

confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; Limited Competitions: National Biocontainment Laboratories (NBLs) Operations Support (UC7).

*Date:* November 20, 2015.

*Time:* 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* National Institutes of Health, Room 3G61, 5601 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Travis J Taylor, Ph.D., Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, Room 3G62B, 5601 Fishers Lane, MSC 9823, Bethesda, MD 20892-9823, (240) 669-5082, *Travis.Taylor@nih.gov*.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 16, 2015.

**Natasha Copeland,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute on Aging; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Aging Special Emphasis Panel; Sex Difference in Health.

*Date:* November 19, 2015.

*Time:* 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* National Institute on Aging, Gateway Building, Rm 2C212, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Kimberly Firth, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging, Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 2C212, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-402-7702, *firthkm@mail.nih.gov*.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.866, Aging Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 16, 2015.

**Melanie J. Gray,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Announcement of Requirements and Registration for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute "Novel, Innovative Tools To Increase Public Awareness and Knowledge of Sickle Cell Disease Undergraduate Challenge"

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 3719.

**SUMMARY:** The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHBLI), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announces the "Novel, Innovative Tools to Increase Public Awareness and Knowledge of Sickle Cell Disease Undergraduate Challenge" to help address the lack of awareness about sickle cell disease and its associated complications and to improve successful implementation of effective interventions for sickle cell disease (SCD) in real world settings. In addition, by directing the Challenge at undergraduate students, the Challenge also aims to advance the field of implementation science through research training, mentoring, and highlighting the contributions of a new generation of undergraduate researchers using a systems science approach to address multi-faceted problems.

**DATES:** The Challenge begins October 21, 2015. Submission Period: November 30, 2015 to March 7, 2016, 11:59 p.m. PDT, Judging Period: March 14, 2016 to March 25, 2016, Winners Notified by email: April 5, 2016, Winners Announced: April 19, 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Helena O. Mishoe, Ph.D., MPH, Associate Director for Research Training and Diversity, (email: *mishoeh@nhlbi.nih.gov*, 301-451-5081); Joylene

John-Sowah, M.D., MPH, Medical Officer, (email: *john-sowahj@nhlbi.nih.gov*, 301-496-1051); Ornela Rutagarama, B.S., (email: *rutagaramaom@nhlbi.nih.gov*, 301-496-1051), National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Sickle cell disease is the most common genetic disorder in the United States. About 100,000 Americans are thought to be living with SCD, and each year another 1,000 babies are born with the disease. Sickle cell disease is an inherited disease that results in abnormal hemoglobin, the protein in human red blood cells that carries oxygen to all tissues in the body. Hemoglobin is essential for life. A specific single mutation in the gene (DNA) for hemoglobin, when inherited from both parents, causes SCD. The sickle hemoglobin distorts the shape of the red blood cell into a 'sickle' or crescent moon shape that flows poorly through small blood vessels. This can cause problems in virtually any organ by reducing the delivery of oxygen and inflaming the surrounding tissue. These abnormal sickle cells usually die after only about 10 to 20 days (as compared to normal red blood cells that live about 120 days). Over time, organ damage occurs, possibly resulting in a stroke in the brain, kidney damage, or complications in other organ systems. SCD also causes significant pain in the affected tissues. This pain, which can begin in childhood, often escalates as adulthood approaches, severely affecting the quality of life of individuals with SCD. Sickle cell disease not only affects the individual but also his or her family and communities.

There is a lack of awareness about SCD and its associated complications among the general public and affected communities. This unawareness can contribute to the stigma associated with SCD, the lack of understanding of how the disease affects individuals and families' daily lives, and to less than optimal care experienced by many patients. To help address this problem, the NHLBI is launching the "Novel, Innovative Tools to Increase Public Awareness and Knowledge of Sickle Cell Disease Undergraduate Challenge" (the "Challenge") to incentivize the development of innovative information dissemination tools that may be used to (i) increase the general public's awareness of SCD; (ii) provide information on SCD and its complications to individuals, caregivers, families, and communities affected by SCD in an easily comprehensible