

# Tyi from the NHLBI

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## NHLBI to Host Annual PIO Meeting

The NHLBI will hold its Eleventh Annual Public Interest Organization (PIO) meeting on May 24–25, 2010, at the Bethesda Marriott on Pooks Hill Road in Bethesda, Maryland. PIO attendees of the previous annual meetings have praised the events for the unique opportunities they provide to learn more about how the NIH and the NHLBI work, to meet NIH and NHLBI leaders, and to interact with their counterparts in other PIOs.

This year's meeting, which will focus on timely, important topics relevant to all attendees, promises to be another great opportunity for PIO representatives to share insights and exchange information that will be helpful in sustaining their organizations. This year's program agenda again provides a significant amount of planned time for networking with members from other PIOs as well as with NHLBI staff.

The meeting will begin Monday afternoon, May 24, with a keynote address by Dr. Francis S. Collins, who was sworn in as the 16th NIH Director on August 17, 2009.

On Tuesday, May 25, the program will begin with a presentation by Dr. Susan B. Shurin, Acting Director, NHLBI, and will feature an array of speakers from PIOs, the NHLBI, and the NIH.

A presentation by Dr. Keith Hoots, Director of the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources; Dr. James Kiley, Director of the Division of Lung Diseases; and Dr. Michael Lauer, Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Sciences, will include a discussion of the NHLBI's use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

An important discussion on the contemporary issue of the role of social networking in raising public awareness will be led by Mr. John Burklow, of the NIH Office of Communications and Public Liaison, and Ms. Angelina Wang, of the National Hemophilia Foundation.

Another highlight of the meeting will be roundtable discussions on the topics of Reaching Out to Patients, led by Ms. Barbara Rogers, President and CEO of the National Emphysema/COPD Alliance; Using Good Business Management Principles and Practices in Your Organization, led by Mr. Chris Chiames, Executive Director of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association; Bringing a Scientific Professional to Your Organization, led by Dr. Matthew Toth, Science Director of the Barth Syndrome Foundation; and Stimulating Research, led by Dr. Eveline Honig, Executive Director of the Narcolepsy Network.

The afternoon highlights will include a scientific presentation – The Story of Sickle Cell Disease – given by Dr. Alan Schechter of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. The patient perspective on sickle cell will be addressed by Dr. Carlton Haywood Jr. of Johns Hopkins University.

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## Upcoming NHLBI Workshops and Working Groups\*

Workshop or Working Group	Date / Location	Contact for More Information
Defining the Agenda for SC Trait	June 3 - 4, 2010 Bethesda, MD	Dr. Jonathan Goldsmith goldsmithjc@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0050
International COPD Genetics Workshop	July 13 - 14, 2010 Boston, MA	Dr. James Kiley kileyj@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0233
Virtual Reality Technologies for Obesity and Diabetes Education and Behavior Change	July 15 - 16, 2010 Bethesda, MD	Dr. Abby Ershow ershowa@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0550
Nutrition and Diet in Registry and Surveillance Studies of Hemoglobinopathies Working Group	August 23 - 24, 2010 Bethesda, MD	Dr. Ellen Werner wernere@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0050
Annual Sickle Cell Disease Clinical Research Meeting	August 25 - 27, 2010 Bethesda, MD	Dr. Harvey Luksenburg luksenburgh@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0050
Defining Molecular Pathways and Mechanisms That Predict CVD Risk Associated With Sleep Disordered Breathing	September 7 - 8, 2010 Bethesda, MD	Dr. Daniel Lewin lewinds@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0199
Pediatric Sleep Disturbances and Their Contribution to Developmental Pathophysiology of Cardiometabolic Risk	September 9, 2010 Bethesda, MD	Dr. Daniel Lewin lewinds@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0199
Personalized Approaches to Cardiovascular Medicine: New Directions for Improving Patient Care	September 28 - 30, 2010 Washington, DC	Dr. Ahmed Hasan hasana@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0064
Infection, Inflammation, and Thrombosis	September 2010 Date to be determined Boston, MA	Dr. Ahmed Hasan hasana@nhlbi.nih.gov 301-435-0064

\* PIO representatives will be accommodated on a space-available basis and will be responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses.

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Additionally, Dr. Story Landis, Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and Dr. Robert Balaban, Director of the NHLBI Division of Intramural Research, will review stem cell science and the revised NIH stem cell policy.

