



Center for  
Scientific Review

# CSR Advisory Council Update

March 30, 2020

Noni Byrnes, Ph.D.

Director

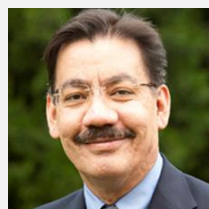
Center for Scientific Review

# Welcome: CSR Advisory Council Members



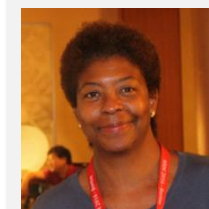
Jinming Gao, Ph.D.

Professor of Pharmacology and  
Otolaryngology  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical  
Center



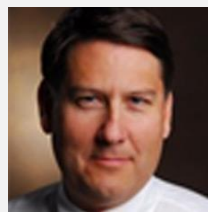
José López, M.D.

Professor  
Hematology  
University of Washington



Julie Price, Ph.D.

Professor And Investigator  
Radiology and Biomedical Imaging  
Harvard Medical School



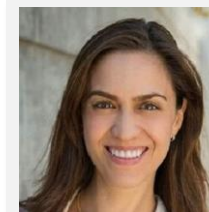
Alfred George, M.D.

Magerstadt professor and Chair  
Department of Pharmacology  
Northwestern University



Scott Miller, Ph.D.

Irénée Dupont Professor  
Chemistry  
Yale University



Elizabeth Villa, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor  
Biological Sciences  
University of California, San Diego



Yasmin Hurd, Ph.D.

Professor  
Psychiatry, Neuroscience, Pharmacology  
and System Therapeutics  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine



Tonya Palermo, Ph.D.

Professor and Associate Director  
Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine  
University of Washington

## NOT ATTENDING



Denise Wilfley, Ph.D.

Scott Rudolph University Professor  
Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Psychological and  
Brain Sciences  
Washington University at St. Louis



Deanna Kroetz, Ph.D.

Professor  
Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences  
University of California, San Francisco



Mark Peifer, Ph.D.

Hooker Distinguished Professor  
Biology  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

# Welcome...CSR Advisory Council Ad Hocs



**Vinay Aakalu, M.D., MPH**

Associate Professor  
Department of Ophthalmology Oculoplastic &  
Reconstructive Surgery Service  
University of Illinois, College Of Medicine



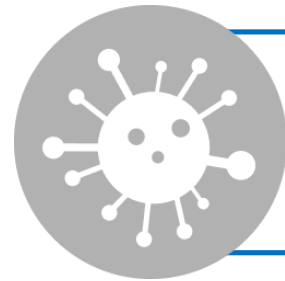
**Betty Sue Pace, M.D.**

Professor  
Department of Pediatrics, Biochemistry  
& Molecular Biology  
Augusta University



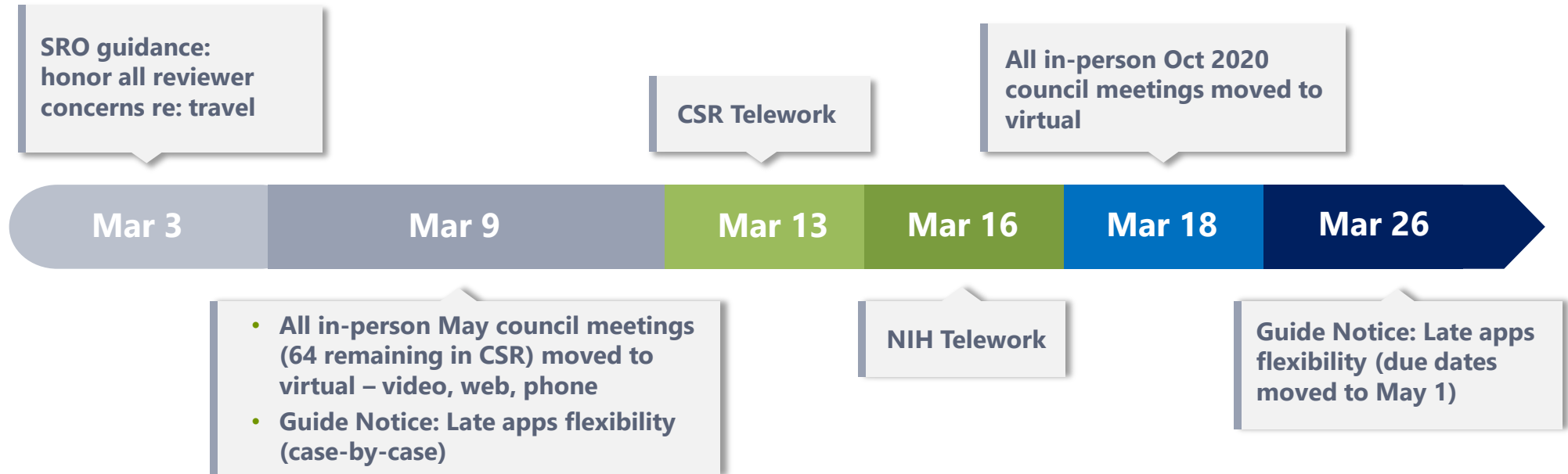
**Michelle C. Janelins, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor  
Department of Surgery, Neuroscience,  
and Radiation Oncology  
University of Rochester, Medical Center



