



NIH NEWS ADVISORY

National Institutes of Health

Statement by Elias Zerhouni, M.D.
Director of the National Institutes of Health

On Awarding of Medal of Freedom to

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, National Human Genome Research Institute

October 29, 2007

The completion of the Human Genome Project will remain a landmark of scientific achievement for centuries to come. The multi-faceted leadership of Francis Collins was the essential ingredient for the success of this international endeavor that has brought honor to our country and to the NIH. I cannot think of a better way to recognize his extraordinary scientific talent and selfless dedication to public service than for President Bush to bestow the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Francis Collins.