NHGRI Training Task Force

Presentation to NHGRI Advisory Council

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February, 2020
Task Force Members

- Jeff Struewing (co-chair)
- Wendy Chung (co-chair)
- Jonathan Pritchard
- Carol Bult
- Bruce Birren
- Tina Gatlin (executive secretary)
- Alex Raphael (program analyst)
- Heather Colley
- Joy Boyer
- Bettie Graham (ex officio)
NHGRI Training Task Force

• Charge
  o Evaluate the Institute’s current extramural training efforts
  o Identify potential growth areas

• Operation
  o Formed in June 2019 and met by teleconference
NHGRI Training Task Force

- Input
  - NHGRI’s current portfolio
  - Training-related info from strategic planning meetings
  - The Intersociety Coordinating Committee for Practitioner Education in Genomics (ISCC)
  - Feedback from ~30 colleagues who work in the academic extramural research and industry environments to a set of questions that we posed to them
  - Closed session discussion at Sep 2019 NACHGR meeting
FY18 Training Awards = $17.3 M

4.2% of $410.0 M ERP Budget = Training
Core principles for training in genomics and data interpretation and in ELSI issues

• Diversity/Inclusivity
• Multi-disciplinary
• Modular and Just-in-Time Training Curricula
• Data and Knowledge Democratization
• Foundational Knowledge
Task Force Recommendations

• An increase of 2-3% to a total of ~ 6% of the extramural budget over the next 5-10 years would put NHGRI near the median of other ICs.
• $6-$8M (1.5-2%) increase over 5 years
• Reevaluation and eventual increase of another $2-$4M (0.5-1%) within 10 years
Task Force Recommendations

1. Increase funding for T32, F, and K grants and URM initiatives. (URM, K- & F- grants > T32)

   • Doubling of F-awards (currently <$500K/year)
   • 50% increase in DAPs and K-awards
   • 17% increase in T32s

   • ~$5.5M total increase
Task Force Recommendations

2. Develop/expand training of ABMGG Laboratory Genetics and Genomics and other fellows, genetic counselors, nurses, and other groups in genomics and ELSI research methodology

3. Develop/expand efforts in data science and bioinformatics researchers, particularly among women and under-represented minority populations

- ~ $1M pilot programs
Task Force Recommendations

4. Develop and disseminate modular training materials & genomics curricula for various career levels

• ~ $1M pilot programs
5. NHGRI staff should set ambitious goals and milestones both with regard to the number and size of awards, but also to increasing representation of women and under-represented minority populations.
Action taken

- NHGRI joined the MOSAIC K99/R00 FOA.

- Done acting on the task force recommendation to increase support for diversity and K awards.

- The objective of the MOSAIC K99/R00 is to enhance workforce diversity by facilitating the transition of postdoctoral researchers from diverse backgrounds from their mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions at research-intensive institutions.
Discussion