The Role of the Program Officer at NIH

Richard K. Nakamura, Ph.D.

Deputy Director
National Institute of Mental Health

National Institutes of Health

Much of the biomedical research in the United States is supported by the Federal Government, primarily the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Mission

The NIH mission is to *uncover new knowledge that will lead to better health for everyone*. NIH works toward that mission by: conducting research in its own laboratories; supporting the research of non-Federal scientists in universities, medical schools, hospitals, and research institutions throughout the country and abroad; helping in the *training* of research investigators; and fostering *communication* of medical and health sciences information.

NIH Goal

"…the goal of NIH research is to acquire new knowledge to help prevent, detect, diagnose, and treat disease and disability…"

NIH
National Institute
of Mental Health

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

The Secretary

Deputy Secretary

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Administration on Aging (AoA)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA)

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

Indian Health Services (IHS)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Program Support Center (PSC)

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Director

- **National Institute on Aging**
- **National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism**
- **National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases**
- **National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases**
- **National Cancer Institute**
- **National Institute of Child Health and Human Development**
- **National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders**
- **National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research**
- **National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases**
- **National Institute on Drug Abuse**
- **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences**
- **National Eye Institute**
- **National Institute of General Medical Sciences**
- **National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute**
- **National Human Genome Research Institute**
- **National Institute of Mental Health**
- **National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke**
- **National Institute of Nursing Research**
- **National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering**
- **National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine**
- **Fogarty International Center**
- **National Center for Research Resources**
- **National Library of Medicine**
- **National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities**
- **Clinical Center**
- **Center for Information Technology**
- **Center for Scientific Review**

NIH Extramural Awarding Components

- National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
- National Library of Medicine (NLM)
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
- National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
- National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)
- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
- National Eye Institute (NEI)
- National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)
- **National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)**
- National Institute for Nursing Research (NINR)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)
- National Center for Research Resources (NCRR)
- National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)
- National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)
- Fogarty International Center (FIC)
- National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD)

