

Overview of Scientific Management Review Board

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Today's Presentation

- SMRB Restart
- Charter
 - Overview
 - Authority
 - Objective and Scope
 - Duties
 - Membership and Designation
- Subcommittees
- Reports

SMRB Restart

- FY 2024 Appropriation's report language:
“The Committee directs NIH to reconvene the SMRB within 1 year of enactment in order to fulfill its statutory duty to advise Congress, the Secretary, and the NIH Director on how best to organize biomedical research funding.”

Overview

- The Scientific Management Review Board (SMRB) advises and makes recommendations to the HHS Secretary and the NIH Director on the use of organizational authorities.
- SMRB is comprised of directors of NIH institutes and centers and individuals from NIH-funded institutions or with broad expertise regarding how the NIH functions.
- The SMRB conveys advice and recommendations through reports to the NIH Director.

Authority

- Required by 42 U.S.C. 281(e), section 401(e) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended (**NIH Reform Act of 2006**)
- SMRB is governed by the provisions of the **Federal Advisory Committee Act**, as amended (5 U.S.C. §§ 1001-1014)

Objectives and Scope

- **Purpose:** To advise NIH and HHS officials on the use of agency organizational authorities to:
 - Establish or abolish ICs
 - Reorganize offices within OD
 - Reorganize within and across ICs

Duties

- The Board's advice will be conveyed through reports to the NIH Director and HHS Secretary
- Not less than **once each seven years**, the Board will issue a report to the NIH Director and other appropriate agency officials
 - Board will determine whether and to what extent NIH organizational authorities should be used
 - Report will provide recommendations regarding use of organizational authorities and reasons underlying recommendations
- ...

Duties (Cont.)

- The activities of the Board with respect to a specific report will include the following:
 - Review the research portfolio of the NIH to determine the progress and effectiveness and value of the portfolio and the allocation among the portfolio activities of the resources of NIH
 - Determine the pending scientific opportunities and public health needs, with respect to research within the jurisdiction of NIH
- ...

Duties (Cont.)

- The activities of the Board with respect to a specific report will include the following:
 - For any proposal for organizational changes to which the Board gives significant consideration as a possible recommendation in such report, the Board will:
 - analyze the budgetary and operational consequences of the proposed change(s)
 - take into account historical funding and support for research activities at national research institutes and centers that have been established recently relative to national research institutes and centers that have been in existence for more than two decades
- ...

Duties (Cont.)

- estimate the level of resources needed to implement the proposed changes
- assume the proposed changes will be made and make a recommendation for the allocation of the resources of NIH among the national research institutes and national centers
- analyze the consequences for the progress of research in the areas affected by the proposed changes
- ...

Duties (Cont.)

- When issuing a report on one or more specific contemplated organizational issues, the Board will consult with:
 - the heads of national research institutes and national centers whose directors are not members of the Board
 - other scientific leaders who are officers or employees of NIH and are not members of the Board
 - advisory councils of the national institutes and national centers
 - organizations representing the scientific community
 - organizations representing patients

Membership and Designation

- The Board will consist of an odd number of voting members including the chair, not to exceed 21
- Members are selected by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Director, NIH, who will be a permanent nonvoting ex officio member
- ...

Membership and Designation (Cont.)

- The voting members of the Board will include not fewer than 9 officials who are directors of NIH ICs, including directors of:
 - institutes whose budgets are substantial relative to a majority of the other institutes
 - institutes whose budgets are small relative to a majority of the other institutes
 - institutes that have been in existence for a substantial period of time without significant organizational change under Section 401, subsection (d) of the PHS Act, as amended
 - institutes that have undergone significant organizational changes under subsection (d) or that have been established under such subsection, other than national research institutes for which such changes have been in place for a substantial period of time
 - national centers
 - ...

Membership and Designation (Cont.)

- Non-Federal members of the Board include:
 1. individuals representing the interests of public or private institutions of higher education that have historically received funds from NIH to conduct research
 2. individuals representing the interests of private entities that have received funds from NIH to conduct research or that have broad expertise regarding how the NIH functions, exclusive of private entities under (1)
- All non-Federal members will be appointed as Special Government Employees
- Members will be invited to serve for overlapping five-year terms, except that any member appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term will be appointed for the remainder of that term
- A member may serve up to 180 days after the expiration of that member's term if a successor has not taken office. Terms of more than two years are contingent upon the renewal of the Board's Charter by appropriate action prior to its expiration
- A quorum for the conduct of business by the full Board will consist of a majority of appointed members eligible to vote

Subcommittees

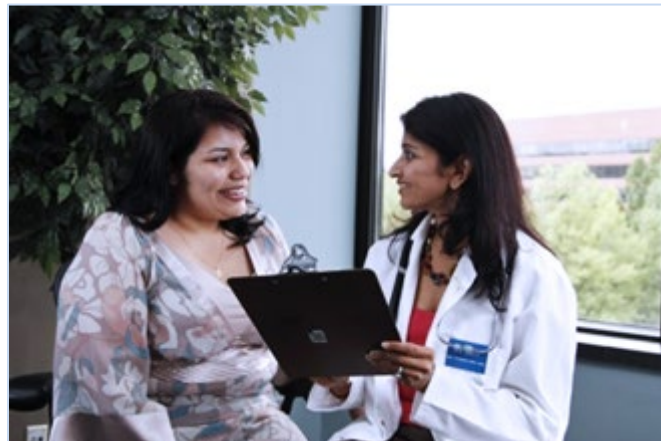
- As necessary, subcommittees and ad hoc working groups may be established to perform functions within the Board's jurisdiction
- Recommendations from subcommittee and ad hoc working groups must be deliberated by the parent advisory committee
- Subcommittee membership will be drawn in whole or in part from the parent advisory committee
- All subcommittee members may vote on subcommittee actions. Ad hoc consultants may not vote
- Subcommittee members who are not members of the parent committee may attend closed sessions of the parent committee meeting pertaining to the subject of the subcommittee but they may not count towards the quorum of the parent committee and they cannot vote
- As necessary and with the approval of the Executive Secretary, the Board and its subcommittees may call upon special consultants; assemble ad hoc working groups; and convene conferences, workshops, or other activities

Reports

- Each report issued by the Board will be submitted by the Director, NIH to:
 - the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives
 - the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate
 - the Secretary
 - officials with organizational authorities, other than any such official who served as a member of the Board with respect to the report involved

For More Information Visit:

<https://www.nih.gov/scientific-management-review-board>



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