The meeting will close with an opportunity for PIO representatives to meet NHLBI staff members who have expertise in heart development and diseases, vascular diseases, lung diseases, airway diseases, blood diseases and resources, and sleep and sleep disorders.

### *Mark Your Calendar . . .*

<b>May</b>	National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month ( <a href="http://www.aafa.org">www.aafa.org</a> )
	National High Blood Pressure Education Month ( <a href="http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/nhbpep/">www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/nhbpep/</a> )
	Tuberous Sclerosis Awareness Month ( <a href="http://www.tsalliance.org">www.tsalliance.org</a> )
<b>June</b>	National Scleroderma Awareness Month ( <a href="http://www.scleroderma.org">www.scleroderma.org</a> )
<b>July</b>	Cord Blood Awareness Month ( <a href="http://www.parentsguidecordblood.org">www.parentsguidecordblood.org</a> )

## NHLBI Research Initiatives

From time to time, the NHLBI invites investigators to submit grant applications or contract proposals for specific research programs. We are soliciting applications for the following new programs. Please visit the URL listed with each program to obtain information about important application dates and deadlines. For full descriptions of these and other current research initiatives, visit [www.nhlbi.nih.gov/funding/inits/index.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/funding/inits/index.htm).

### **Ancillary Studies in Clinical Trials (R01)**

(RFA-HL-10-024)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-10-024.html>

*Objective:* Conduct time-sensitive ancillary studies related to heart, lung, and blood diseases and sleep disorders in conjunction with ongoing clinical trials and other large clinical studies.

### **Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) Study -- Fourth Renewal (N01)** (NHLBI-HC-11-05)

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/funding/inits/docs/CC%20RFP.pdf>

*Objective:* Capitalize and expand upon the resources of data, specimens, and infrastructure developed over 25 years in the ARIC Study by re-examination and follow-up of the aging ARIC cohort through 2016.

### **Bioengineering Nanotechnology Initiative (STTR [R41/R42]) and (SBIR [R43/R44])**

(PA-10-149/150)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-149.html>

*Objective:* Conduct small business projects that develop and apply nanotechnology to biomedicine.

### **Centers for Advanced Diagnostics and Experimental Therapeutics in Lung Diseases (CADET) (U50)**

(HL-11-015)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-11-015.html>

*Objective:* Accelerate development of novel agents for the diagnosis and treatment of lung diseases and sleep disordered breathing. The first phase, CADET I, will involve up to 30 two-year awards to explore and validate novel targets for therapeutic or diagnostic development. The second phase, Cadet II, beginning in FY 2013, will support development of therapeutics or diagnostics based on the most promising results from CADET I.

### **Cross Organ Mechanism-Associated Phenotypes for Genetic Analyses of Heart, Lung, Blood, and Sleep Diseases (MAPGen for HLBS) (U01)**

(HL-11-004/005)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-11-005.html>

*Objective:* Define an accumulating set of mechanism-associated traits that cross organ systems based upon evolving knowledge of biological and molecular networks with the goal of improving phenotyping of individuals for genetic research studies.

### **Diet Composition and Energy Balance (R01)**

(PA-10-152)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-152.html>

*Objective:* Investigate the role of diet composition in energy balance, in both animals and humans. Collaborations between basic and clinical researchers are particularly encouraged.

### **Investigator Initiated Multi-Site Clinical Trials (Collaborative R01)** (PAR-10-096)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-096.html>

*Objective:* Conduct investigator-initiated, multi-site Phase II or Phase III randomized, controlled clinical trials of biomedical or behavioral interventions that address research questions related to the mission and goals of the NHLBI.

### **New Approaches to Arrhythmia Detection and Treatment (STTR [R41/R42])** (PA-10-117/118)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-118.html>

*Objective:* Develop new or improved methods, tools, technologies, and approaches for the detection, treatment, and prevention of arrhythmias.

### **Next Generation Genetic Association Studies (U01)**

(RFA-HL-11-006)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-11-006.html>

*Objective:* Add a functional dimension to genome-wide association studies by combining cellular reprogramming strategies with molecular profiling and by integrating this information with existing genotypic data to assess how naturally occurring human genetic variation influences the activities of biological networks in cell-based models of disease.

### **NHLBI Research Centers at Minority-Serving Institutions (P30)** (HL-11-019)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-11-019.html>

*Objective:* Augment and strengthen the research capabilities and resources related to heart, lung, blood, and sleep diseases and disorders at existing and/or new research centers at minority-serving institutions.

