

**NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**  
May 16-17, 2022

The Open Session of the 96<sup>th</sup> meeting of the National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research (NACHGR) was convened virtually by Zoom at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, May 16, 2022. Dr. Eric Green, Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), called the meeting to order.

The meeting was open to the public from 11:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on May 16, 2022. In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the meeting was closed to the public from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. on May 16, 2022, and from 11:00 a.m. until adjournment on May 17, 2022, for the review, discussion, and evaluation of grant applications.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Laura Bierut (Washington University School of Medicine)  
Kyle Brothers (University of Louisville)  
Mark Craven (University of Wisconsin, Madison)  
Hal Dietz (Johns Hopkins University)  
Gail Jarvik (University of Washington)  
Lynn Jorde (University of Utah)  
Iftikhar Kullo (Mayo Clinic)  
Lisa Parker (University of Pittsburgh)  
Len Pennacchio (University of California, Berkeley)  
Stephen Rich (University of Virginia)  
Olga Troyanskaya (Princeton University)

**AD HOC MEMBERS**

Hagan Bayley (University of Oxford)  
Joe Beery (LunaDNA)  
Peter Robinson (The Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine)  
Jay Shendure (University of Washington)

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS, NHGRI STAFF, LIAISONS, AND GUESTS**

Dr. Rudy Pozzatti began the Open Session with the introduction of new members of the NHGRI staff, liaisons, and guests, which can be viewed here: [\[link\]](#)

**APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY**

The Council approved the February 7, 2022 Meeting Summary by a unanimous vote.

**FUTURE NACHGR MEETING DATES**

- September 19-20, 2022
- February 13-14, 2023
- May 15-16, 2023
- September 18-19, 2023
- February 12-13, 2024
- May 20-21, 2024

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Eric Green gave his Director's Report, which included a series of updates about NHGRI, NIH, and the broader genomics research community. A [video](#) of his presentation and the [slides](#) are available here: [\[link\]](#)

**PRESENTATION** – *The Future of Nursing Research: Innovation, Collaboration, and Impact* – Dr. Shannon Zenk

Dr. Shannon Zenk, Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) presented a talk on the future of nursing research and the activities of NINR with the release of their new strategic plan. Dr. Zenk started with an overview of NINR's history and the importance of nursing research, with a special focus on health inequalities. NINR released its 2022-2026 strategic plan 10 days ago, addressing challenges and goals through the "five research lenses," giving different perspectives to examine health challenges in the field and allowing for a broad scope for NINR research. The full strategic plan can be found on the NINR webpage ([ninr.nih.gov](http://ninr.nih.gov)). NINR is collaborating with other NIH institutes/centers on projects such as the Climate Change and Health Initiative, the Social Determinants of Health Research Committee, and the Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS) program. Dr. Zenk also touched on opportunities and best practices for collaboration between NINR and NHGRI.

A video of Dr. Zenk's presentation and the related discussion can be found here: [\[link\]](#)

**PRESENTATION** – *Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity Update* – Dr. Marie Bernard

Dr. Marie Bernard, the NIH Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity, presented an update on the NIH Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) strategic plan and related activities. The strategic plan is currently being drafted as a blueprint for short-term and long-term goals that address racial, ethnic, and gender disparities at the NIH. The plan will be finalized in late spring or early summer to convey priorities for the next five years. The strategic plan aligns well with the diversity action agenda put forth by NHGRI in 2021. Dr. Bernard also gave an update on the new NIH UNITE initiative and its activities, including two of the FOAs to address health disparities and the ComPASS program. Internal workforce initiatives include the Power of an Inclusive Workforce recognition project to represent the range of individuals working in the biomedical sciences. Externally, the Faculty Institutional Recruitment for Sustainable Transformation (FIRST) program was set up to encourage institutional cultural changes around the US.

