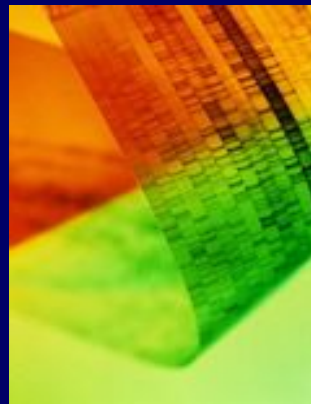
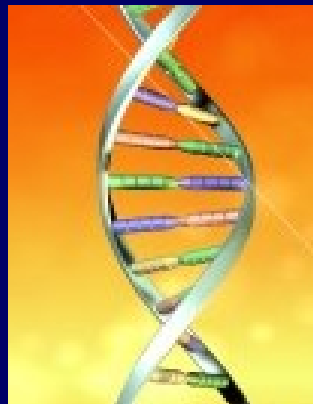


Report of the NSABB Working Group on Journal Review Policies



June 23rd 2011
NSABB Board Meeting

Roster



Voting Members

- Arturo Casadevall
(*Co-chair*)
- Jeffery F. Miller
(*Co-chair*)
- Kenneth I. Berns
- Lynn W. Enquist
- Claire M. Fraser-Liggett
- Christine M. Grant
- Susan Ehrlich

Federal Liaison Members

- Lawrence Kerr (ODNI)
- Laura Kwinn (HHS/OS)
- Janet K. A. Nicholson
(CDC)
- Erik Prentice (ODNI)
- Rick Weiss (OSTP)
- Franca R. Jones (OSTP)

Staff

- Dan Davis
- Symma Finn
- Paul Lewis
- Ori Lev
- Allison Mistry
- Stuart Nightingale

Presentation Outline



- Aims and objectives
- Activities
 - Journal Editors Roundtable – January 13th, 2011
- Findings
- Upcoming activities
 - Journal Editors and Intelligence Community Meeting – Fall 2011

NSABB JRPWG Aims



1. Engaging science journal editors and publishers on their policies regarding review of dual use research of concern (DURC) and to learn of journals' experiences with conducting such reviews.
2. Gathering insights on how the current NSABB guidance could be improved.
3. Continuing to raise awareness within the scientific publishing community about DURC.

NSABB JRPWG Objectives



WG Aims

1. Engaging science journal editors and publishers on the policies regarding review of dual use research of concern (DURC) in order to learn of journals' experiences with conducting such reviews.
2. Gathering insights on how the NSABB guidance could be improved.
3. Continuing to raise awareness within the scientific publishing community about dual use research of concern.

Actionable Objectives

- Gain understanding of current practices in conducting reviews of manuscripts for content with dual use potential.
- Solicit input from science journal editors and publishers on the current NSABB guidance.
- Continue to raise awareness about DURC.
- Provide information and support in order to facilitate the incorporation of current or novel practices for review of research for possible DURC into the policies of publishing scientific literature.

Meeting our Objectives



- One-on-one conversations with Editors
- Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011
- Current findings outlined for final report.

Upcoming...

- Planning: Journal Editors and Intelligence Community Meeting – Fall 2011
- Under consideration: public consultation

Meeting our Objectives



Objectives

- Gain understanding of current practices in conducting reviews of manuscripts for content with dual use potential.
- Solicit input from journal editors and publishers on the current NSABB guidance.
- Continue to raise awareness about DURC.
- Provide information and support in order to facilitate the incorporation of current or novel practices for review of research for possible DURC into the policies of publishing scientific literature.

Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011

- Focused on better/'best' practices of reviewing and publishing dual use research methods and results
- Discussed the differing, extant models used to review DUR/DURC
- Discussed of ways to enhance processes of review

Roundtable Participants

January 13th, 2011



- *New England Journal of Medicine*
- *JAMA*
- *Emerging Infectious Diseases*
- *Journal of Biological Chemistry*
- *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism*
- *Molecular Microbiology*
- *Science*
- *Nature*
- *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases*
- *Toxicological Sciences*
- *Cell*
- *Journal of Bacteriology*
- *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*
- *PNAS*
- Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)
- World Association of Medical Editors (WAME)
- International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)

Meeting our Objectives



Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011

Suggestions for enhancing review of manuscripts brought up by roundtable participants :

- Addressing DURC in the instructions to authors
 - alternatives discussed

- 'Flagging' manuscripts submitted for review
 - different mechanisms in use
 - Possible improvements (e.g., SA list as insufficient)

Meeting our Objectives



Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011

Suggestions (cont.)

- Consensus that M&M should remain sufficient to allow for reproduction of experiments
- Responsible editing and publishing of papers that have DURC:
 - Contextualization through commentary - editorials, commentaries, press releases, review articles, and other analyses
 - Emphasis of the published article's scientific importance, possible hyperbole, or misperceptions
 - Benefits of commentary should be weighed against the risk of promoting an article that would otherwise 'fly under the radar'

Meeting our Objectives



Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011

Suggestions (cont.)

- Outreach and education for editors and reviewers
 - Specific training on reviewing manuscripts for DURC needed
 - Editors should to engage authors about the DURC content of their manuscript
 - Revise NSABB Communication Tools
 - USG should consider mechanisms for threats to be communicated to editors

Meeting our Objectives



Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011

Suggestions (cont.)

- Additional expertise in review of manuscripts with DUR potential
 - Outside experts would provide a unique or special perspective from experts (e.g., on public health, biosecurity, security, DURC issues)
 - Outside experts could also provide advice and assistance in the development of editorials, commentaries, or press releases for journal articles that present around DURC

Meeting our Objectives



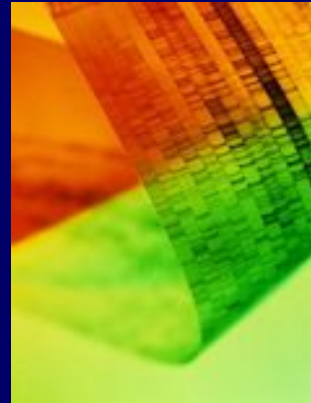
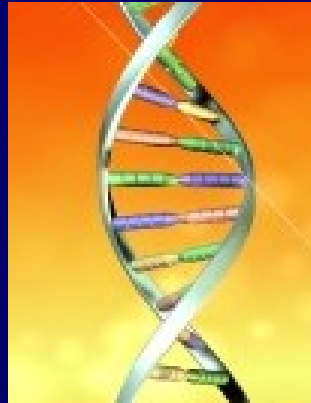
Journal Editors Roundtable January 13, 2011

Suggestions (cont.)

- Rejected manuscripts & the role of follow-up
 - No way to prevent rejected manuscripts from being published elsewhere or self-published
 - No clear consensus on ways to address rejected papers that contain DURC

- IC/security experts may play an important role.
 - Raised much interest & many questions/concerns
 - Editors-IC roundtable planned for Fall 2011 to explore topics which are at the interface of scientific publishing and national security

Upcoming: Journal Editors-IC Roundtable



Fall 2011
Bethesda, MD/McLean, VA

2011 Editors'-IC Roundtable



- Target Participants: Editors of leading bioscience journals, IC representatives.
- Issues we are still considering: size of the meeting, location.

Goals of Roundtable



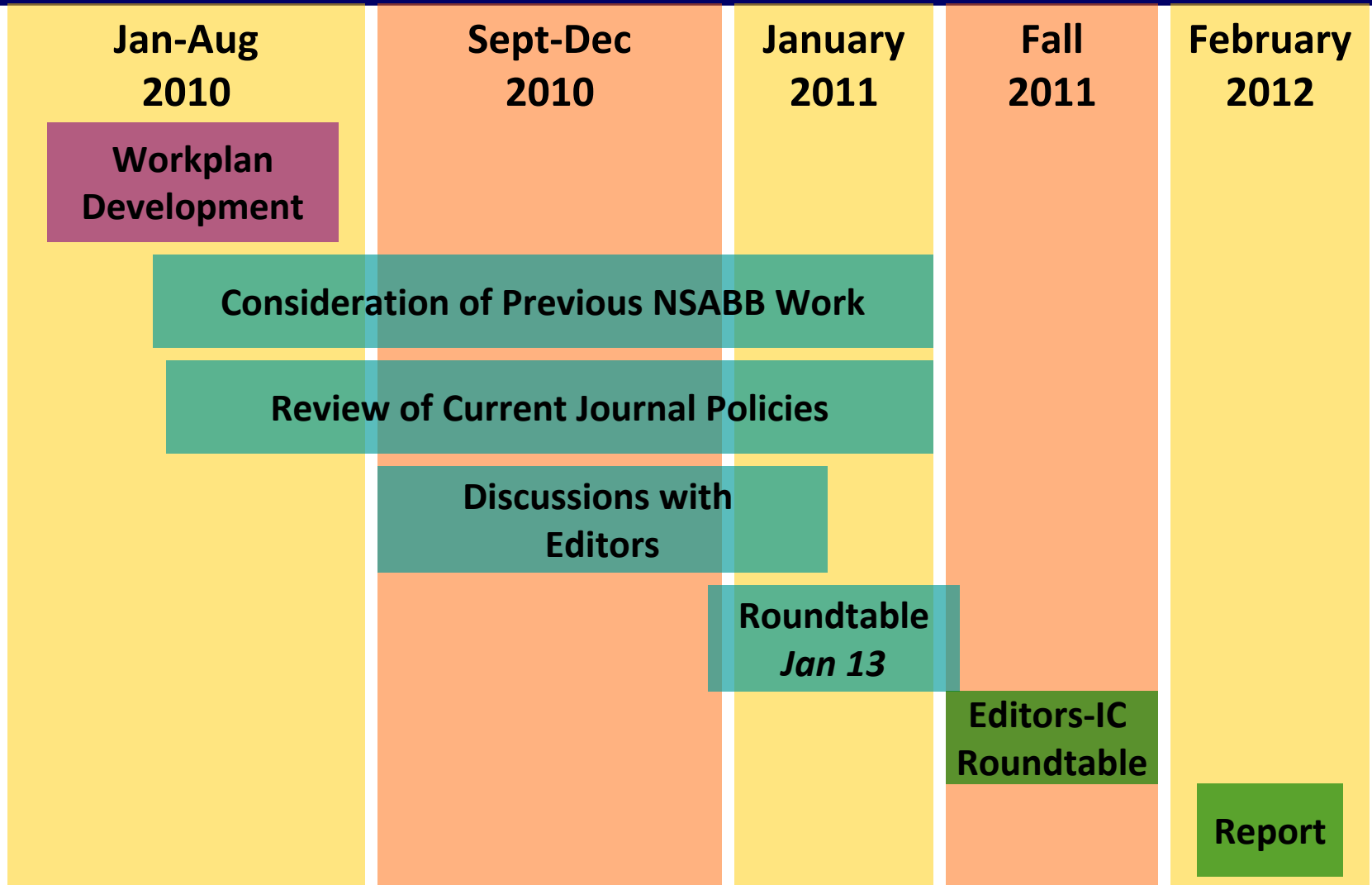
- Raise awareness within the scientific editorial and publishing community, the IC, and other members of the biosecurity community about the concerns and experiences of the other regarding DURC.
- Discuss the utility of outside expert resources (e.g., scientists and analysts in the IC, other members of the biosecurity community)
- Discuss the adoption of policies and procedures for identifying and/or managing manuscripts that raise biosecurity concerns or where issues of responsible use/possible DURC are present.

Additional Activities



- The results of Journal Editors roundtable and the planned Editors-IC roundtable will be used to develop NSABB recommendations to the USG.
- The WG will consider whether additional activities are needed to complete its report.
- Aim: Draft report – February 2012

JRPWG Timeline



JRPWG



Thank you

Any questions?