

31, Room 6A35, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

This meeting will be open to the public on December 4 from 9 a.m. until approximately 4 p.m. for general remarks by the Director, Intramural Research Program, NEI, on matters concerning the intramural program of the NEI. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

In accordance with provisions set forth in sec. 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. and sec. 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, the meeting will be closed to the public on December 4 from approximately 4 p.m. until recess and on December 5 from 8:30 a.m. until adjournment for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual projects conducted by the Laboratory of Mechanisms of Ocular Diseases and the Laboratory of Ocular Therapeutics. These evaluations and discussions could reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the projects, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, and the competence of individual investigators, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Consequently, this meeting is concerned with matters exempt from mandatory disclosure.

Ms. Marie Watkins, Committee Management Officer, NEI, EPS/350, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, (301) 496-5301, will provide a summary of the meeting, roster of committee members, and substantive program information upon request. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Ms. Watkins in advance of the meeting.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.867, Vision Research; National Institutes of Health)

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Susan K. Feldman,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 95-27250 Filed 11-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

Name of SEP: AIDS-Related Training Grants, Conference Grants, Clinical Investigator and Independent Scientist Applications.

Date: November 13, 1995.

Time: 8 a.m.

Place: NIH, Natcher Bldg. 45, Conference Room A, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Dr. Peter Jackson, Scientific Review Adm., 6003 Executive Boulevard, Solar Bldg., Room 4C10, Bethesda, MD 20892-7610, (301) 496-8426.

Purpose/Agenda: To review grant applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the grant review cycle.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs Nos. 93.855, Immunology, Allergic and Immunologic Diseases Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health.)

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Susan K. Feldman,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 95-27251 Filed 11-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institutes of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

Name of Committee: Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Special Grants Review Committee.

Date: November 20, 1995, November 21, 1995.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Maryland.

Contact Person: Theresa Lo, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Room 5AS-25U, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6500, (301) 594-4952.

Purpose/Agenda: To review and evaluate research grant applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sec. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the

applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. [93.846, project grants in arthritis, musculoskeletal and skin diseases research], National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Date: October 30, 1995.

Susan K. Feldman,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

FR Doc. 95-27253 Filed 11-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Notice of Meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors, NICHD

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92-463, notice is hereby given to the meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, December 1, 1995, in Building 31, Room 2A52.

This meeting will be open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon on December 1 for the review of the Intramural Research Program and scientific presentations. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

In accordance with the provisions set forth in sec. 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. and sec. 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, the meeting will be closed to the public on December 1 from 1 p.m. to adjournment for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual programs and projects conducted by the National Institutes of Health, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, the competence of individual investigators, and similar items, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Ms. Catherine O'Connor, Senior Biomedical Research Program Assistant, NICHD, Building 31, Room 2A50, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, 20892-2425, Area Code 301, 496-2133, will provide a summary of the meeting and a roster of Board members, and substantive program information upon request. Individuals who plan to attend the open session and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Ms. O'Connor in advance of the meeting.

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Susan K. Feldman,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 95-27317 Filed 11-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders; Notice of a Meeting of the Ad Hoc Clearinghouse Subcommittee of the National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NDCD) Advisory Council

Notice is hereby given of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Clearinghouse Subcommittee of the NDCD Advisory Council on November 16, 1995. The meeting will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. and will be conducted as a telephone conference call originating in Room 3C05, Building 31, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held to discuss the operations of the NIDCD Clearinghouse. Attendance by the public is limited to space available.

Summaries of the meeting and a roster of members may be obtained from Dr. Earleen Elkins, Acting Director, Division of Extramural Activities, NIDCD, Executive Plaza South, Room 400C, 6120 Executive Blvd., Bethesda, Maryland 20892, 301-496-8693, upon request.

Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Dr. Elkins in advance of the meeting.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.173 Biological Research Related to Deafness and Communication Disorders)

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Susan K. Feldman,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 95-27252 Filed 11-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

Public Health Service

National Toxicology Program; Request for Comments on the Draft Report on Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Toxicological Test Methods; Announcement of the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Workshop on Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Alternative Toxicological Test Methods

The draft report on Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Toxicological Test Methods is available and public review and comment are encouraged. Registration is open for an NTP Workshop scheduled for December 11-12, 1995, that will provide the opportunity to participate in the review of this Report and to comment on the

recommendations generated at the Workshop.

Background on the Report

One of the over-arching goals of the NTP is developing and validating improved alternative toxicological test methods. Consistent with the goal, the NIH Revitalization Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-43, sec. 1301) stated that the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), the primary component of the NTP, would: (a) Establish criteria for the validation and regulatory acceptance of alternative testing methods; and (b) recommend a process through which scientifically validated alternative methods can be accepted for regulatory use.

An *ad hoc* Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) was established by NIEHS to develop a report recommending criteria and processes for validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicological testing methods. Fifteen Federal regulatory and research agencies have participated in this effort, including:

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).
- Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).
- Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- Department of Defense (DOD).
- Department of Energy (DOE).
- Department of the Interior (DOI).
- Department of Transportation (DOT).
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).
- National Institutes of Health (NIH).
- National Cancer Institute (NCI).
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).
- National Library of Medicine (NLM).
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The draft Report is applicable to all proposed toxicological testing methods for health and ecological endpoints, including those termed "alternatives." Alternative test methods are those that incorporate some aspect of reduction, refinement, and replacement of animal use. Such methods: result in the reduction of the total number of animals required; incorporate refinements of procedures to lessen or eliminate pain or distress to animals and enhance animal well-being; or provide for the partial or total replacement of animals with non-animal systems, or the replacement of an animal species with

a phylogenetically lower species (e.g., a mammalian species replaced by an invertebrate species).

The ICCVAM determined that the goals of the Report are to:

- Communicate the criteria and processes that Federal agencies should employ in considering new and revised test methods;
- Encourage the development of new methods and improvement of existing test methods;
- Provide more effective guidance for scientists for the validation and evaluation of new and revised test methods;
- Contribute to the increased likelihood of regulatory acceptance of scientifically valid new and revised test methods;
- Encourage, when scientifically feasible, the reduction and refinement of animal use in testing, and the replacement of animals with non-animal methods and phylogenetically lower species;
- Encourage the use of validated and accepted new and revised test methods.

Comments on the Report

Public review of the draft Report is critical to its completion and is encouraged. To receive a copy of the Report, please contact the NTP Liaison Office at NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, MD A3-01, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, or by FAX to: (919) 541-0295. Written comments received by November 20, 1995, will be distributed for consideration during the workshop. Written comments submitted after November 20 but before January 2, 1996, will be considered by the Committee in preparing a final Report. Submit comments to Dr. William Stokes, NIEHS, P.O. Box 12233, MD B2-04, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, or by FAX to (919) 541-0719. For further information about the Report, please contact one of the ICCVAM co-chairs—Dr. William Stokes, NIEHS, or Dr. Richard Hill, EPA, Mail Code 7101, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460, or FAX (202) 260-1847.

Background on the Workshop

A workshop on Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Alternative Toxicological Test Methods will be held on December 11-12, 1995, in Arlington, Virginia, to receive comments from the public and invited review panels on the draft Report. The Workshop meeting structure will include opening and closing Plenary Sessions and three Breakout Groups that will address: (1) Validation Criteria; (2) Regulatory Acceptance Criteria and Processes; and (3) Proposals for Future Directions.