A Typical Institute/Center
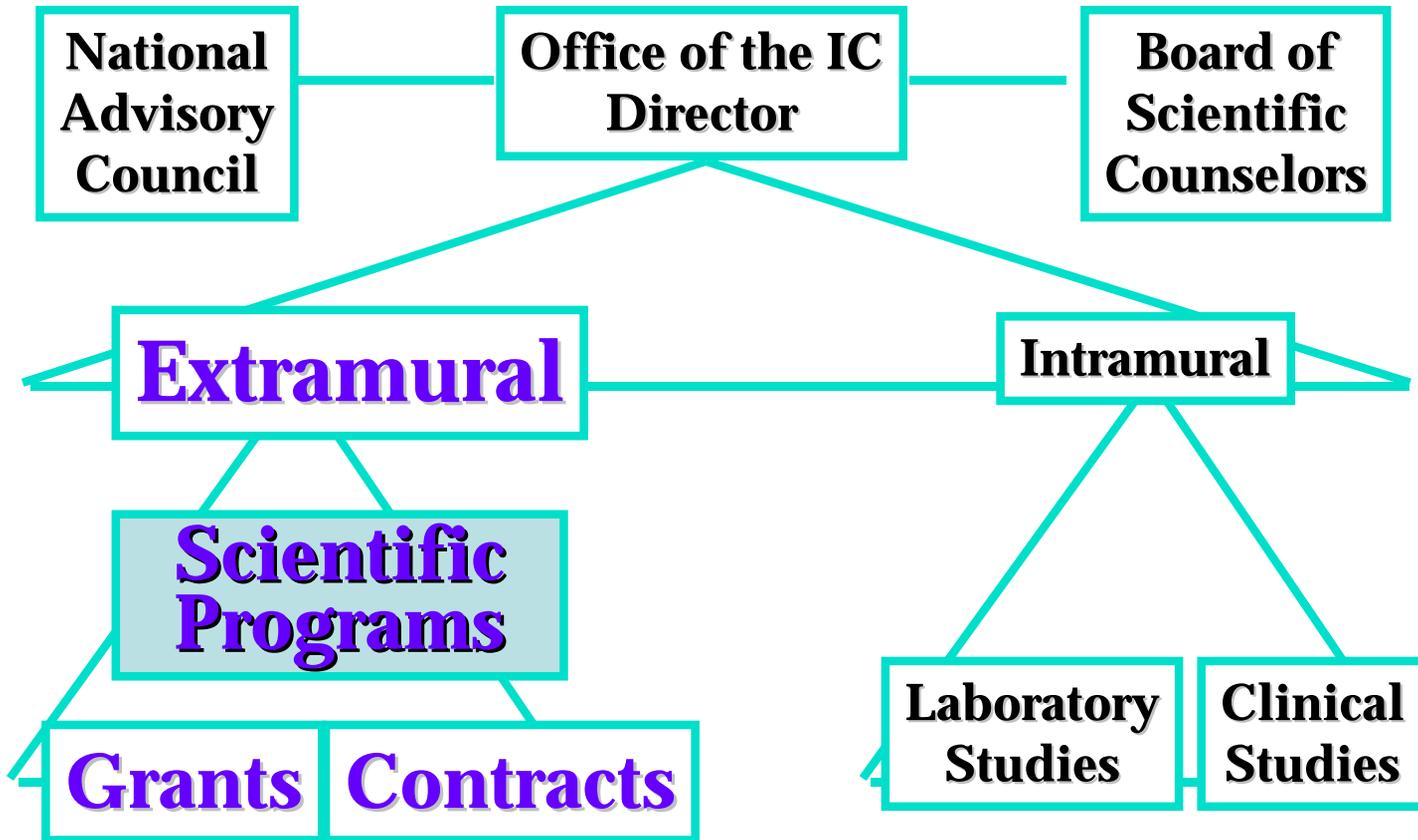
IC Director

Appoints all staff and recommends members of advisory bodies

Makes funding decisions based on review, council and program

Sets research directions

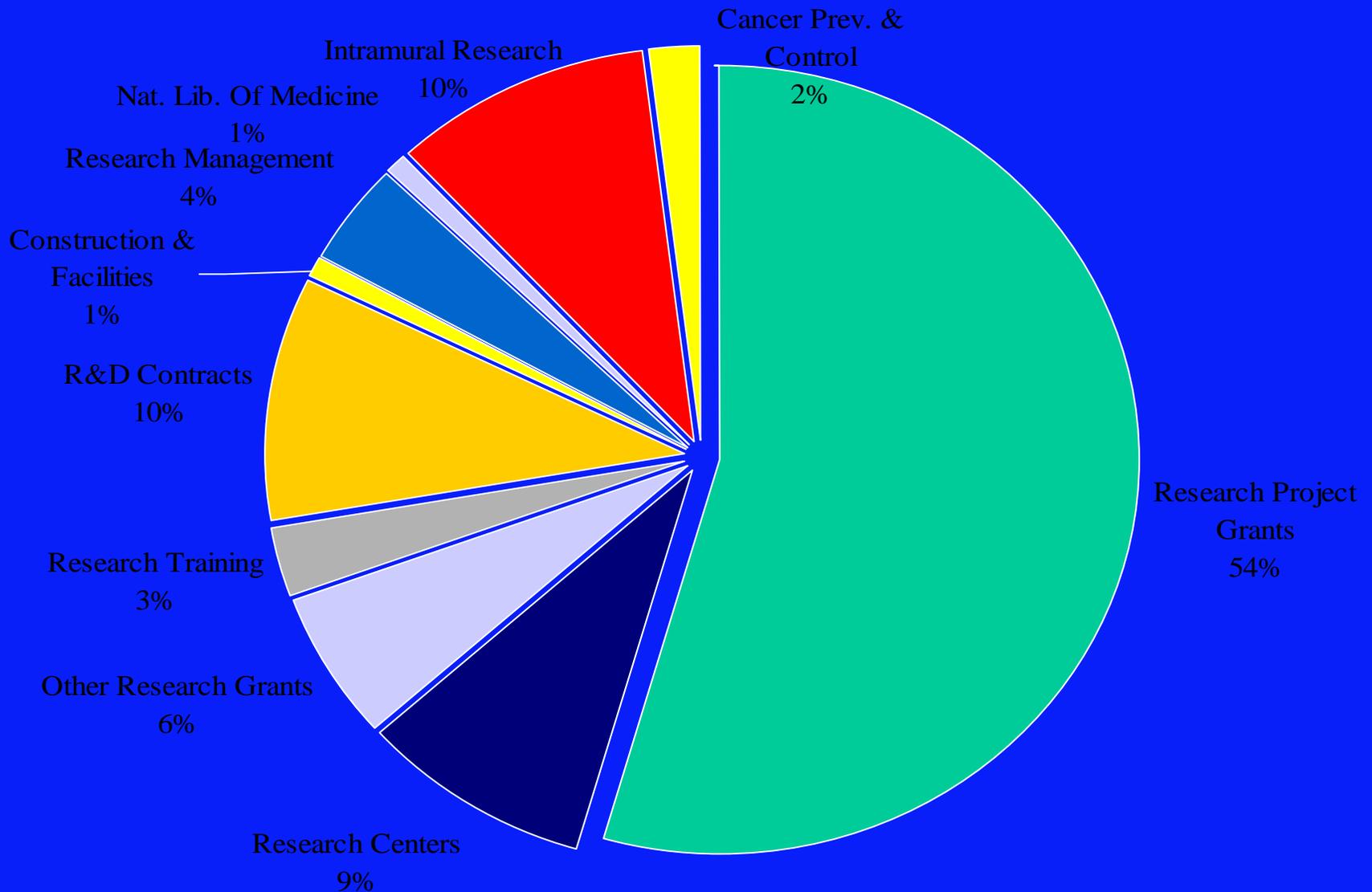Now reviewed by NIH every four years

NIMH Mission

Reduce the burden of mental illness and behavioral disorders **through** research on mind, brain and behavior

NIMH Facts

- **NIMH budget is over $1.3 billion**

- **7th Largest Institute of the NIH**

- **Most goes into more than 4500 research and training grants around the country based on expert review that funds less than 1/5 of applications**

NIH Funding in FY 2004: By Mechanism
Total = $27B

- Cancer Prev. & Control 2%
- Intramural Research 10%
- Nat. Lib. Of Medicine 1%
- Research Management 4%
- Construction & Facilities 1%
- R&D Contracts 10%
- Research Training 3%
- Other Research Grants 6%
- Research Centers 9%
- Research Project Grants 54%

Key Concept

NIH scientific success is built on funding of science projects selected through a process of severe competition (peer review). About 25% of applications are funded.

