your elected officials**
- ◆ **Connect with your elected officials on social media**
- ◆ **Attend town hall meetings**
- ◆ **Document visits with elected officials in newsletters and on social media (include photos!)**

Ways to Get Engaged in Policy

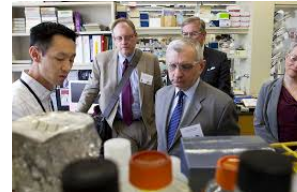
◆ Tell Your Story!

- Participate in a Capitol Hill Day
- Email your Senators/Representative
- Invite your elected officials to visit your lab
- Visit their state/district office



◆ Get the Word Out to the Public

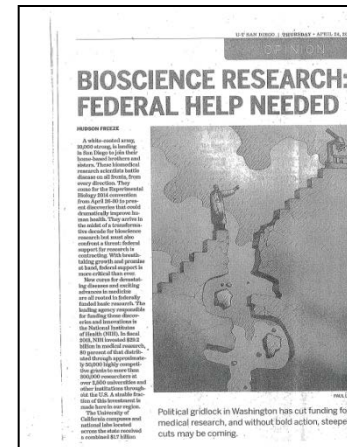
- Write a letter to your local newspaper
- Be a resource for reporters
- Tweet about science policy issues
- Contribute content to your society newsletter



◆ Teach or Mentor in Your Community

◆ Volunteer At a Local Science Museum

◆ Involve Students, Young Scientists, and Patients



FASEB has staff and online resources to help!



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FASEB Has Resources for YOU!

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FASEB
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Recognized as the policy voice of biological and biomedical researchers.

[Science Research Conferences](#) | [Science Policy & Advocacy](#) | [Resources for the Public](#) | [The FASEB Journal](#) | [Professional Development & Diversity Resources](#) | [Association Management Services](#) | [Directory of Members](#)

Science Policy & Research Issues

- Federal Funding Data
- Become an Advocate**
- Advocacy Tool Kit
- Request a Meeting
- Plan a Congressional Visit
- Share Your Story
- Write to Congress
- Attend a Local Meeting
- Get the Word Out
- Connect on Social Media
- Legislative Action Center
- Federal Funding by State & District
- Federal Science Budget Information
- Benefits of Biomedical Research
- FASEB Washington Update
- Science Policy News

Become an Advocate

FASEB represents more than 125,000 scientists and engineers through collaborative advocacy with constituent societies. Our top priority is urging Congress to provide sustainable and predictable federal funding for scientific research.

But it's not enough for organizations like FASEB to advocate for science—policymakers want to hear from constituents, too. There are many ways to deliver messages, ranging from privately meeting your legislator to attending a campaign event or town-hall meeting. The key is to evaluate your goals, the specific context and messages, and weave them together into a winning mix.

Join our advocacy efforts to ensure the U.S. continues to be a hub for innovation and scientific discovery. The resources below provide a set of practical tools to communicate with elected officials and the public.

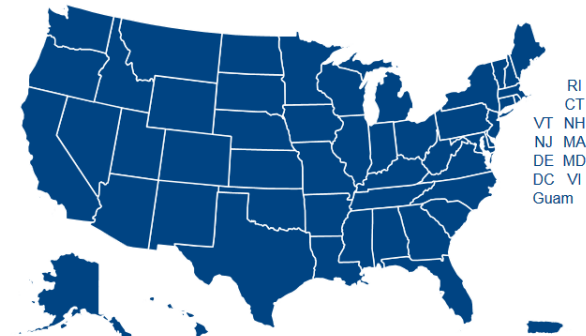
WEBINAR

Learn how to be an effective advocate

Your Advocacy Toolkit

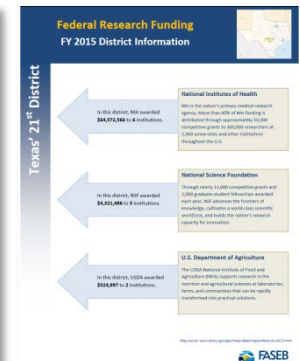
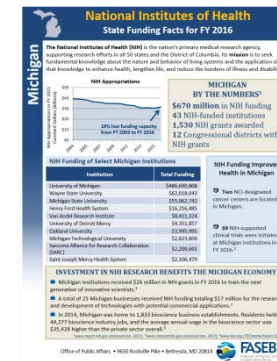
- Request a meeting** Meeting with federal lawmakers is a good way to advocate for scientific research
- Plan a congressional visit** Do your homework to effectively engage policymakers

Science Policy and Advocacy > Federal Funding Data > Federal Funding by State and District
Please click on the map below to access factsheets.



Discover how research is funded in your state and district

Read about biomedical breakthroughs



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Submitting a Letter or Op-Ed

Congress must commit to science funding in budget talks



UAB Hospital in Birmingham. (File photo/Alabama Media Group)

By Guest opinion
on October 22, 2015 at 10:45 AM, updated October 22, 2015 at 10:48 AM



By Louis B. Justement, PhD, and Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD

Louis B. Justement, PhD, is Professor of Microbiology, Director of the Graduate Biomedical Sciences Immunology Graduate Theme, and Associate Director for the Medical Scientist Training Program in the UAB School of Medicine.

