

**Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health  
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke  
National Advisory Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NANDS) Council**

**Summary of Meeting<sup>1</sup>  
November 29, 2021**

The National Advisory Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NANDS) Council was convened for its 214<sup>th</sup> meeting on November 29, 2021 via Zoom remote meeting. Dr. Walter Koroshetz, Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), served as Chairperson.

In accordance with Public Law 92-463, the meeting was:

Open: November 29, 2021: 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the review and discussion of institute concept clearance initiative(s); and  
Closed: November 29, 2021: 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for the consideration of individual grant applications.

Council Members present:

Allan Basbaum, Ph.D.	Eileen Murray
S. Thomas Carmichael, M.D., Ph.D.	Gina Poe, Ph.D.
Hollis Cline, Ph.D.	Ekemini Riley, Ph.D.
Nita Farahany, J.D., Ph.D.	Timothy Ryan, Ph.D.
David Hackney, M.D.	Sameer Sheth, M.D., Ph.D.
Karen Johnston, M.D., M.Sc.	N. Edwin Trevathan, M.D., M.P.H.
Arnold Kriegstein, M.D., Ph.D.	Christin Veasley
Kenneth Maynard, Ph.D.	

Ex officio members present:

David Brody, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Defense  
Christopher Bever, Jr., M.D., Department of Veterans Affairs

Council Roster (Attachment 1)

The meeting was held virtually using Zoom and all observers including members of the public attended virtually.

Federal attendees are listed at the end of these minutes.

**I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

Dr. Koroshetz and then Dr. Robert Finkelstein (Director of the Division of Extramural Activities) welcomed Council members, visitors, and staff to the 214<sup>th</sup> meeting of the National Advisory Neurological Disorders and Stroke Council.

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<sup>1</sup>For the record, it is noted that members absent themselves from the meeting when the Council is discussing applications (a) from their respective institutions or (b) in which a real or apparent conflict of interest might occur.

**Budget** – We are still operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) and are unsure when we will see a regular appropriations bill approved. We have to make some funding decisions for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 with an uncertain budget.

**Potential additional funding for pain research for FY22!** Dr. Koroshetz explained that additional funding may soon become available that must be used within this fiscal year. The President’s Budget and the Senate’s Mark proposed an additional \$270 Million for the Helping to End Addiction Long-term<sup>SM</sup> (HEAL) Initiative as well as additional general funding for pain research. NIH Institutes will publish Notices of Special Interest (NOSIs) in this area to solicit applications in February 2022 to be awarded in FY 2022. The general goal will be to increase the number of applications in the area of pain research. NINDS plans to announce initiatives for Accelerating Discovery, Innovation and NOSIs focusing on Treatment Options in four categories of pain research: Basic Science/Mechanistic/Discovery, Tool Development, Research Training, and Basic Science and Clinical Pain Research in humans. Dr. Koroshetz emphasized that the community should look for these announcements which will likely involve a short turn-around time.

## II. **Concept Clearance of Proposed Initiative(s)**

### **BRAIN Initiative: Brain Micro-Connectivity Program**

*Dr. John Ngai, Director, NIH BRAIN Initiative*

The goal of this initiative is to develop next generation technologies for examining whole brain micro-connectivity in multiple species and to provide preliminary validation of their ability to be scaled for large-scale use in the research community.

Council voted to approve the proposed BRAIN Initiative Brain Micro-Connectivity Program concept clearance.

## III. **Review of Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality, and Council Procedures; Council Consideration of Pending Applications**

*This portion of the meeting 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. Code and Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2).*

**Dr. Finkelstein** reminded Council of the regulations described below:

**Conflict of Interest** – Regulations concerning conflict of interest were reviewed. Council members were reminded that materials furnished for review purposes and discussion during the closed portions of the meeting are considered privileged information. All Council members present signed a statement certifying that they had not been involved in any conflict-of-interest situations during the review of grant applications.

**Confidentiality** – During the closed session, any information that is discussed and the outcome of any recommendation are considered privileged information. They may not be discussed outside of the closed session. If an applicant requests support for his or her application from a Council member, the Council member must respond that he/she is not permitted to discuss the application. Any inquiry should be referred to Dr. Robert Finkelstein, NINDS Advisory Council Executive Secretary, who then will refer the question to the appropriate staff member for response.

#### IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, November 29, 2021.

NINDS/NIH employees present for portions of the meeting (open and closed) included:

Amy Adams	Quynh Ly
Kelly Baker	Ernie Lyons
Andrea Beckel-Mitchener	DP Mohapatra
Jennifer Beierlein	Paul Myers
Patrick Bellgowan	John Ngai
Robert Finkelstein	Michael Oshinsky
Rob Folson	Erna Petrich
David Higgins	Shanta Rajaram
Rebecca Hommer	Brooke Sydnor
Lyn Jakeman	Andrew Singh
Scott Janis	Ned Talley
Walter Koroshetz	Amir Tamiz
Christine Lam	Alex Tuttle
Timothy LaVaute	Samantha White
Rosa Lopez	Clinton Wright

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

12/28/2021

Date



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Robert Finkelstein, Ph.D.  
Executive Secretary  
National Advisory Neurological Disorders  
and Stroke Council

Director, Division of Extramural Activities  
National Institute of Neurological Disorders  
and Stroke



12/27/2021

Date

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Walter Koroshetz, M.D.  
Chairperson, National Advisory Neurological  
Disorders and Stroke Council  
Director, National Institute of Neurological  
Disorders and Stroke

These minutes will be formally considered by the Council at its next meeting. Corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.