Within Each Institute Extramural Divisions are Responsible for Program Development & Implementation

NIH Process for a Research Grant

National Institutes of Health

Research Grant Application

School or Other Research Center

Center for Scientific Review

- Assigns to IRG/Study Section & IC

Study Section

- Evaluates for Scientific Merit

Institute

- Evaluates for Program Relevance

National Advisory Council

- Recommends Action

Institute Director

- Initiates Research Idea

- Submits Application

- Conducts Research

- Allocates Funds

NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
Office of Extramural Research

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◄ OER Home

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Overall Timeframe from Submission to Award

There are three overlapping cycles per year :

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL

Cycle 1

← Receipt →   ← Review →   ←Council→

← Referral →   Award

Cycle 2

← Receipt →   ← Review →   ←Council→

← Referral →   Award

Cycle 3

← Receipt →   ← Review →   ←Council→

← Referral →   Award

Key Concept 2

Separation and independence of program and review .   This is different from the US National Science Foundation.

NIH Layers

President of USA

Secretary of Health and Human
   Services

NIH Director

IC Director

Division Director

Branch Chief

Program Officer

PO Primary Job

Support extramural grants, contracts and training with the goal of improving national health.

NIH Research Support Mechanisms

- **Grant: NIH supports projects proposed by a Principal Investigator**
- **Cooperative Agreement: NIH is partner with substantial program involvement**
- **Contract: NIH asks scientists to do research that NIH proposes.**
- **Training grant: for training of future scientists**

PO Duties

- **Advise grant applicants**
- **Attend scientific review**
- **Make funding recommendations**
- **Monitor awarded grants**
- **Foster specific science through initiatives and meetings**
- **Talk to public**
- **Maintain his/her own scientific expertise**

Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting 2001

Workshops/Conferences

- **Assess the state-of-science**

- **Identify research needing stimulation**

- **Present suggestions from individual scientists**

Initiatives

Program Development
Identification of Priority Areas

- **Staff Analysis & Evaluation**
- **Input from Leaders in Scientific Community, NIMH Director, and NIMH Council Members**
- **Recommendations from Planning Groups & Workshops**
- **Final decision by NIMH Director**

Scientific Initiatives

PO develops Institute priority areas into concepts for Initiatives

Institute Review

National Advisory Mental Health Council

Announce to Research Community (NIH Guide)

Program Announcement (PA)

- Invites grant applications in a given research area

- May describe new or expanded interest in a particular extramural program

- May be a reminder of a continuing interest in a particular extramural program

- Generally has no funds set aside

- Applications reviewed in CSR along with unsolicited grant applications

Requests for Applications (RFAs) & Proposals (RFPs)

- Announcements describing an institute initiative in a well-defined scientific area

- Invitation to the field to submit research grant applications or contract proposals for a one-time competition

- Set-aside of funds for a certain number of awards

- Applications generally reviewed within the issuing institute

What Determines Which Awards Are Made?

- Scientific merit

- Program Considerations

- Availability of funds

NIH Home Page - www.nih.gov

Welcome to NIH
An overview and introduction to NIH including an employee directory, the Director's page and maps of the NIH "campus" in Bethesda, Maryland

News and Events
The NIH Calendar of Events, press releases, s[...] ation.

- NIH Guide
- Grant Policy
- Applications

Health Information
A selection of some NIH health resources su[...] nical Alerts, the Women's Health Initiative and [...] guide to diseases and conditions under investiga[...] at N[...]

Funding Opportunities
Information specific to NIH grants including application kits, grants policy, the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, award data and researc[...] research contracts, including Requests for [...] submission of contract proposals.

- Additional Program Information
- Staff Contacts

Scientific Resources
Intramural (on-site) research news and inf[...] library catalogs and journals, research [...] computer and network support fo[...]

Institutes and Offices
The NIH home page is only the beginning. Here you will find links to the many individual organizations that collectively make up the NIH. Some of these sites provide full-text consumer

Document: Done

NIH Grant related Information on the WORLD WIDE WEB
Selected Sites of Interest

- NIH MAIN:

  http://www.nih.gov/

- NIH Office of Extramural Research – Opportunities/Grants Policies, Etc.:

  http://www.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm

- NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices:

  http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html

- Fogarty International Center:

  http://www.fic.nih.gov

- Center for Scientific Review:

  http://www.csr.nih.gov

Issues from this meeting

Salaries

Problem of fairness

   Conflict of interest

PO return to research

Problem of renewal – competition

   Evaluation

No system is perfect

   Change, always change

www.nimh.nih.gov