## **Covid-19 Update**

# COVID-19 timeline of events: peer review



# A Special Thanks....

## Events Management

- ☆ Ashlee Outlaw
- ☆ Lauren Gibson
- ☆ Allan Philip
- ☆ Alexis Duncan
- ☆ Klohie Sourbeer



## Committee Management

- ☆ Sharon Sealey
- ☆ Brenda Derflinger
- ☆ Kathy Dinterman
- ☆ Esther Birbalsingh
- ☆ Rebecca Feuerherd
- ☆ Wendy Remsburg



## VAM Support

- ☆ James Geng
- ☆ Yuvi Hurtado
- ☆ Steve Bailey
- ☆ Eddie Bedon



## Review Technical Assistants

- ☆ Robert Alleyne
- ☆ Sarah Olscamp
- ☆ Lori Stoller-Cruz



## Desktop Support

- ☆ Eduardo Bedon
- ☆ Steven Johnson
- ☆ Ephraim Johnson
- ☆ Steven Bailey
- ☆ Mohammad Emon
- ☆ Brian Pomykala
- ☆ Jeremy Cole
- ☆ Nicholas Moore



## Scientific Review Evaluation Activity

- ☆ Melinda Bennett
- ☆ Diane Wallace
- ☆ Minh-Thao Tran
- ☆ Paula Orye
- ☆ Robert Bates
- ☆ Joyce Coffman
- ☆ Mark Cruz
- ☆ Fauzia Moore-Alfred
- ☆ Pat Ouasi
- ☆ Sheila Rosa
- ☆ Thanh Ta
- ☆ Alexandra Gomez
- ☆ Ian Henderson
- ☆ Chrisoula Jennings
- ☆ Dianne Massay
- ☆ Antoinette Shannon
- ☆ Lata Shelat
- ☆ Petal Sampson
- ☆ Saba Hamid
- ☆ Ben Irvin
- ☆ Mary Liu
- ☆ Fatima Reed
- ☆ Leonard Reynolds, Jr.
- ☆ Mark Baron
- ☆ David Benn



