



Center for  
Scientific Review

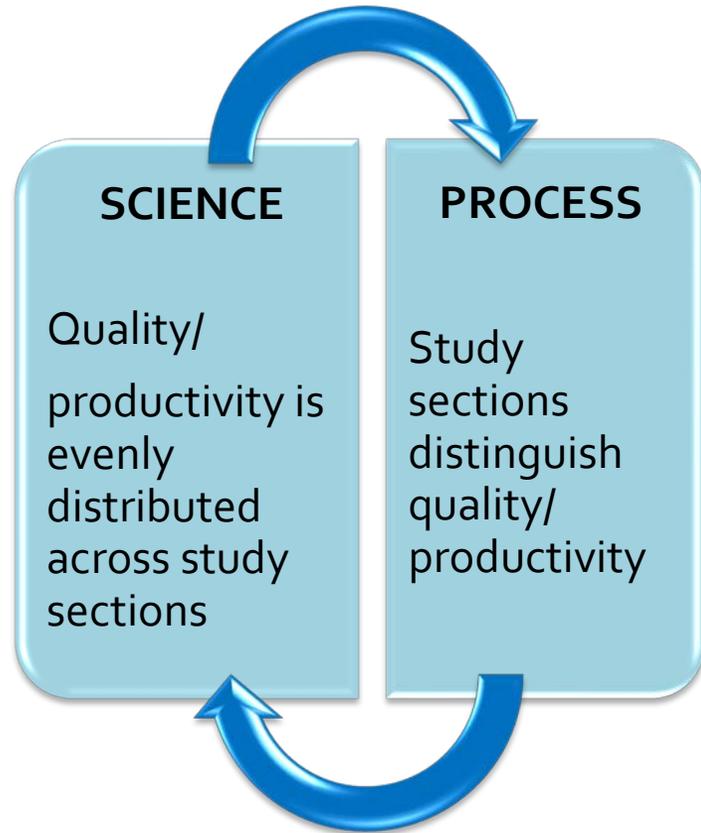
# ENQUIRE - Evaluating Panel Quality in Review

Healthcare delivery and patient outcomes related study sections update

Valerie Durrant, PhD

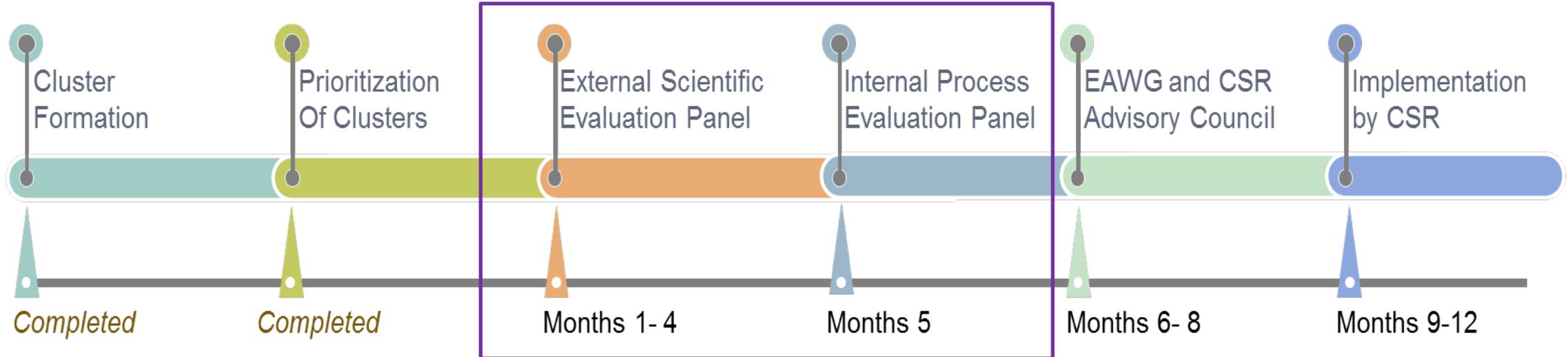
Director, Division of AIDS, Behavioral and  
Population Sciences