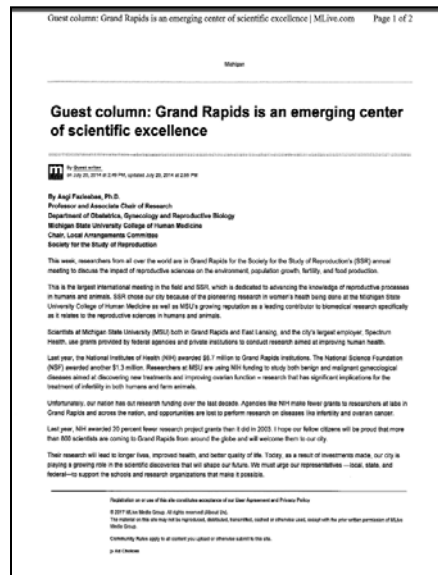
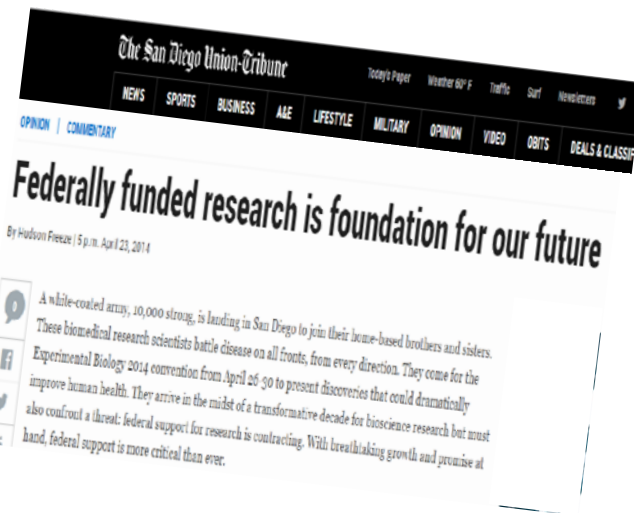
Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Program Leader of Cancer Cell Biology, and Associate Director for Translational Research at the Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB.



Louis Justement, PhD



Mary-Ann Bjornsti, PhD



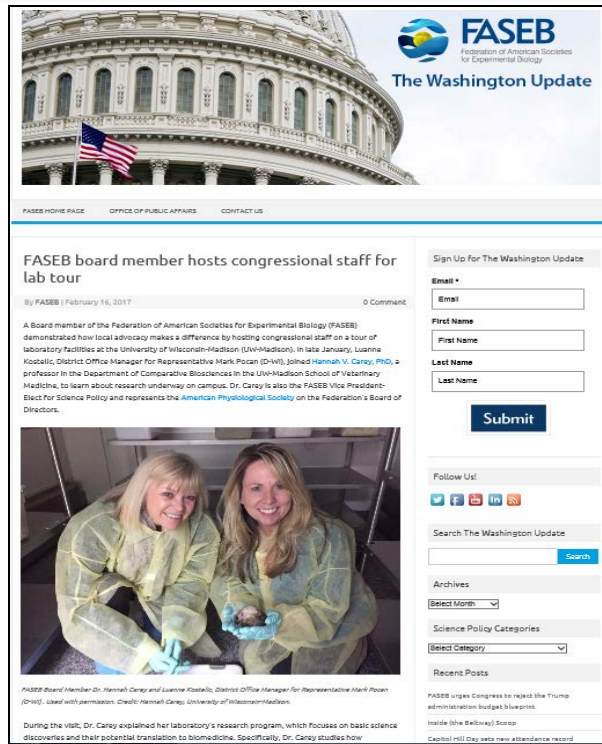
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Going Local...

- ◆ **Members of Congress are often less busy at home and more focused on engaging with constituents**
- ◆ **To build on any positive momentum and relationship building from a visit that took place on Capitol Hill**
- ◆ **Local engagement gives congressional staff a better understanding of constituent concerns**
 - Ability to see how federal dollars support local programs/projects
 - Opportunity to meet with voters affected by decisions made in Washington
- ◆ **Chance to generate positive press**



Inviting Legislators to Visit Your Lab



- Rep. Mark Pocan's (D-WI) District Director visited research labs at UW-Madison
- Discussed how federal money supports UW-Madison labs
- Also explained how immigration laws affect science



- PhD candidate at Univ. of Arkansas sent an email to his Representative (Steve Womack, R-AR)
- Rep. Womack replied and asked to visit the student's lab
- Rep. Womack toured the lab; heard how exercise science research can be used to inform policy makers

For More Information...

FASEB Office of Public Affairs

<http://www.faseb.org/Science-Policy-and-Advocacy.aspx>

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