**Lauren Gibson**



**Ashlee Outlaw**



**James Geng**



**Maya Jones**




**Kristin Kramer**



**Ross Shonat**





## CSR: Other Updates

# Since Oct 2019: Leadership and Management Transitions



**Deputy Director**

Bruce Reed



**Deputy Executive Officer**

Marisa Sheelor



**Division of Physiological and  
Pathological Sciences – Division Director**

Ross Shonat



**Division of Basic and Integrative  
Biological Sciences – Division Director**

Ray Jacobson



**Population Sciences and Epidemiology  
IRG Chief**

Lisa Steele



**SRO Handbook and Policy Coordinator**

Miriam Mintzer

## Dual-Role Leaders

**Division  
Director/Acting  
Division Director**



Valerie Durrant

**IRG Chief/Acting IRG Chief**



Mark Caprara



Delia Olufokunbi Sam



Elaine Sierra-Rivera

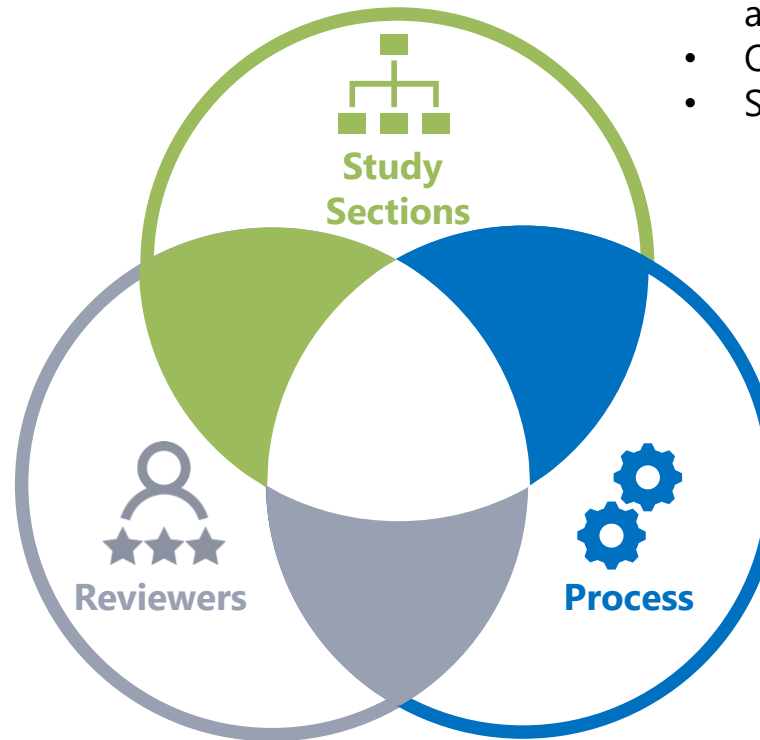


Maqsood Wani

# Framework: Quality of Peer Review

## Reviewers

- Reviewer Training & Evaluation – consistent, transparent
- Review Service – Broadening pool, incentivizing service



## Study Sections

- Scientific scope (relevance, adapting to emerging areas, perpetuating stale science)
- Output (identification of meritorious science)
- Size appropriate for competition

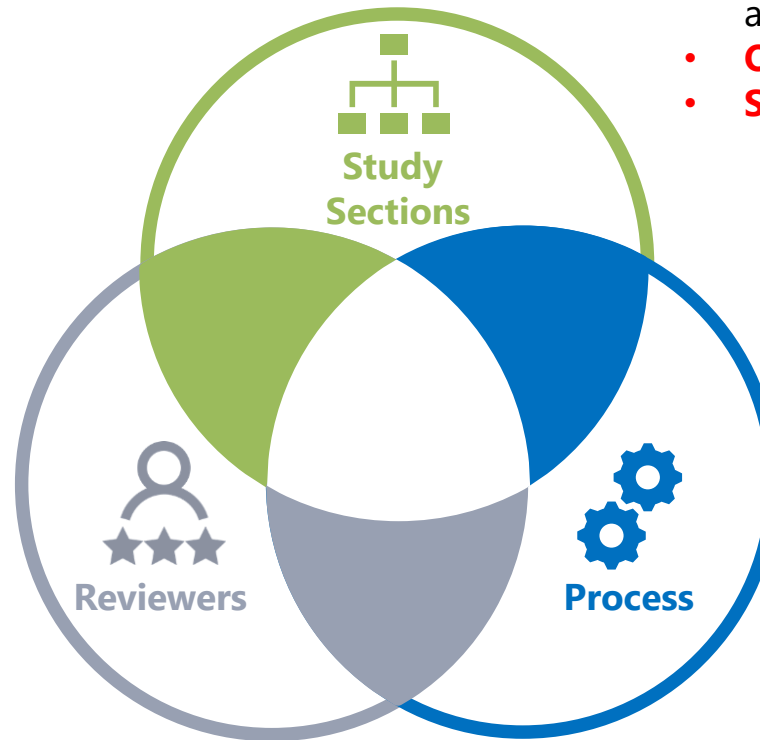
## Process

- Confidentiality/Integrity in review
- Bias in review
- Assignment/Referral of Applications
- Review Criteria and Scoring System

# Framework: Quality of Peer Review

## Reviewers

- **Reviewer Training** & Evaluation – consistent, transparent
- Review Service – **Broadening pool**, incentivizing service



## Study Sections

- **Scientific scope** (relevance, adapting to emerging areas, perpetuating stale science)
- **Output** (identification of meritorious science)
- **Size** appropriate for competition

## Process

- **Confidentiality/Integrity**
- **Bias** in review
- Assignment/Referral of Applications
- **Review Criteria** and Scoring System

# ENQUIRE: Evaluating Panel Quality In Review

## A New Systematic Framework for Evaluating CSR Study Sections

### ENQUIRE STEP 1: Scientific Evaluation

- Review by **scientific clusters**, not by management/organizational clusters or IRGs (10-20 SRGs)
- Assemble blue-ribbon **External Scientific Working Group** of scientifically broad, senior scientists (with interest in more than one SRG)
- Provide **enough information** for each study section in cluster (current scientific guidelines on web, sampling of titles/abstracts/specific aims, workload trends, bibliometric output of awarded grants, ESI submission and success rates)
- Provide enough **time and guidance** for meaningful evaluation and recommendations
- Ask 1 **question** designed to focus discussion on science, not process: *"How well does the scientific scope of the study sections align with the current state of the science?"*