# ENQUIRE – Evaluating Panel Quality in Review

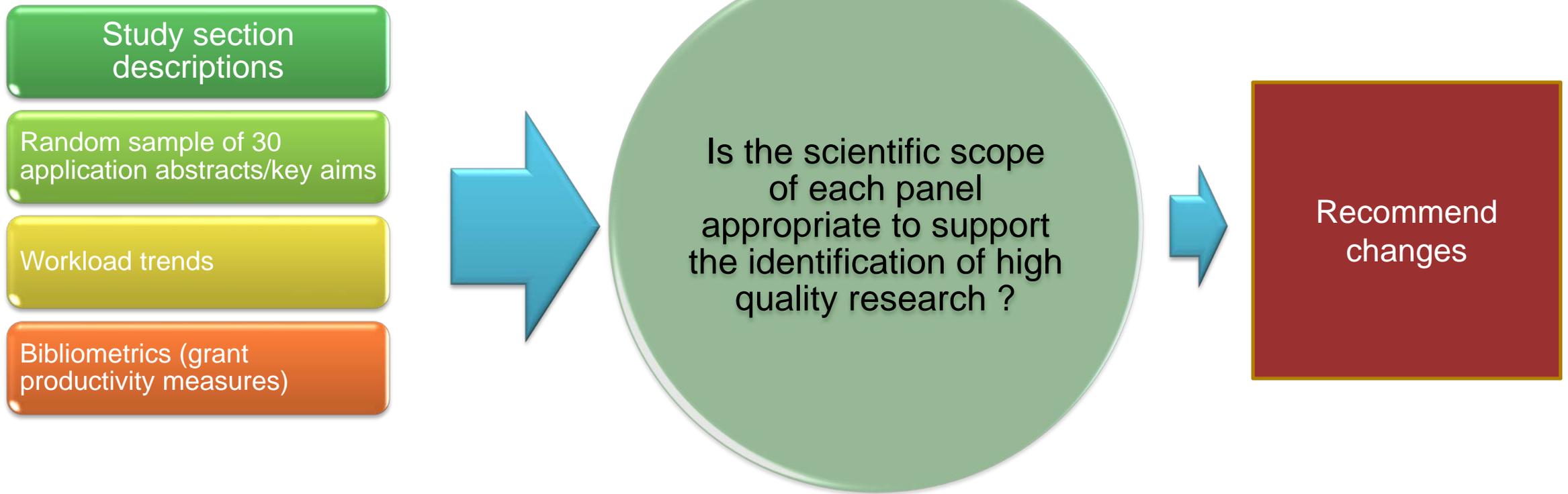


- Evaluation of scientific scope and process issues
- Clusters of study sections with scientific overlap
- Includes input from stakeholders

