Division of Extramural Research: Update

June 9, 2016 Della M. Hann, Ph.D.



Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development



Overview

- Staff Updates
- Funding the Best Science
- Upcoming Change:
 - Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)





Staff New to NICHD Extramural





Karen Lee - CDBB





Hazel Alsol - GMB



Daniel Johnston - CRB



Barbara Johnson - OCM

Bill Duval - DER





Ronna Popkin - PDB



Dean Allen - NCMRR

Staff Transitions: Departures from NICHD Extramural





Tiina Urv

IDDB Program Director



Paul Gresham OCM Senior Committee Management Specialist



Susan Tolivaisa



PPB Clinical Trials Specialist

Carol Sheredos

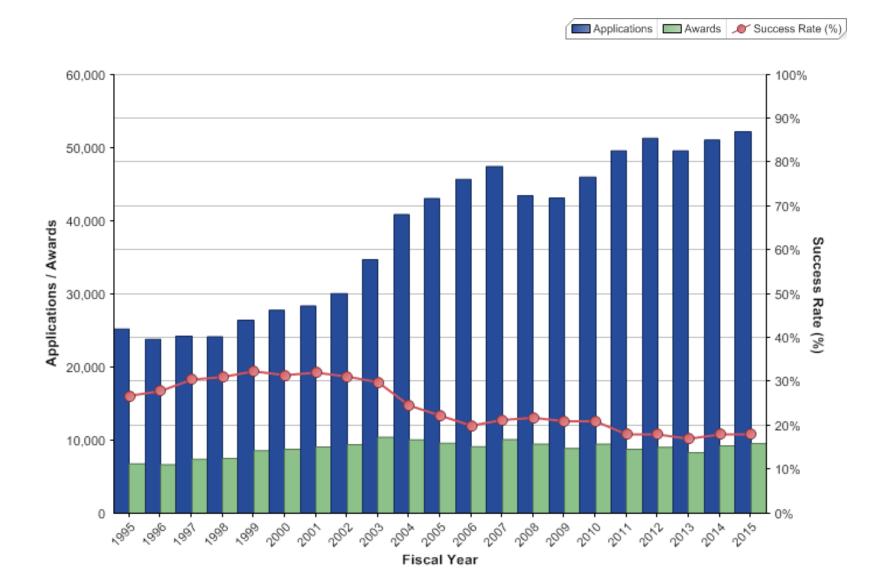


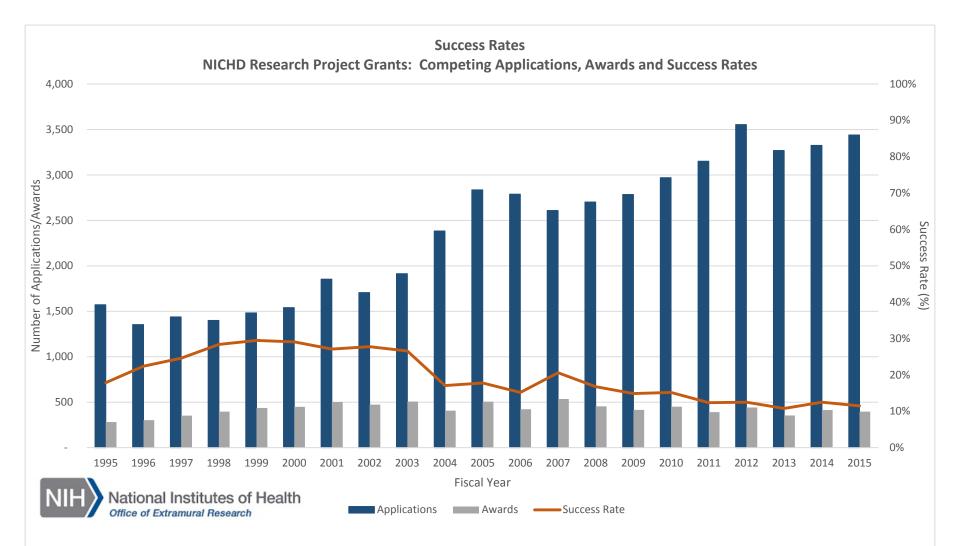
NCMRR Program Support Specialist



Funding the Best Science

NIH Research Project Grants Applications, awards, and success rates



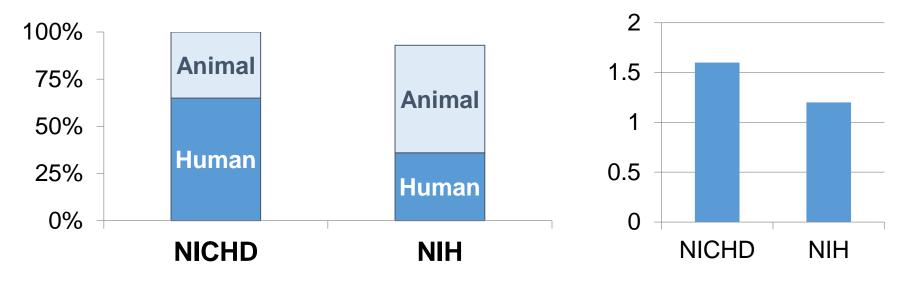


Awards made under Reimbursable Agreements, Appropriations to NIH for Superfund-related activities, Gift Funds and Breast Cancer Research Stamp Funds are not included. Research Projects (RPG) defined as activities (R00,R01,R03,R15,R21,R22,R23,R29, R33,R34,R35,R36,R37,R55,R56,RL1,RL2,RL5,RL9,P01,P42, PN1,UC1,UC7,U01,U19,U34,UH2,UH3,UM1,DP1,DP2,DP3,DP4,DP5,RC1,RC2, RC3,RC4,UA5,UC1,UC2,UC3,UC4,RF1,UF1,PM1,RM1) FY 2009 and 2010 exclude awards made under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and all ARRA solicited applications and awards. An estimate for FY 2015 RPG applications shows 53599 NIH applications and 3551 NICHD applications, These numbers are subject to change. Source: NIH IMPAC, Success Rate File

Characteristics of scored applications ©

Human Study65% (2836)36% (26855)Animal Study35% (1517)57% (42671)Requested Direct Costs (\$M) $1.2 \, 1.6 \, 2.4$ $1.2 \, 1.2 \, 1.8$

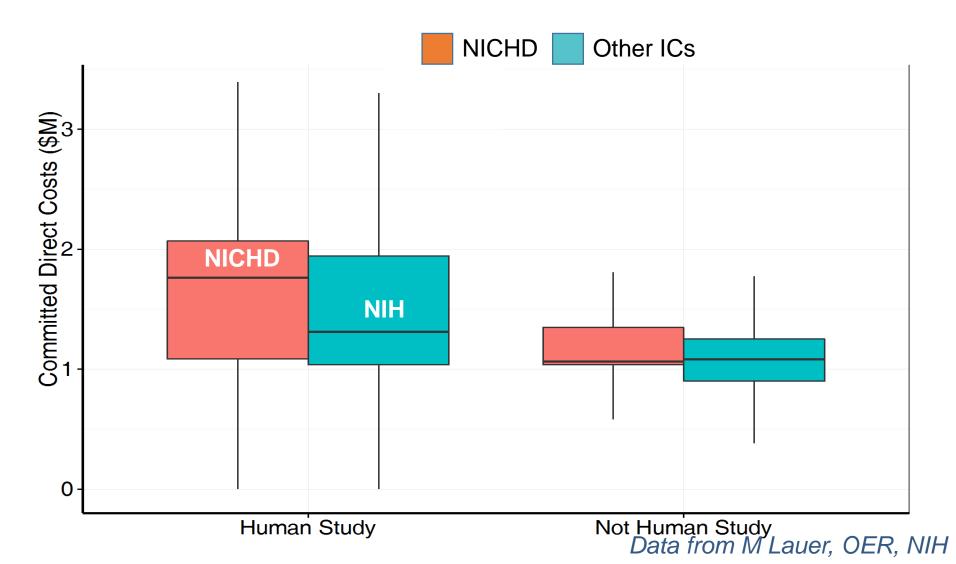
Requested direct cost (M)



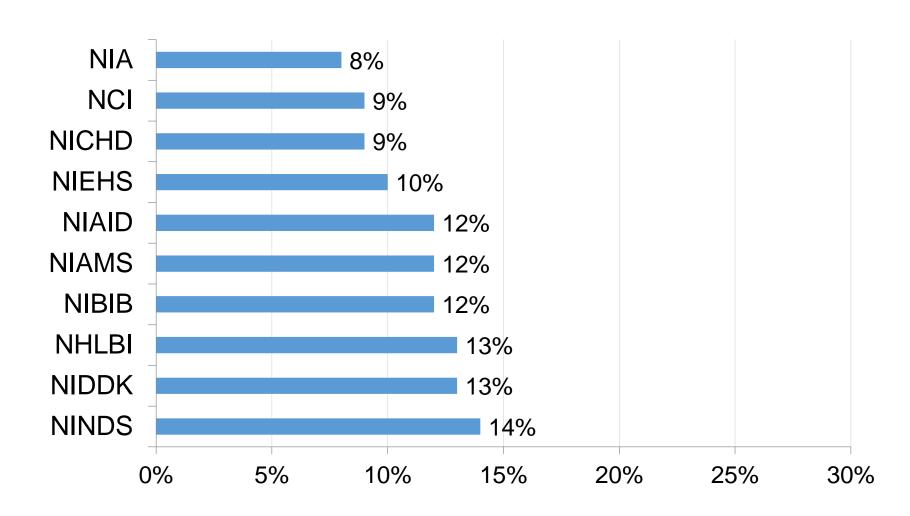
Data from M Lauer, OER, NIH



NICHD budgets higher for human studies



NIH R01 Paylines (2015)



FY 2015; NICHD Unsolicited R01/R37 grants (includes PAs but not RFAs) 30 Awarded Not Awarded 25 Payline (9%ile) Number of Grants 20 15 10 5 Kernel Density Distributions for NICHD R01/R37 Grants Award.Fate 0 NY 6 11 16 21 26 31 36 41 46 51 1 Percentile Score 0.09 Density N=943 Overlap Coefficient=0.11 0.03 0.00 Data from M Lauer, OER, NIH 40 Grant Percentile Ranking 20 60

0

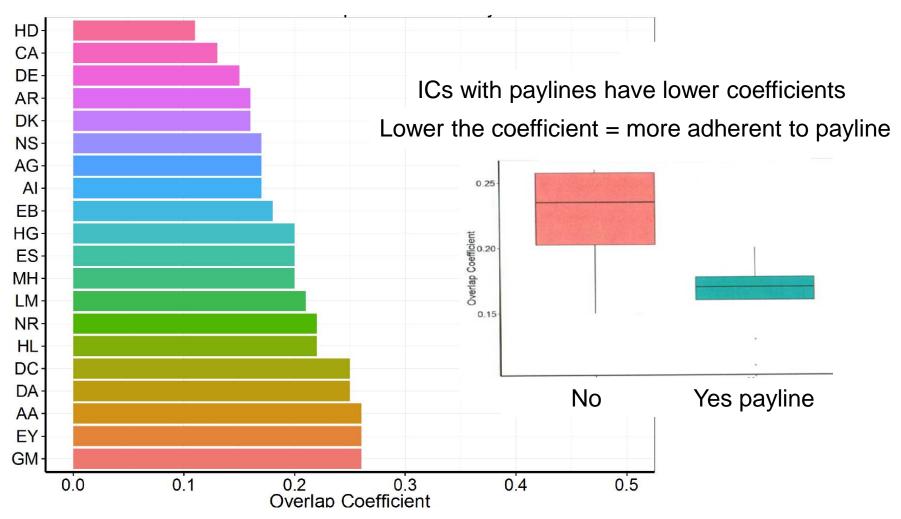
NICHD

Spectrum of R01 Grants Awarded

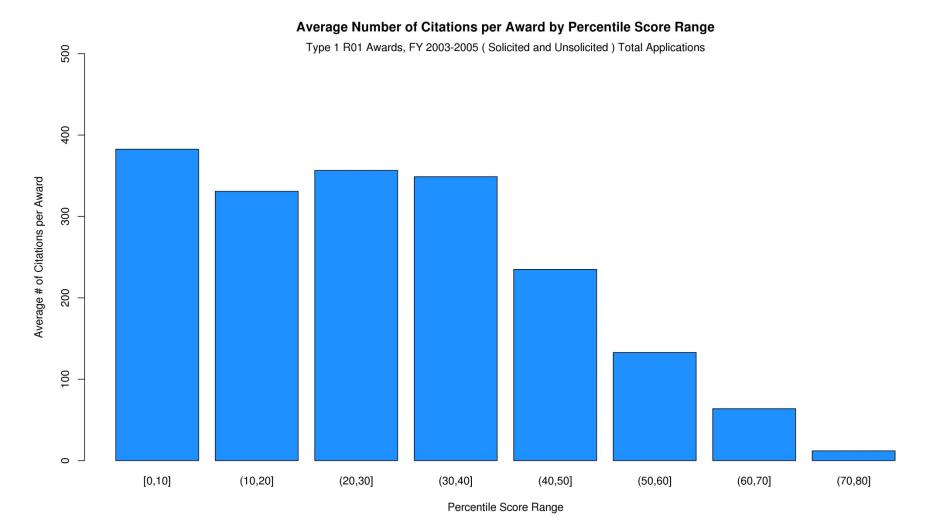


NIH Award Overlap Coefficients (2015)

2014, 2013 HD was 2nd, 2011 HD was 3rd



Data from M Lauer, OER, NIH



Data Through 2013: All NIH provided by OER

Summary of NICHD funding

- Applications increasing
- Number of unique applicants increasing
- Compared to other ICs:
 - More human subjects studies and fewer animal studies
 - Higher requested budgets
 - Higher budgets for human subjects work
 - High reliance on definitive payline
- Payline decreasing
- Many applications for good science not being supported

Options for Improving the Payline



Clarify the Message

- ✓ Tighten referral guidelines
- ✓ Communicate priorities
- ✓ Tighten transfer acceptance
- ✓ Strategic use of FOAs especially for big projects
- ✓ Stricter methods for large grant acceptance



Communicate Priorities



- Each branch developing up to 7 priority topics
 - Vision Document
 - Strategic Plans
 - Portfolio Assessment
- Identifying gaps and science needed to address



Post on branch websites

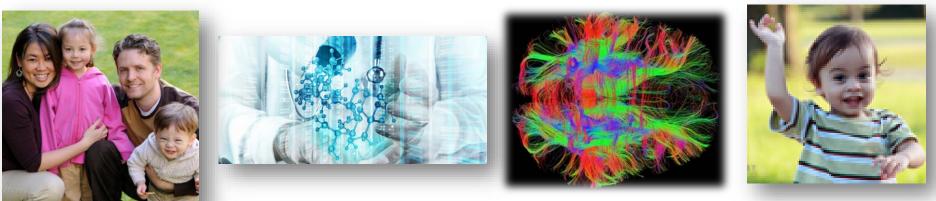


- Increase flexibility for discretionary funding
- Be more strategic about our investments:
 - Mechanisms
 - Example: Strategic use of P01 for areas in need of synergy
 - Acceptance of large grants
 - Participation in FOAs

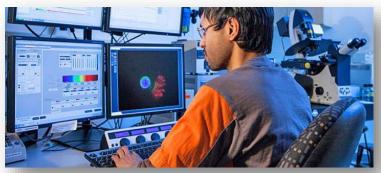




Funding the Best Science...



to Advance Science & Health for All







Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

Potential impact on postdocs funded on NRSA or RPG

July 6, 2015: Department of Labor (DOL) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Update overtime rules under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

- FLSA last updated in 2004
- Salaried workers earning less than the 40th percentile for fulltime salaried workers (DOL estimated at \$50,440) will be eligible for paid overtime unless they are designated "exempt."
- Current threshold exempt from paid overtime is a salary of \$23,660 or more
- Teachers, Physicians practicing medicine, and Interns/Residents are exempt from overtime regardless of salary ('learned professionals')
- Comment period opened to allow comments from the community

NIH CONTEXT



- Postdocs funded on NIH research project grants (RPG) as employees earning less than the threshold would be eligible for paid overtime
- NRSA stipends set the 'standard' for salaries of postdocs on RPG
- At 2016 NRSA stipend levels, postdocs with 0-3 years postdoctoral experience employed on RPG would be below the recommended threshold of \$50,440 (i.e., overtime eligible if an employee)
- Even with a recommended 2% increase in NRSA stipend in 2017, years 0-2 postdoc NRSA stipends would still be below the recommended \$50,440 threshold
- Dr. Collins engaged in discussion with DOL; supportive of an outcome fair and credible to the work they do

FINAL DOL RULE RELEASED 5/17/2016

- Threshold for salaried employees to be exempt from paid overtime will be \$47,476
- This will be effective 12/01/2016
- Postdoctoral researchers on RPG making less than \$47,476 will be eligible for paid overtime
- Three years later the threshold to be *exempt from* paid overtime will be raised to **\$50,400**
- Students are exempt from paid overtime

https://www.dol.gov/featured/overtime

https://www.dol.gov/sites/default/files/overtime-highereducation2.pdf

NIH Context



NRSA & RPG funded postdocs & New FLSA threshold

- With the new exemption threshold of \$47,476 NRSA recipients with 0,1 or 2 years of postdoctoral experience are currently below the threshold for exemption from paid overtime
- NIH plans to increase support for NRSA stipends in FY 2017 so that all postdoctoral NRSA recipients are at or above the \$47,476 exemption threshold
- Extramural institutions can decide whether to raise salaries of postdoctoral employees to the new NRSA levels or permit paid overtime for those earning less than \$47,476











NICHD...

Fulfilling the mission through extramural research