### ENQUIRE STEP 2: Process Evaluation

- **Assemble Internal Process Working Group** of NIH (Institute and CSR) extramural scientists with broad perspective and interest in more than one SRG
- Provide process-related **information** (workloads, web guidelines, scoring trends, survey feedback from reviewers/POs, site-visit information on meeting function/dynamics)
- Provide External Scientific Working Group's report/recommendations for input
- Question: *Does the study section function support optimal identification of high-impact science?*

### SUBSEQUENT STEPS:

- Develop initial study section guidelines
- Mock sorts, finalize guidelines
- CSRAC Concurrence
- Implementation

# ENQUIRE: Clusters Evaluated Nov 2018-Sept 2019

## (42 study sections)

### Healthcare Delivery/Patient Outcomes

9 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 Disparities and Equity Promotion (HDEP)
- Health Services Organization and Delivery (HSOD)
- Nursing and Related Clinical Sciences (NRCS)
- Psychosocial Risk and Disease Prevention (PRDP)



**Done**



### GI, Renal, Endocrine Systems

11 study sections

- Kidney Molecular Biology and Genitourinary Organ Development (KMBO)
- Pathobiology of Kidney Disease (PBKD)
- Urology and Urogynecology (ZRG1 DKUS 90)
- Clinical, Integrative and Molecular Gastroenterology (CIMG)
- Gastrointestinal Mucosal Pathobiology (GMPB)
- Hepatobiliary Pathophysiology (HBPP)
- Cellular Aspects of Diabetes and Obesity (CADO)
- Clinical and Integrative Diabetes and Obesity (CIDO)
- Integrative Physiology of Obesity and Diabetes (IPOD)
- Integrative Nutrition and Metabolic Processes (INMP)
- Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology (MCE)



### Cardiac, Vascular and Hematologic Sciences

10 study sections

- Atherosclerosis and Inflammation of the Cardiovascular System Study Section (AICS)
- Cardiac Contractility, Hypertrophy, and Failure Study Section (CCHF)
- Clinical and Integrative Cardiovascular Sciences Study Section (CICS)
- Electrical Signaling, Ion Transport, and Arrhythmias Study Section (ESTA)
- Hemostasis and Thrombosis Study Section (HT)
- Hypertension and Microcirculation Study Section (HM)
- Molecular and Cellular Hematology Study Section (MCH)
- Myocardial Ischemia and Metabolism Study Section (MIM)
- Vascular Cell and Molecular Biology Study Section (VCMB)
- Transfusion Medicine Sep (ZRG1 VH-D 55)



### Functional/Cognitive Neuroscience

12 study sections

- Neuroendocrinology, Neuroimmunology, Rhythms and Sleep (NNRS)
- Neurobiology of Learning and Memory (LAM)
- Language and Communication (LCOM)
- Somatosensory and Pain Systems (SPS)
- Sensory Motor Integration (SMI)
- Ocular Surface, Cornea, Anterior Segment Glaucoma, and Refractive Error Special Emphasis Panel (ZRG1 BDCN-J 81)
- Cognition and Perception (CP)
- Mechanisms of Sensory, Perceptual, and Cognitive Processes (SPC)
- Auditory System (AUD)
- Biology of the Visual System (BVS)
- Diseases and Pathophysiology of the Visual System (DPVS)
- Chemosensory Systems (CSS)



# GI, Renal, Endocrine Systems

## OLD

### GI, Renal, Endocrine Systems

11 study sections

- Kidney Molecular Biology and Genitourinary Organ Development (KMBD)
- Pathobiology of Kidney Disease (PBKD)
- Urology and Urogynecology (ZRG1 DKUS 90)
- Clinical, Integrative and Molecular Gastroenterology (CIMG)
- Gastrointestinal Mucosal Pathobiology (GMPB)
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- Cellular Aspects of Diabetes and Obesity (CADO)
- Clinical and Integrative Diabetes and Obesity (CIDO)
- Integrative Physiology of Obesity and Diabetes (IPOD)
- Integrative Nutrition and Metabolic Processes (INMP)
- Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology (MCE)