### **Planning Grants for Pivotal Clinical Trials in Hemoglobinopathies (R34)** (HL-11-009)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-11-009.html>

*Objective:* Plan pilot studies to answer research questions essential for the design of robust Phase II and III clinical trials in the major hemoglobinopathies (sickle cell disease and the thalassemias).

### **Renewal of the Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Biologic Specimen Repository (N01)** (HB-11-19)

<https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=3ca4f63c8dfc3bfb03192e2cf66e5d00&tab=core&cview=1>

*Objective:* Maintain for an additional five years collections of biological specimens from NHLBI-sponsored epidemiological and clinical studies.

# National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council Meeting

February 2, 2010

Dr. Susan B. Shurin, Acting Director of the NHLBI, welcomed members to the 237th meeting of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council (NHLBAC).

Dr. Shurin introduced Dr. Francis S. Collins, Director, NIH, who identified major opportunities for NIH investment and highlighted recent contributions of the NIH, and the NHLBI in particular, to biomedical research.

Dr. Collins thanked Dr. Shurin for her many contributions to the NIH, including her current activities as Acting Director of the NHLBI. Dr. Collins assured the Council that the search for a permanent Director of the NHLBI is under way and that he will be involved personally in the process.

Dr. Collins discussed five areas of special opportunities for the NIH: high-throughput technologies, translational medicine, benefiting health care reform, focusing more on global health, and reinvigorating and empowering the biomedical research community. He also noted that the FY 2010 final NIH budget of \$30.988 billion includes about \$26.0 billion in spending outside the NIH. He expressed his appreciation for the President's FY 2011 budget request which seeks an increase of \$1 billion over the FY 2010 budget level.

Dr. Shurin paid tribute to Dr. Marshall Nirenberg who died January 15, 2010, by acknowledging his extraordinary contributions to biomedical science. While an investigator at the NIH, Dr. Nirenberg uncovered the RNA sequences that

encode all 20 amino acids, for which he received a Nobel Prize in 1968—the first NIH researcher and federal employee to receive the honor.

Dr. Shurin announced several leadership appointments within the NHLBI: Dr. Jodi Black as Deputy Director, Division of Extramural Research Activities; Mr. James Schlicht as Legislative Liaison; Dr. Denise Simons-Morton as Director, Division for the Application of Research Discoveries; Dr. Carl Roth as Acting Deputy Director; Ms. Sally McDonough as Director, Office of Communications; and Dr. Donna DiMichelle as Deputy Director, Division of Blood Diseases and Resources.

Dr. Shurin reviewed the NHLBI FY 2009/FY 2010 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding plan. The Institute received \$763 million in ARRA monies, most of which has been obligated or committed. The NHLBI ARRA web site (<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/recovery/>) summarizes the Institute's Recovery Act policies and investments, and includes illustrative stories about researchers' use of NHLBI Recovery Act funds.

Dr. Neal S. Young, Chief, Hematology Branch, NHLBI Division of Intramural Research, reported on research progress in areas related to aplastic anemia and other bone marrow failure syndromes. Dr. Young also serves as

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## News from Capitol Hill

### Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

On March 23, 2010 the President signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148). The new law, which makes major changes to the U.S. health care system, contains a number of provisions relevant to the NIH and the NHLBI. For example:

- The law authorizes the NHLBI Director to expand, intensify, and coordinate congenital heart disease research and requires the NHLBI Director to consider the application of congenital heart disease research to minority and medically underserved communities.
- The law prohibits health insurers from denying an individual access to an approved clinical trial and requires that routine patient costs be covered. Approved clinical trials are those approved or funded

by certain government agencies, including the NIH.

- A non-profit institute called the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) will be established to set research priorities and a research agenda. PCORI will conduct or support comparative effectiveness research and set all the related research parameters. NIH will be a member of the Board of Governors and Methodology Committee.

### House and Senate Resolutions Highlight the Year of the Lung

The Forum of International Respiratory Societies has declared 2010 "The Year of the Lung" and Congress has recognized the Year with two resolutions. On February 26, 2010, a resolution (H. Res. 1122) was introduced supporting the goals and ideals of "The Year of the Lung." On March 3, 2010, a similar resolution was introduced in the Senate (S. Res. 432).

