

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY
AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE**

**NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR COMPLEMENTARY
AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE
MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-THIRD MEETING
Teleconference, April 7, 2009**

NACCAM Members present

Dr. Lori Alvord, Hanover, NH
Dr. Stephen Barnes, Birmingham, AL
Dr. Timothy Birdsall, Goodyear, AZ
Dr. Boyd Bowden, Columbus, OH
Dr. Gert Bronfort, Bloomington, MN
Dr. Lupo Carlota, Memphis, TN
Dr. Sheldon Cohen, Pittsburgh, PA
Dr. Fabio Cominelli, Cleveland, OH
Dr. Silvia Corvera, Worcester, MA
Dr. Stephen Ezeji-Okoye, Palo Alto, CA
Dr. Joan Fox, Cleveland, OH
Dr. Margery Gass, Cincinnati, OH
Dr. Ted Kaptchuk, Boston, MA
Dr. Shin Lin, Irvine, CA
Dr. Danny Shen, Seattle, WA

NACCAM Members not present

Dr. Charles Johnson, Washington, DC
Dr. Shear Katherine, New York, NY
Dr. Raynard Kington, Bethesda, MD
Dr. Richard Niemtow, Clinton, MD
Dr. Bruce Redman, Ann Arbor, MI
Dr. Herman Taylor, Jackson, MS
Dr. Xiaoming Tian, Bethesda, MD

NIH Staff present

Paul Coates, ODS,OD, NIH
Linda Southworth, NCI, NIH
Dan Xi, NCI, NIH

Members of the Public

Matthew Fritts
Lynn Marble
Shawn Stout

I. Open Session

The open session of the NACCAM meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. Dr. Martin Goldrosen, NACCAM Executive Secretary, called the meeting to order and conducted an attendance roll call. Dr. Josephine Briggs, Director of NCCAM, welcomed participants.

Dr. Briggs and Dr. Goldrosen proposed an expedited concurrence process for second-level approval of selected grant applications, to improve timeliness of grant awards and to allow Council to focus more fully on the most substantive issues at its regular meetings. Applications will be screened by NCCAM staff; those with priority scores “better than payline” and with no animal/human research issues will be forwarded electronically to three-member panels selected from a six-member Council subcommittee. Each application will require approval by at least two panel members; if any member objects, the application will be tabled for consideration by the full Council at its next meeting. A list of applications approved through the expedited concurrence process will be presented at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

In response to Council member questions, Dr. Briggs noted that most NIH institutes and centers have such a process in place, and she suggested a rotating basis for Council participation in the process.

Council members unanimously approved the expedited concurrence process as proposed. Dr. Goldrosen adjourned the open session at 1:16 p.m.

II. Closed Session

The second portion of the 33rd meeting of the National Advisory Council for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NACCAM) was closed to the public, in accordance with the provisions set forth in Sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C., and Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2)

The purpose of this meeting was to obtain Council input into the decision-making process being used by NCCAM staff in their review and assessment of currently unfunded R01 grant applications being considered for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). A total of 21 R01 applications with scores of 210 or better from previous 2008 and 2009 Council rounds are currently being considered. All are applications previously reviewed by the Council and approved by en bloc concurrence. Staff discussed with the Council 5 examples of assessment of revisions in scope and activity proposed by the PI, given the reduced (two year) funding interval.

Individual Council members asked specific questions concerning individual grants presented, and also provided input on the overall process. Council

concluded with the proposed processes, and expressed a general sentiment that better scoring applications should be funded before those scoring less well.

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

Martin Goldrosen, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary
National Advisory Council for
Complementary and Alternative
Medicine

Josephine Briggs, M.D.
Chairperson
National Advisory Council for
Complementary and Alternative
Medicine