## PROPOSED NEW

### GI, Renal, Endocrine Systems

10 study sections

- **Basic Mechanisms of Diabetes and Metabolism (BMDM)**
- **Cell Signaling and Molecular Endocrinology (CSME)**
- **Digestive System Host Defense, Microbial Interactions and Immune and Inflammatory Diseases (DHMI)**
- **Digestive and Nutrient Physiology and Diseases (DNPD)**
- **Hepatobiliary Pathophysiology (HBPP)**
- **Human Studies of Diabetes and Obesity (HSDO)**
- **Kidney and Urological Systems Functions and Dysfunction (KUFD)**
- **Nutrient and Metabolism in Health and Disease (NMHD)**
- **Pathobiology of Kidney Disease (PBKD)**
- **Pathophysiology of Obesity and Metabolic Disease (POMD)**



External panel recommendations implemented except for: BMDM, POMD, HSDO

- External panel: separate panels for diabetes, obesity, metabolic disease
- Internal panel: organize cross-cutting disease/physiology study sections in continuum from basic to clinical. *Sept 2019 CSRAC concurred with internal panel*
- Guidelines for these developed based on internal recommendations.
- Mock sort #s OK

**CSR seeks approval of all new/restructured study sections in this cluster**

# Cardiac, Vascular and Hematologic Sciences

## OLD

## PROPOSED NEW

### Cardiac, Vascular and Hematologic Sciences

10 study sections

- Atherosclerosis and Inflammation of the Cardiovascular System Study Section (AICS)
- Cardiac Contractility, Hypertrophy, and Failure Study Section (CCHF)
- Clinical and Integrative Cardiovascular Sciences Study Section (CICS)
- Electrical Signaling, Ion Transport, and Arrhythmias Study Section (ESTA)
- Hemostasis and Thrombosis Study Section (HT)
- Hypertension and Microcirculation Study Section (HM)
- Molecular and Cellular Hematology Study Section (MCH)
- Myocardial Ischemia and Metabolism Study Section (MIM)
- Vascular Cell and Molecular Biology Study Section (VCMB)
- Transfusion Medicine Sep (ZRG1 VH-D 55)



### Cardiac, Vascular and Hematologic Sciences

8 study sections

- **Atherosclerosis and Vascular Inflammation (AVI)**
- **Basic Biology of Blood, Heart and Vasculature (BBHV)**
- **Clinical Integrative Cardiovascular and Hematological Sciences (CCHS)**
- **Hemostasis, Thrombosis, Blood Cells and Transfusion (HTBT)**
- **Integrative Vascular Physiology and Pathology (IVPP)**
- **Integrative Myocardial Physiology/Pathophysiology A (MPPA)**
- **Integrative Myocardial Physiology/Pathophysiology B (MPPB)**
- **Therapeutic Development and Preclinical Studies (TDPS)**



- All external panel recommendations to be implemented. No changes from the internal panel.
- Sept 2019 CSRAC approved recommendations
- CSR moved forward with implementing external panel recommendations.
- Guidelines developed
- Mock sort #s OK

**CSR seeks approval of all new/restructured study sections in this cluster**

# Functional/Cognitive Neuroscience

## OLD

### Functional/Cognitive Neuroscience

12 study sections

- Neuroendocrinology, Neuroimmunology, Rhythms and Sleep (NNRS)
- Neurobiology of Learning and Memory (LAM)
- Language and Communication (LCOM)
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- Chemosensory Systems (CSS)



## PROPOSED NEW

### Functional/Cognitive Neuroscience

11 study sections

- **Auditory Systems (AUD)**
- **Biology and Development of the Eye (BDE)**
- **Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Neuroimmunology, Rhythms, and Sleep (BNRS)**
- **Human Complex Mental Function (HCMF)**
- **Language and Communication (LCOM)**
- **Learning, Memory and Decision Neuroscience (LMDN)**
- **Neuroscience of Basic Visual Processes (NBVP)**
- **Neuroscience of Interoception and Chemosensation (NIC)**
- **Neurobiology of Pain and Itch (NPI)**
- **Pathophysiology of Eye Disease 1 & 2 (PED)**
- **Sensory-Motor Neuroscience (SMN)**



External panel recommendations implemented, except minor changes:

- NIC and SMN: External panel recommended two study sections. Mock sort #s were borderline. CSR developed guidelines as recommended, proposes a watch/see approach – contingency plan to merge
- BNRS: External/internal discrepancy re: keeping behavioral neuroendocrinology and neuroimmunology out/in. Mock sort #s - without these topics, not enough applications. CSR developed guidelines to keep topics in.

