Dr. Karyl Swartz to Become CSR’s Associate Director for Diversity and Workforce Development

Dr. Karyl Swartz has been named Associate Director for Diversity and Workforce Development at the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She has been Director of CSR’s Division of AIDS, Behavioral and Population Sciences.

"Karyl’s passion for advancing diversity and CSR’s workforce during her tenure has been remarkable," said CSR Director Dr. Richard Nakamura. "So I am very pleased she has agreed to do this full-time. Greater attention to workforce development and diversity at all levels will make CSR stronger and better able to achieve our mission. I also hope her increased efforts will help CSR better fulfill our commitment to a more diverse scientific community."

In this newly created position, Dr. Swartz will oversee staff recruitment and development efforts, coordinate scientific policy training, and manage efforts to increase the diversity of CSR staff and our pool of reviewers, such as CSR’s Early Career Reviewer Program.

She will begin work in this new position on May 29, 2016. Dr. Christine Melchior will serve as Acting Director of the Division of AIDS, Behavioral and Population Sciences during the transition period.

Dr. Swartz came to CSR in 2011 from the Great Ape Trust of Iowa, where she was the Associate Program Director and a researcher. She also was a research associate at the Smithsonian’s National Zoological Park as well as an affiliate professor of anthropology at Iowa State University. She earlier served as a professor and chair of the psychology department at Lehman College within the City University of New York. Her research has focused on cognition in non-human primates; specifically, learning, memory, and perception by macaque monkeys and orangutans, and cognitive factors in mirror self-recognition by great apes. Dr. Swartz earned her Ph.D. in psychology from Brown University. She did postdoctoral research at the Regional Primate Research Center at the University of Washington and then conducted research with gorillas and chimpanzees at the Centre International de Recherches Médicales de Franceville, Gabon, Africa.

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 the National Institutes of Health (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. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov