

CSR News Flash

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Center for Scientific Review
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Dr. Noni Byrnes Named Director of CSR Division of Basic and Integrative Biological Sciences



The NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) has named Dr. Noni Byrnes Director of its Division of Basic and Integrative Biological Sciences. Dr. Byrnes has been acting director of this division since November 2011.

“Dr. Byrnes brings impeccable leadership and mentoring skills to this key post,” said CSR Acting Director Richard Nakamura, Ph.D. “She also brings a strong commitment to peer review and the basic sciences community.”

He noted that Dr. Byrnes led CSR’s successful review of over 20,000 Challenge grant applications for American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds in 2009 and 2010. In this effort, she managed the activities of over 200 scientific, professional, technical and support staff.

The Division of Basic and Integrative Biological Sciences includes six integrated review groups that comprise 50 study sections that review NIH grant applications in the following areas: biological chemistry, macromolecular biophysics, bioengineering, cell biology, genetics, molecular sciences, and basic and translational oncology.

Since 2006, Dr. Byrnes has been Chief of CSR’s Cell Biology Integrated Review Group (IRG). Dr. John Bowers will continue to serve as Acting Chief of this IRG until a new Chief is appointed.

Dr. Byrnes came to CSR in 2000 to be the Scientific Review Officer for the Enabling Bioanalytical and Biophysical Technologies Study Section, which reviews applications to advance cutting-edge tools development for biochemical and cell biological studies. She also coordinated CSR’s Review Internship Program.

She earned her Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from Emory University, where her research focused on the development of fluorescence spectroscopic methods. Before coming to CSR, she worked for Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals, where she was a staff scientist in the Bioanalytical Drug Development Section.

About CSR

CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR’s mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns them to the NIH Institutes and Centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR’s Web site— <http://www.csr.nih.gov> —or phone 301-435-1111.

About NIH

NIH — the Nation’s Medical Research Agency — includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <http://www.nih.gov>