**CSR seeks approval of all new/restructured study sections in this cluster**

# CSR Advisory Council Working Groups



Reviewers

## Revamping the Early Career Reviewer Program



Process

## Development of a Review Integrity Training Module



Process

Ongoing: **Simplification of Peer Review Criteria** to refocus on scientific assessment/reduce reviewer burden

The image displays three overlapping screenshots from the NIH Center for Scientific Review website. The top screenshot is the 'Become an Early Career Reviewer (ECR)' page, featuring links for 'Apply to ECR', 'Returning Users - Login', and 'Your Privacy'. The middle screenshot shows the 'CSR Reviewer Training' progress bar at 64% complete, with a sidebar menu listing sections like Home, Introduction, Reviewer Responsibilities, and Feedback. The bottom screenshot is an email titled 'Review Matters' from Bruce Reed, Deputy Director, dated February 27, 2020. The email discusses concerns about the complexity of review criteria and administrative load, and seeks input from reviewers on simplifying review criteria. It includes contact information for Bruce Reed and a link to the working group.

NIH Center for Scientific Review

Become an Early Career Reviewer (ECR)

Apply to ECR Returning Users - Login Your Privacy

NIH Center for Scientific Review

CSR Reviewer Training

64% complete

Home Introduction Reviewer Responsibilities Applicant Responsibilities Breach of Integrity Exercises Consequences Feedback

42 USC Sec application

You must complete application to move forward

**Review Matters**

**Seeking Your Input on Simplifying Review Criteria**

**Bruce Reed**  
Deputy Director  
February 27, 2020

Over the past several years we have heard consistent concerns about the complexity of review criteria and administrative load of peer review. CSR shares the concern that the current set of standards has the unintended consequence of dividing reviewer attention among too many questions, thus reducing focus on scientific merit and increasing reviewer burden. Each element was intended make review better, but we worry that the cumulative whole may in fact distract from the main goal of review — to get input from experts on the scientific and technical merit of the proposed work.

To address these concerns, CSR has convened a working group of our advisory council, charged with recommending changes to research project grant review criteria that will improve review outcomes and reduce reviewer burden. The group is co-chaired by Tonya Palermo and me, and includes some of our council members, other members of the scientific community, and the NIH Review Policy Officer from the Office of Extramural Research.

**We would like to hear your thoughts on the issue. How might review criteria be modified to obtain the best evaluations of scientific merit?** You can provide feedback directly to me at [bruce.reed@nih.gov](mailto:bruce.reed@nih.gov), to [feedback@csr.nih.gov](mailto:feedback@csr.nih.gov), or to any member of the working group. Before you fire off that email, though, read on.

First, be aware that current criteria derive from multiple regulations; changes that conform to them well are more feasible than those that don't. The Code of Federal Regulations (42 C.F.R. Part 52h.8) requires that research project applications be evaluated based on significance, investigators, innovation, approach, and environment. Protections for humans, animals, and the environment, adequacy of inclusion plans, and budget must be evaluated. The "21st Century Cures" Act (Public Law 114-255) requires attention to rigor and reproducibility and aspects of clinical trials. That said, there is room for improved implementation.




# Update: ECR Program Changes

**Early Career Reviewer (ECR) Program**

The program aims to help early career scientists become more competitive as grant applicants through first-hand experience with peer review and to enrich and diversify CSR's pool of trained reviewers.


[Benefits of ECR](#) | [Qualifications for ECR](#) | [Apply to ECR](#) | [ECR Training](#) | [ECR Webinars](#)

**Benefits of ECR**



1. Work side-by-side with some of the most accomplished researchers in your field to help NIH identify the most promising grant applications
2. Learn how reviewers determine overall impact scores
3. Improve your own grant writing skills by getting an insider's view of how grant applications are evaluated
4. Serve the scientific community by participating in NIH peer review
5. Develop research-evaluation and critique-writing skills

**ECR Qualifications**



**Employment**

You have at least 2 years of experience as a fulltime faculty member or researcher in a similar role. Post-doctoral fellows are not eligible.

You must be an Assistant Professor or in an equivalent role. Because the program is focused on early career scientists, Associate Professors are not eligible.

**Research**

You show evidence of an active, independent research program. Examples include publications, presentations, institutional research support, patents, acting as supervisor of student projects.

You have at least 1 senior-authored research publication in a peer-reviewed journal in the last 2 years plus at least 1 additional senior-authored research publication since receiving a doctorate.

- In press publications are considered; preprints are not.
- We consider "senior author" as single author, corresponding author, or first or last author.

**Grant & Review History**

You have not served on an NIH study section in any capacity aside from as a mail reviewer. (Mail reviews do not include participation in the meeting.)