A video of Dr. Bernard's presentation and the related discussion can be found here: [\[link\]](#)

**CONCEPT CLEARANCE** – *Analysis, Visualization, and Informatics Lap-Space (AnVIL) [RFA Renewal]* – Mr. Chris Wellington and Dr. Ken Wiley

Mr. Chris Wellington and Dr. Ken Wiley presented the renewal plans of the Analysis, Visualization, and Informatics Lap-Space (AnVIL) program. The presentation started with an overview and timeline of the AnVIL program and its current status, such as the 4 petabytes of data across 20 research networks that has been uploaded to date. There was an explanation of the AnVIL lab space structure with a focus on outreach and user engagement. The future goals will be met by the two arms of the program, with the first RFA increasing tool availability, improving interoperability, and addressing barriers to cloud computing through a limited competition funding opportunity announcement. The second will be an open competition RFA focused on clinical resources to serve the community by leveraging the existing AnVIL efforts, titled the AnVIL Clinical Resource (ACR). The budget is approximately \$8M total cost per year over the next 5 years.

Council members approved both concepts unanimously. A video of Mr. Wellington's and Dr. Wiley's presentations and the related discussion can be found here: [\[link\]](#)

### **CONCEPT CLEARANCE – Diversity Genome Research Centers [RFA] – Dr. Ebony Madden**

Dr. Ebony Madden presented two Diversity Genomes Research Centers RFA concepts. The concepts grew from the diversity and inclusion research informing the 2020 NHGRI Strategic Vision and the subsequent Action Agenda. The diversity genome research centers would help increase diversity in the genomics research workforce by supporting research activities and infrastructure enhancement at minority serving institutions (MSI). Two Request for Applications (RFAs) are proposed. One for U54 full-scale genome research centers, and a second that features a two-stage project using the UG3/UH3 activity code to develop infrastructure and genomics research capacity on the path to a U54 center. There will be opportunities for collaborations with well-resourced institutions, but the majority of the funds must go to the MSIs. A total cost of \$42.4M is proposed for both RFAs that will support 4 full-scale centers for 5 years and UG3/UH3 projects for up to 7 years.

Council members approved both concepts unanimously. A video of Dr. Madden's presentation and the related discussion can be found here: [\[link\]](#)

### **WORKSHOP REPORT - Future Directions in Genomics and Health Equity – Dr. Judy Cho**

Dr. Judy Cho is the Dean of Translational Genetics and Director of the Charles Bronfman Institute for Personalized Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She presented a report on the Future Directions in Genomics and Health Equity Research workshop that took place on April 6-7, 2022. The workshop featured keynote presentations, panel discussions, and breakout groups over the two days. Selected discussion points were highlighted, focusing on health disparities in genomics, identifying research gaps and opportunities, and addressing structural factors to support health equity in genomics research. Opportunities that NHGRI could pursue were also presented, including diversifying the genomics workforce and addressing the challenge of collecting genomic data from diverse populations. Priorities were developed from the breakout room discussion and input from workshop participants. There is a manuscript in preparation for a peer-reviewed publication. Information and video recordings from the workshop can be found [here](#).

A video of Dr. Cho's presentation and the related discussion can be found here: [\[link\]](#)

### **COUNCIL-INITIATED DISCUSSION**

Council members requested a presentation on big-data efforts at the NIH that could be leveraged to support work at NHGRI. Dr. Susan Gregurick from ODSS was suggested.

In addition, Dr. Lindsay Criswell from NIAMS was suggested as a possible speaker since she is a relatively new institute director.

Council members also requested a future presentation on ARPA-H to hear about collaborative opportunities. Once an ARPA-H Director is announced, that individual should be invited to give a presentation to the Council.

Another suggestion was given for a presentation and discussion about the biomedical ethics issues that are specific to research projects involving big data and genomics.

A final suggestion was a request for a presentation on data privacy and regulations at the NIH in relation to the global landscape. Council members volunteered to provide names for potential speakers.

A video of the Council-initiated discussion can be found here: [\[link\]](#)

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

Dr. Rudy Pozzatti read the Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Policy to Council and asked the members to sign the conflict of interest forms provided to them.

## **REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

In the Closed Session, the NACHGR reviewed 182 applications, requesting \$82,202,713 (direct costs). The applications included: 119 research project applications (R01, R03, or R21); 25 Cooperative Agreement applications (U01, UM1, or U54); 1 Conference Application (R13); 3 Education applications (R25); 10 Community Resource applications (U24); 13 Career Development applications (F99/K00 or K99/R00); 8 SBIR Phase I application (R43); 2 SBIR Phase II applications (R44); and 1 STTR Phase 1 application.

## **NHGRI STAFF PRESENT**

Alexander Arguello, ERP  
Katie Bardsley, ERP  
Sarah Bates, OC  
Vence Bonham, IOD  
Joy Boyer, ERP  
Lawrence Brody, ERP  
Comfort Browne, ERP  
Dee Burkardt, ERP  
Alicia Caffi, DM  
Stephanie Calluori, ERP  
Lisa Chadwick, ERP  
Christine Chang, ERP  
Monika Christman, ERP  
Heather Colley, ERP  
Amanda Conti, PPAB  
Jyoti Dayal, ERP  
Valentina Di Francesco, OGDS  
Argenia Doss, ERP  
Alvaro Encinas, OC  
Elise Feingold, ERP  
Adam Felsenfeld, ERP  
Ann Fitzpatrick, DM  
Colin Fletcher, ERP  
Anneliese Galczynski, ERP  
Prabarna Ganguly, OC  
Sean Garin, ERP  
Elena Ghanaim, OGDS  
Daniel Gilchrist, ERP  
Jenell Glover, OGDS  
Madison Goldrich, ERP  
Bettie Graham, ERP

Eric Green, IOD  
Chris Gunter, IOD  
Linda Hall, ERP  
Zephaun Harvey, ERP  
Lucia Hindorff, TiDHE  
Carolyn Hutter, ERP  
Deanna Ingersoll, ERP  
Amber Jackson, TiDHE  
Cristina Kapustij, PPAB  
Dave Kaufman, ERP  
Jim Kees, ERP  
Se Rin (Julie) Kim, ERP  
Michael Lacy, DM  
Grace Lamoure, ERP  
Rongling Li, ERP  
Asiyah Lin, OGDS  
Natalie Linear, ERP  
Nicole Lockhart, ERP  
Ebony Madden, TiDHE  
Teri Manolio, ERP  
Radu Marin, ITB  
William Maye, ITB  
Allison McCague, PPAB  
Keith McKenney, ERP  
Donna Messersmith, ECIB  
Jenn Montooth, OC  
Joannella Morales, ERP  
Donna Morris, ERP  
Stephanie Morris, ERP  
Mukul Nerurkar, OC  
Allie Osgood, ERP

Nguyen Park, ERP  
Mike Pazin, ERP  
Haleena Phillips, ERP  
Ajay Pillai, ERP  
Mindy Perilla, IRP  
Rudy Pozzatti, ERP  
Erin Ramos, ERP  
Kathleen Renna, ERP  
Renee Rider, ERP  
Enitza Rodriguez, ERP  
Ellen Rolfes, DM  
Kristen Ross, ERP  
Robb Rowley, ERP  
Ismail Safi, ERP  
Ella Samer, ERP  
Lorjetta Schools, TiDHE  
Baergen Schultz, ERP  
Jamil Scott, TiDHE  
Shurjo Sen, OGDS  
Michael Smith, ERP

Grace Snyder, ERP  
Heidi Sofia, ERP  
Jerryl Somani, ITB  
Rene Sterling, ERP  
Ana Stevens, OGDS  
Jennifer Strasburger, ERP  
Michelle Tallman, ERP  
Jill Thomas, OC  
Barbara Thomas, ERP  
Helen Thompson, OGDS  
Jennifer Troyer, ERP  
Susan Vasquez, IOD  
Simona Volpi, ERP  
Harry Wedel, OC  
Chris Wellington, ERP  
Kris Wetterstrand, IOD  
Ken Wiley, ERP  
Sarah Wheelan, ERP  
Valerie Willis, ERP

ERP = Extramural Research Program  
OC = Office of Communications  
IOD = Immediate Office of the Director  
DM = Division of Management  
ECIB = Education and Community Involvement Branch  
ITB = Information Technology Branch  
PPAB = Policy and Program Analysis Branch  
TiDHE = Training, Diversity and Health Equity Office  
OGDS = Office of Genomic Data Science  
IRP = Intramural Research Program

*This NACHGR Meeting Summary was prepared by Sean Garin, NHGRI Scientific Program Analyst.*

09/20/2022

Date

*Rudy Pozzatti, Ph.D.*

Rudy Pozzatti, Ph.D.  
Executive Secretary  
National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research

09/22/2022

Date

*Eric Green, M.D., Ph.D.*

Eric Green, M.D., Ph.D.  
Chairman  
National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research

**This report was approved by the NACHGR on September 19, 2022**