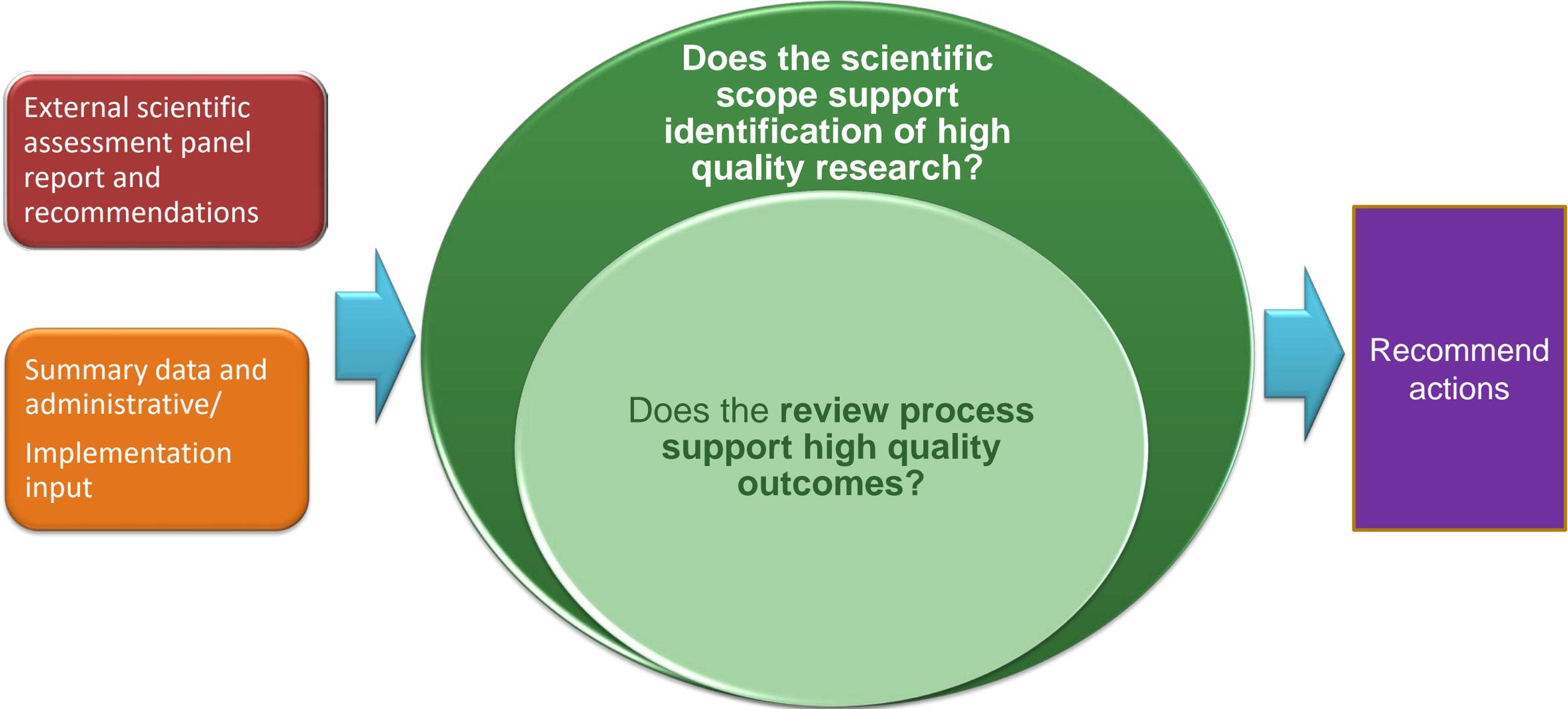
# Timeline



# External Scientific Evaluation Panel – Question for Panel



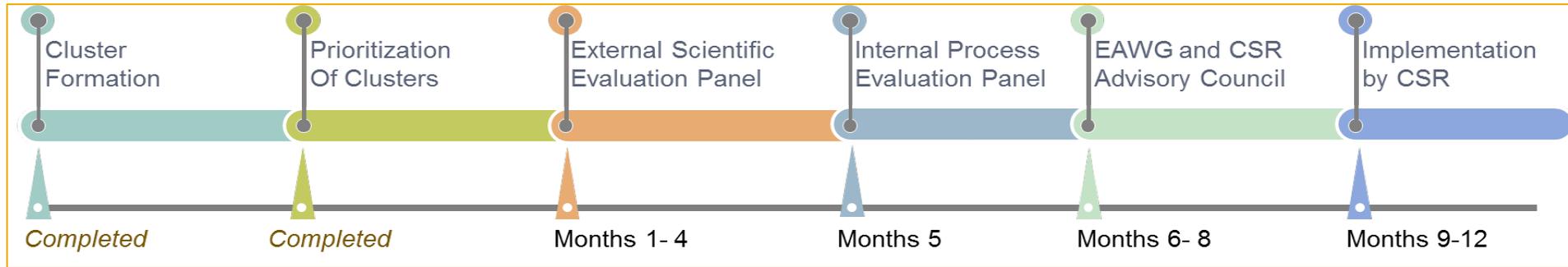
# Internal Process Evaluation Panel – Questions for Panel



## Healthcare delivery/Patient Outcomes Study Sections

- Behavioral Medicine: Interventions and Outcomes ([BMIO](#))
- Biomedical Computing and Health Informatics ([BCHI](#))
- Community-Level Health Promotion ([CLHP](#))
- Clinical Management of Patients in Community-based Settings ([CMPC](#))
- Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health ([DIRH](#))
- Health Services Organization and Delivery ([HSOD](#))
- Health Disparities and Equity Promotion ([HDEP](#))
- Nursing and Related Clinical Sciences ([NRCS](#))
- Psychosocial Risk and Disease Prevention ([PRDP](#))

# Timeline



✓ External Scientific Evaluation Panel, December 17, 2019

Internal Process Evaluation Panel – March 26/April 3, 2019  
(Initial CSR input/feasibility assessments) - April 2019

CSR Advisory Council and NIH Approvals - June, 2019

## CSR Implementation

- Minor changes (e.g. description updates)– summer 2019
- New study sections – 2020/05 council dates

# External Scientific Evaluation Panel – Cluster 16

## Chairperson

**Bluthenthal, Ricky, PhD** Professor- University Of Southern California

## Members

**Tonya Palermo, PhD** Professor And Associate Director, Seattle Children's Research Institute

**Steven Clauser, PhD** Program Director, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)

**Tracie Collins, MD** Chair And Professor, School Of Medicine Kansas University

**Sara Czaja, PhD** Director, Center For Aging And Behavioral Research, Cornell University

**Jennifer Elston Lafata, PhD** Professor And Vice Chair, University Of North Carolina At Chapel Hill

**Eun-Ok Im, PhD, RN** Mary T Champagne Professor Of Nursing, Duke University

**Elizabeth Madigan, PhD, RN** Chief Executive Officer, Honor Society Of Nursing Sigma Theta Tau International

**Justin Starren, MD, PhD** Professor, Feinberg School Of Medicine Northwestern University

**Kenneth Wells, MD** Professor And Director, University Of California

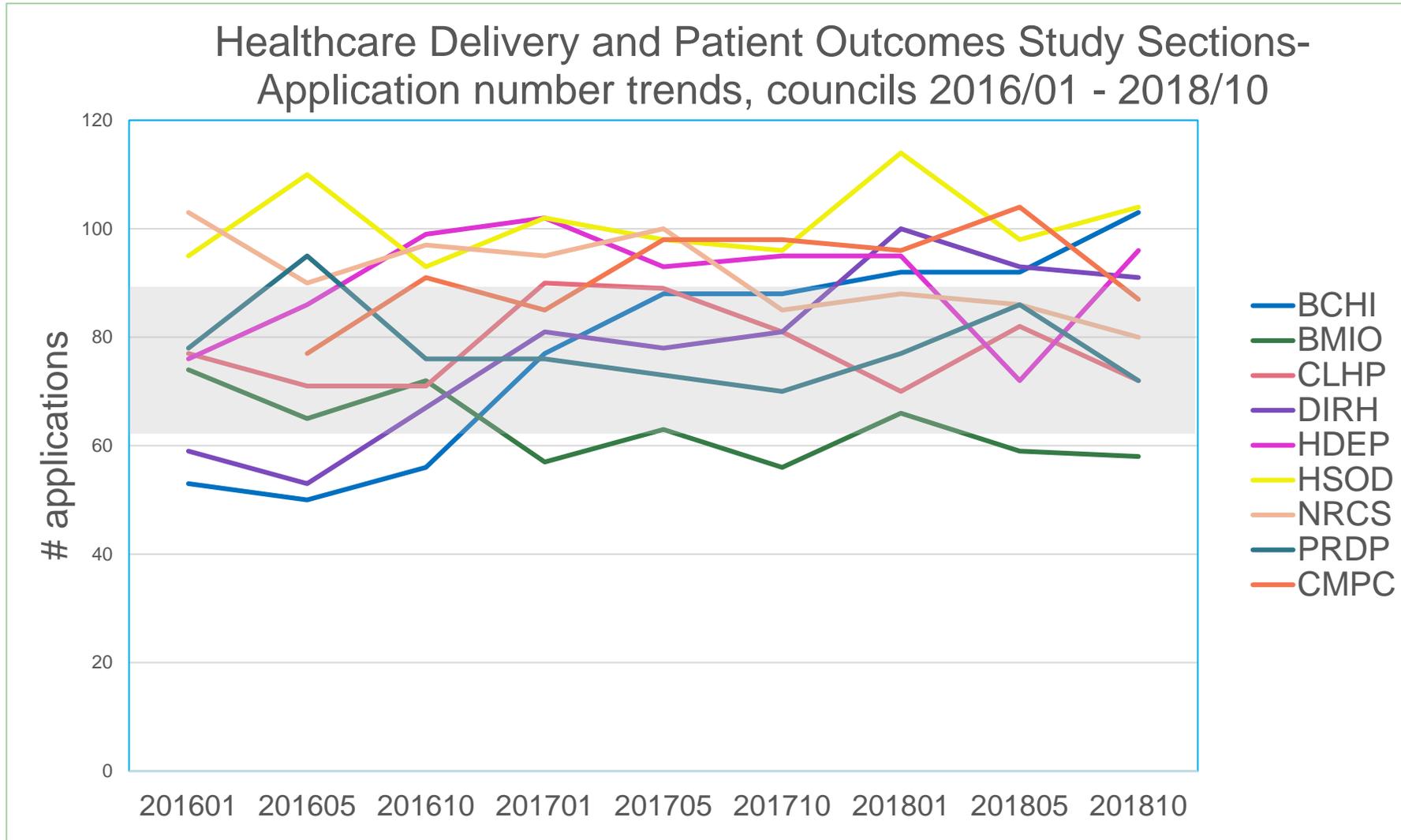
**Juan Wisnivesky, MD, DPh** Professor Of Medicine, Icahn School Of Medicine At Mount Sinai

## CSR Staff

**Valerie Durrant, PhD,** Director, Division of AIDS, Behavioral, and Population Sciences

**Lia Fleming, MPH** Review Analyst

# Applications Trend



# Scientific Evaluation Panel Recommendations

## Update/hone descriptions

### Target/ focus

Approach  
integration  
(update)

Current  
language

Gaps

CLHP / CMPC

PRDP

## Change identity

Rename  
**(NRCS)**

Disband/  
create new  
**(BMIO)**

## Change boundaries

Narrow  
**DIRH**  
**HDEP**  
**HSOD**

**Disband**  
**BCHI**

**Create**  
**new (4)**

# General insights

- Rapid growth and change in the research/healthcare field
  - Language outdated
  - Boundaries unclear/artificial
  - Flexibility is critical
- Dynamic, interdisciplinary science = overlap
  - Focusing on bulls-eye as for the SRG “identity”
  - Articulating overlaps in outer rings
- Language matters
- Focus SRG identify on concepts not approaches
- Input on process
  - E.g., Misassigned applications

# Challenges

- Asking for bold; end results lean conservative
  - Easier to be bold when study sections are too large/small.
- Field of dreams effect
- Distinguishing state of the field vs. state of the study section
- Difficulty incorporating productivity
  - Added CSR All comparison point
  - Need to provide different materials?

## Internal Process Evaluation Panel – Cluster 16

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Wilson Compton</b>       | <b>Deputy Director-</b> National Institute on Drug Abuse  |
| <b>Della Hann</b>           | <b>Director of Extramural Research,</b> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development                                |
| <b>Richard Ikeda</b>        | <b>Director,</b> Office of Research Information Systems, Office of Extramural Research  |
| <b>Paul Jacobsen</b>        | <b>Associate Director,</b> Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute                        |
| <b>Karen Kehl</b>           | <b>Health Science Administrator,</b> Office of End-of-Life and Palliative Care Research, National Institute of Nursing Research |
| <b>Bill Riley</b>           | <b>Director-</b> Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research  |
| <b>Michael Sayre</b>        | <b>Director,</b> Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities   |
| <b>CSR</b>                  |   |
| <b>Valerie Durrant</b>      | <b>Director,</b> Division of AIDS, Behavioral and Population Sciences   |
| <b>Delia Olufokunbi Sam</b> | <b>Chief,</b> Population Sciences and Epidemiology  |
| <b>Bruce Reed</b>           | <b>Director</b> Division of Neuroscience, Development and Aging   |
| <b>Ross Shonat</b>          | <b>Chief,</b> Bioengineering Sciences and Technology  |

# Internal Process Evaluation Panel – Information Provided

## Report from Scientific Evaluation Panel

## Summary data on applications, grants, and reviewers for each SRG

- Productivity of funded awards
- Institute distribution of apps
- Relative award ratios by institute
- ESI submissions and outcomes
- Scoring patterns
- Reviewer characteristics

## Quality of discussion information for each SRG

- Site-visit summaries
- Surveys of reviewers
- Survey of program officer

## Surveys of reviewers and program officers

**Reviewer Survey questions (variations of the items for the Program Officers are shown in parentheses):**

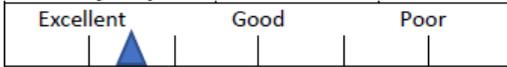
1. The panel was able to score (or prioritize) applications according to their scientific merit.
2. The roster of reviewers was a strong (or appropriate) assembly of scientific expertise for the set of applications in the meeting.
3. Assignments of applications to reviewers made appropriate use of their broad expertise.
4. The nature of the scientific discussions supported the ability of the panel to evaluate the applications being reviewed (or, “The scientific discussions supported my ability to make programmatic decisions”).
5. Please provide any additional comments about this study section in the text box below.

Reviewers: 324 surveys sent, 72% response

Program officers: 175 surveys sent, 37% response

# Site visit assessments

- 2 CSR Evaluators for each study section (external Division Director, external IRG Chief)
- Qualitative assessment of:
  - Quality of discussion
  - Scoring practices and ranking of applications
  - Policy implementation
  - Discussion and meeting management

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1. Quality of the discussions</b></p>  <p><b>2. Scoring practices</b></p>  <p><b>3. Policy implementation</b></p>  <p><b>4. Discussion and meeting management</b></p>  | <p><b>Key Takeaways</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Quality of the discussion:</b> Score driving issues were clearly articulated and thorough attention was given to required elements, but there was not much attention given to significance/impact. There was a note from an evaluator that there was not much participation from unassigned reviewers.</li><li>2. <b>Scoring practices and ranking applications:</b> The panel effectively used the entire scoring range. Scores were perceived to be generous given the weaknesses that were stated. There was some scoring outside of the range from unassigned reviewers when the critique did not seem to match the given voting range.</li></ol> |
|--|---|

## Next steps

- Recommendations from internal process panel (April)
- CSR input and feasibility testing
- Approval by CSR AC and NIH (summer)
- Implementation (major changes for 2020/05)

Questions?