You have not held an R01 or R01-equivalent (R35, R37, RF1, R23, R29, DP1, DP2, DP5, U01, RL1) grant in the PD/P1 role

You must have submitted a grant proposal, in the PI/PD role, to the NIH and received the associated summary statement; any grant mechanism that results in a summary statement other than F30, F31, F32 fulfills this requirement.

- Sept 2019 CSRAC: New recommendations re: qualifications, usage, consistency, engagement
- Sept – Dec 2019: Database revamped – usable, trackable accurate
- Oct-Nov 2019: CSR SRO Guidance Developed
  - 2 ECRs/standing committee
  - 2 ECRs/SEP with >49 R01/R21
  - 1 ECR/SEP with 25-49 R01/R21
- Nov 2019: CSR ECR committee formed - consistent vetting of qualifications
- Dec 2019: CSR Best Practices for SROs re: Engagement/Working with ECRs
- **375 ECRs in Feb/Mar 2020 meetings** (*compared to 185 last year in Feb/Mar 2019*)

# Thank You! Working Group of Council: Revamping the ECR Program

## Council Members



Mark Peifer, Ph.D.



Elizabeth Villa, Ph.D.

## CSR Staff



Kristin Kramer, Ph.D.



Antonello Pileggi, Ph.D.

## Ad Hocs (Early Career Reviewers)



Vinay Aakalu, M.D., MPH  
University of Illinois Chicago



Lisa Jones, Ph.D.  
University of Maryland




Stephanie Cook, Ph.D., MPH  
New York University



Manuel Llano, M.D., Ph.D.  
University of Texas EL Paso

# Update: Reviewer Integrity Training Module



64% complete

Home

Introduction

Reviewer Responsibilities

Applicant Responsibilities

Breach of Integrity

Exercises

Consequences

Conclusion


Feedback

EXERCISE 3

For the following exercise, please watch the video and then answer the question that follows:

Dr. Martinez and Dr. Jones are having a conversation while the XYZ study section is taking its morning coffee break.

Video (1:13 min.)



Dr. Martinez: ...So I ran into Michelle at the Biopharma Society Meeting last month.

Dr. Jones: Really? How's she doing?

Dr. Martinez: Oh, she's doing great, actually. She gave a fascinating talk at the meeting and she got awarded her first R01.

Show/Hide Text Version

Next

- Soft-launch with ~30 study sections (828 reviewers) in Feb/Mar 2020
- CSR SROs also viewed training, shared with NIH leadership, OER
- Post-training surveys for reviewers/SROs currently being analyzed
- Plan to adjust/refine and provide to all CSR reviewers (June/July planned – may move to Oct/Nov)

# Thank You! Working Group of Council: Reviewer Integrity Training Module

## Council Members



Scott Miller, Ph.D.



Tonya Palermo, Ph.D.



Denise Wilfley, Ph.D.



Jinming Gao, Ph.D.



Deanna Kroetz, Ph.D.

## CSR Staff



Kathryn Koeller, Ph.D.  
Research/Review Integrity Officer



Miriam Mintzer, Ph.D.  
Scientific Review Officer



Raul Rojas, Ph.D.  
Scientific Review Officer

# Next Up: Working Group of Council on Simplifying Review Criteria

## CSR Advisory Council



Jinming Gao, Ph.D.



Alfred George, M.D.



Yasmin Hurd, Ph.D.



Deanna Kroetz, Ph.D.



José López, M.D.

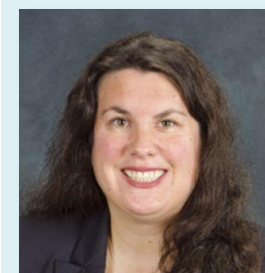


Tonya Palermo, Ph.D.

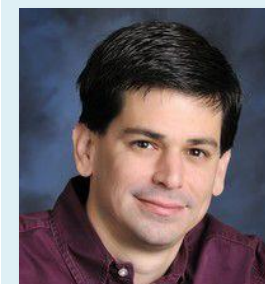
## Ad Hocs



Kevin Corbett, Ph.D.  
University of California,  
San Diego



Michelle Janelins, Ph.D.  
University of Rochester  
Medical Center



Brooks King-Casas, Ph.D.  
Virginia Tech

## NIH Staff



Sally Amero, Ph.D.  
Office of Extramural Research



Bruce Reed, Ph.D.  
Center for Scientific Review



# CSR Anonymization Study (2015-)

- Study by external contractor (SSI) completed in September 2019; data/analysis to CSR in Dec. 2019
- 1200 previously-reviewed applications in both full and redacted forms
- Results
  - Redaction does not appear to make scores of African-American applicants better or worse
  - Redaction appears to slightly worsen the scores of White applicants
  - Small, significant difference, but effect size is very small
  - Over 20% of reviewers were able to identify the applicant correctly despite redaction
- CSR's next steps:
  - Preprint on server by May 1
  - Deidentified data from the study will be made publicly available