## Upcoming Events

Activity	Date/Location	More Information
American Sleep Apnea Association Sleep Apnea & Trucking Conference 2010	May 11 - 12, 2010 Baltimore, MD	<a href="http://www.satc2010.org/">http://www.satc2010.org/</a>
Mended Hearts 58th Annual Convention	May 19 - 23, 2010 Bloomington, MN	<a href="http://www.mendedhearts.org/frame-events.htm">http://www.mendedhearts.org/frame-events.htm</a>
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council 238th Meeting	May 26, 2010 Bethesda, MD	<a href="http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/meetings/nhlbac/index.htm">http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/meetings/nhlbac/index.htm</a>
It's My Heart 2nd National CHD Conference	June 4 - 6, 2010 Houston, TX	<a href="http://www.itsmyheart.org/get-involved/chd-conference/">http://www.itsmyheart.org/get-involved/chd-conference/</a>
Alpha-1 Association 2010 19th Annual National Education Conference	June 11 - 13, 2010 Lake Buena Vista, FL	<a href="http://www.alpha1.org/education/nateduconf.php">http://www.alpha1.org/education/nateduconf.php</a>
Children's Interstitial Lung Disease (chILD) Foundation chILD Conference 2010	June 18 - 20, 2010 Houston, TX	<a href="http://www.childfoundation.us/conference.html">http://www.childfoundation.us/conference.html</a>
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy 2010 Annual Connect Conference	June 24 - 27, 2010 Denver, CO	<a href="http://www.parentprojectmd.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ending_attend_annual">http://www.parentprojectmd.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ending_attend_annual</a>
Pulmonary Hypertension Association Conference and Scientific Sessions	June 25 - 27, 2010 Garden Grove, CA	<a href="http://www.phassociation.org/Page.aspx?pid=1016">http://www.phassociation.org/Page.aspx?pid=1016</a>
Platelet Disorder Support Association 10th Annual ITP Conference	June 25 - 27, 2010 Las Vegas, NV	<a href="http://www.pdsa.org/resources/annual-conference/itp-conference-2010.html?layout=item">http://www.pdsa.org/resources/annual-conference/itp-conference-2010.html?layout=item</a>
National Marfan Foundation 26th Annual Conference	July 8 - 11, 2010 Houston, TX	<a href="http://marfan.org/marfan/4602/National-Marfan-Foundation-Annual-Conference-2010">http://marfan.org/marfan/4602/National-Marfan-Foundation-Annual-Conference-2010</a>
Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation, Inc. National Patient and Family Conference	July 10 - 13, 2010 Bethesda, MD	<a href="http://www.aamds.org/aplastic/conferences/2010_national_dc/">http://www.aamds.org/aplastic/conferences/2010_national_dc/</a>
TOPS Club, Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) International Recognition Days	July 15 - 17, 2010 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada	<a href="http://www.tops.org/IRD2010.aspx">http://www.tops.org/IRD2010.aspx</a>
American Association for Respiratory Care AARC Summer Meetings	July 16 - 18, 2010 Marco Island, FL	<a href="http://www.aarc.org/education/meetings/summer_forum/">http://www.aarc.org/education/meetings/summer_forum/</a>
Klippel Trenaunay Support Group Support Meeting	July 23 - 24, 2010 Rochester, MN	<a href="http://k-t.org/?p=291">http://k-t.org/?p=291</a>
Barth Syndrome Foundation 2010 International Scientific, Medical & Family Conference	July 26 - 31, 2010 Orlando, FL	<a href="http://barthsyndrome.org/english/View.asp?x=1633">http://barthsyndrome.org/english/View.asp?x=1633</a>
Scleroderma Foundation 2010 National Conference	July 30 - August 1, 2010 Boston, MA	<a href="http://www.scleroderma.org/national_conference.htm">http://www.scleroderma.org/national_conference.htm</a>
PXE International, Inc. 2010 Biennial Conference	September 10 - 12, 2010 Bethesda, MD	<a href="http://www.pxe.org/english/View.asp?x=1834">http://www.pxe.org/english/View.asp?x=1834</a>
Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. 38th Annual Convention	September 21 - 24, 2010 Washington, DC	<a href="http://www.scdaaconvention.com/">http://www.scdaaconvention.com/</a>
National Lymphedema Network 9th NLN International Conference	September 22 - 26, 2010 Orlando, FL	<a href="http://www.lymphnet.org/2010conf/2010conf.htm">http://www.lymphnet.org/2010conf/2010conf.htm</a>



### Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation Annual Research Grant Program

The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation (CCF) is pleased to announce the availability of one-year research grants for studies focused on pediatric cardiomyopathy. The purpose of CCF's Annual Research Grant Program is to advance knowledge of the basic mechanism of the disease and to develop more accurate diagnostic methods and improved therapies for children affected with cardiomyopathy.

The CCF is inviting investigator-initiated research proposals for innovative basic, clinical, population, or translational studies related to the cause, diagnosis, or treatment of primary cardiomyopathy in children under the age of 18 years. CCF's grant program is designed to provide seed funding to investigators for the testing of initial hypotheses and collecting of preliminary data to help secure long-term funding by the NIH and/or other major granting institutions.

The principal investigator must hold an MD, PhD, or equivalent degree and reside in the United States or Canada. The investigator must have a faculty appointment at an accredited U.S. or

Canadian institution and have the proven ability to pursue independent research as evidenced by publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Funding is available in the range of 25–50 thousand U.S. dollars for one year of total direct costs. Following the completion of the proposed study, a second year of funding may be an option for relevant study extensions.

For downloadable CCF grant guidelines and application forms please visit [www.childrenscardiomyopathy.org/site/grants.php](http://www.childrenscardiomyopathy.org/site/grants.php). The deadline for application submission is Friday, September 3, 2010. Final award decisions will be made by January 2011.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Yue, President, Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, at 866-808-CURE ext. 901 or [lyue@childrenscardiomyopathy.org](mailto:lyue@childrenscardiomyopathy.org).

*Submitted by Becky Delgado  
Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, Inc.*

*We invite you to use this space that we reserve for you to share your successes and opinions. You may submit your ideas and articles to [nhlbi.listens@nih.gov](mailto:nhlbi.listens@nih.gov) or Public Interest News, Office of Science and Technology, Building 31, Room 5A07, 31 Center Drive, MSC-2482, Bethesda, MD 20892-2482.*

## February 2010 Advisory Council Meeting

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Director of the Trans-NIH Center for Human Immunology, Autoimmunity, and Inflammation, the mission of which is to support cooperative research based on advanced technologies in order to translate enhanced understanding of immune function and pathophysiology to the clinic. He summarized the Center's goals and progress made in its first fully budgeted year.

Dr. Stephen C. Groft, Director, NIH Office of Rare Diseases Research (ORDR), briefed the Council on the mission and activities of ORDR in working with NIH Institutes/Centers to coordinate and support rare diseases research, respond to research opportunities for rare diseases, and provide information on rare diseases.

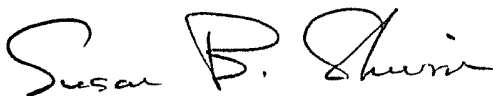
Dr. Manfred Boehm, Translational Medicine Branch, NHLBI Division of Intramural Research, discussed research

on a newly identified rare vascular disease known as Focal Artery and Joint Calcification in Adults disease, an autosomal recessive disorder of vascular calcification. He also discussed research that led to increased understanding about two other rare diseases—Prolidase Deficiency and Job's Syndrome—which involve defective wound repair and tissue remodeling.

Dr. Stephen C. Mockrin, Director, Division of Extramural Research Activities, presented the Annual Review of Delegated Authorities from the NHLBAC report. Delegated authorities allow NHLBI staff to perform specific functions without Council involvement, thereby adding flexibility and decreasing the burden on the Council. Dr. Mockrin reported that in FY 2009, the Institute undertook 12 actions using its delegated authorities. The Council accepted the report and agreed to continue the current policy of Delegated Authorities.

### Need More Information?

We are always interested in receiving comments and suggestions from the community. If you or your organization have questions for me or for the Institute, please contact me at [shurinsb@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:shurinsb@nhlbi.nih.gov) or Dr. Carl Roth at [rothc@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:rothc@nhlbi.nih.gov).



Susan B. Shurin, M.D.  
Acting Director, NHLBI

For information on specific issues, the following contacts may be helpful:

- For health-related questions, information about publications, or communications pertaining to NHLBI policies and priorities, please contact the trained information specialists of the NHLBI Information Center at 301-592-8573, or write to the Information Center at P.O. Box 30105, Bethesda, MD 20824-0105, or email inquiries to [nhlbiinfo@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:nhlbiinfo@nhlbi.nih.gov).
- For additional information regarding NHLBI events, consult the references provided or [www.nhlbi.nih.gov/calendar/nhcal.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/calendar/nhcal.htm). Most other NIH Institutes and Centers also maintain calendars on their Web sites. Links to their Web pages are at [www.nih.gov/icd](http://www.nih.gov/icd).