# Pilot Bias Training for SROs, Reviewers (and POs)

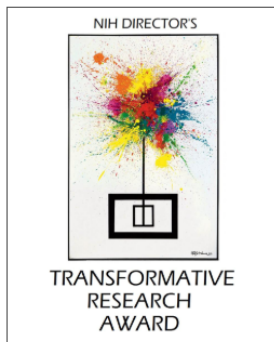
- Using NIGMS MIRA program as a pilot – person-based, finite, small numbers of SROs, reviewers
- Collaboration between CSR, NIGMS, and NIH's Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity (COSWD)
- Background narrated slides, followed by case studies/scenarios specifically targeted to the audience
- Launched: Jan 2020 receipt date for MIRA (summer 2020 meetings)
- Redesign, refine with **broader rollout for all CSR reviewers and SROs in early 2021**



# Pilot Multi-Stage Anonymized Review

## NIH Director's Transformative Research Award

Funding opportunities for exceptionally innovative and unconventional research projects



Part of the [High-Risk, High-Reward Research program](#), the award supports individuals or teams proposing **transformative projects that are inherently risky and untested** but have the potential to **create or overturn fundamental paradigms** and may require very large budgets.

- Open to all career stages
- Open to individuals or teams
- No preliminary data required
- Flexible budgets
- Effort commensurate to project needs

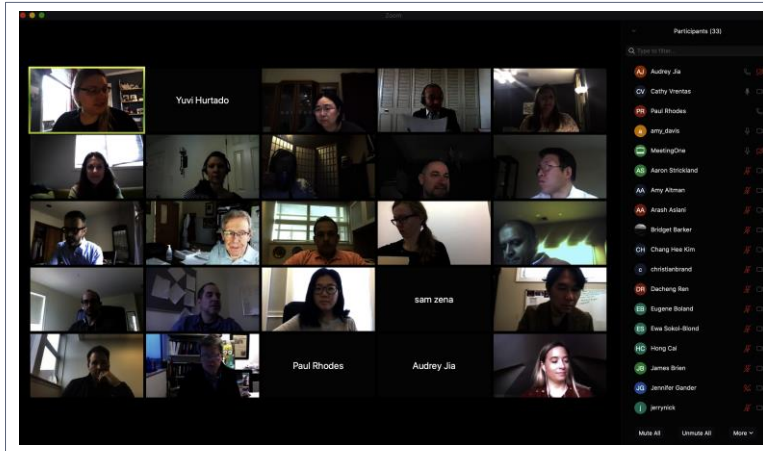
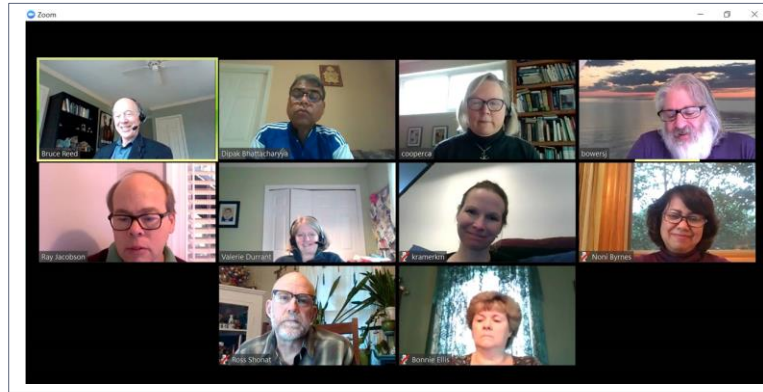
More ▾

- Collaboration between CSR and NIH Office of the Director, Common Fund
- Self-redaction by investigators – no identifiers/institutions
- Stage 1: **Ed Board** reviews Specific Aims; selects top subset
- Stage 2: **Subject matter experts** evaluate Specific Aims, Abstract, Research Strategy
- Stage 3: **Ed Board** selects top subset, gives prelim scores, followed by **receiving full application with investigator info, meeting with discussion and final scores of all 5 criteria.**
- **Sept 2020 t-R01 receipt date**

# This is CSR



# This is CSR now....not missing a beat!





# Discussion