Neuroscience

Research Funding Contacts in the Federal Government

An informal compendium of names and contact information for nearly 300 research grant and scientific review administrators in 23 organizational units

Electronic (PDF) version of the most recent update of this list is available on the NIMH website at:

http://www.nimh.nih.gov/researchfunding/neurofed.pdf

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NIMH
National Institute of Mental Health

The National Institute of Mental Health Announces New Organizational Structure

http://www.nimh.nih.gov/researchfunding/reorganization.cfm

The NIMH mission is to reduce the burden of mental and behavioral disorders through research on mind, brain, and behavior. Our goal is to generate research that will transform prevention of and recovery from mental disorders. To achieve this, especially in a time of fiscal restraint, we are setting strategic priorities for the institute. While this is a departure from the way things have been done in the past, redefining our focus now is imperative. Identifying our priorities and reorganizing our internal structure will help us exploit the enormous scientific gains that have already been made and help us focus on cross-disciplinary collaboration as a means of accomplishing our goals.

The most important reason for change is that basic science now provides us with unprecedented opportunities to define the pathophysiology of mental disorders and to develop new interventions. Our highest priorities must be: supporting basic science discoveries; translating these discoveries into new interventions that will relieve the suffering of people with mental disorders; and ensuring that new approaches can be used for diverse populations and in diverse settings.

To set priorities, we: 1) solicited input from our various stakeholders—patients and their advocates, physicians/scientists and their professional societies, Congress, and the National Advisory Mental Health Council (NAMHC), which includes public members; 2) requested workgroups of our Council review our portfolios in basic science and clinical trials and recommend priority areas for future investment; and 3) identified priority areas for funding within each extramural program division, based on divisional review of existing and new proposals. In this effort, we have attended to three factors: relevance, traction, and innovation.

Relevance refers to relevance to the mission. Not every grant must focus on a specific disorder, nor will only clinical research be funded. NIMH will continue its strong support of basic science, but as the NAMHC workgroup recommends in its report* some research areas are more relevant than others. As one example, the workgroup stressed the need for more information about the neurobiology of adolescence, recognizing that many mental disorders begin during this phase of development but relatively little is known about the concurrent changes in brain function.

Traction refers to the capacity for rapid progress in research areas where new tools, such as high throughput genotyping or 2-photon imaging, can yield definitive answers to long-standing, relevant questions.

Innovation is often endangered during periods of limited budget growth. The innovative project that lacks extensive pilot data often is considered too risky for funding. This is the era of "discovery science," with the tools to identify the major candidate genes, cells, and systems involved in emotion, cognition, and behavior. This work is highly relevant and we have the traction, but unless a priority is placed on discovery science, this unprecedented opportunity for innovation may not receive the support it deserves.

As a result of our priority-setting discussions with stakeholders and Council workgroups, a list of priorities for each extramural Division has been posted on the NIMH website** to guide grantees to areas of investment. High priority will go to studies of the pathophysiology of mental disorders and studies that may lead to new interventions aimed at reducing the burden. Much of the basic science we will fund may not be immediately ready for translation; yet it will address basic questions about behavior, brain, and experience that are informed by and, in turn, inform the understanding of mental disorder, recovery, or resilience. For additional guidance on priorities and areas of investment, our program officers can be reached by phone or e-mail.

This is a time of great scientific excitement for mental health research. Building on the Decade of the Brain, we are poised for a Decade of Translation, with new discoveries from genomics, neuroscience, and behavioral science leading to new, more effective treatments, and ultimately to the possibility of preventing and curing mental illness. Our priority setting, new funding strategies, and new organization are designed to optimize the translation of our best science to the service of those with mental and behavioral disorders.

* The Council Report is available online at:
http://www.nimh.nih.gov/council/brainbehavioralscience.cfm

** The Strategic Plans and Priorities are online at:
http://www.nimh.nih.gov/strategic/strategicplanmenu.cfm

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A Video on Peer Review at NIH online at: *http://www.csr.nih.gov/video/video.asp*

The Center for Scientific Review has produced a video of a mock study section meeting to provide an inside look at how NIH grant applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. The video shows how outside experts assess applications and how review meetings are conducted to ensure fairness. The video also includes information on what applicants can do to improve the chances their applications will receive a positive review. To make the video both authentic and authoritative, real reviewers volunteered to review real but altered and disguised applications. NIH staff members also volunteered to participate in this video, which was developed in collaboration with the NIH Office of Extramural Research.

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http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/grants/default.htm

Neuroscience Study Sections at the NIH

In an effort to make the review focus of study sections more transparent, the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) at NIH has given names to study sections that were previously designated by their Integrated Review Group (IRG) affiliation and a number (e.g., IFCN-1 through IFCN-8 for study sections in the Integrated, Functional and Cognitive Neuroscience IRG). Reviewer membership and review focus remain unchanged.

Previous Acronym	Current Acronym	Current Study Section Name	Scientific Review Administrator
Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Neuroscience (MDCN)			
MDCN-1	**SYN**	Synapses, Cytoskeleton, & Trafficking	Carl Banner
MDCN-2	**NDBG**	Neurodegeneration & the Biology of Glia	Toby Behar
MDCN-3	**BSCT**	Biophysics of Synapses, Channels & Transporters	Michael Lang
MDCN-4	**NTRC**	Neurotransporters, Receptors, & Calcium Signaling	Peter Guthrie
MDCN-5	**MNPS**	Molecular Neuropharmacology & Signaling	Syed Husain
MDCN-6	**NCF**	Neurogenesis & Cell Fate	Lawrence Baizer
MDCN-7	**NDPR**	Neurodifferentiation, Plasticity, & Regeneration	Joanne Fujii
Integrative, Functional and Cognitive Neurosciences (IFCN)			
IFCN-1	**NMB**	Neurobiology of Motivated Behavior	Gamil (Jim) Debbas
IFCN-2	**NNB**	Neuroendocrinology, Neuroimmunology, & Behavior	Richard Marcus
IFCN-3	**BRS**	Biological Rhythms & Sleep	Richard Marcus
IFCN-4	**SCS**	Somatosensory & Chemosensory Systems	Daniel Kenshalo
IFCN-5	**SMI**	Sensorimotor Integration	John Bishop
IFCN-6	**AUD**	Auditory System	Joseph Kimm
IFCN-7	**LAM**	Neurobiology of Learning & Memory	Bernard Driscoll
IFCN-8	**COG**	Cognitive Neuroscience	Michael Steinmetz
VISB	**CVP**	Central Visual Processing	Michael Steinmetz
ALTX-3	**NAL**	Neurotoxicology & Alcohol	Joseph Rudolph
Brain Disorders and Clinical Neuroscience (BDCN)			
BDCN-1	**CND**	Clinical Neuroscience & Disease	David Armstrong
BDCN-2	**CNNT**	Clinical Neuroplasticity & Neurotransmitters	William Benzing
BDCN-3	**CDIN**	Cell Death & Injury in Neurodegeneration	David Simpson
BDCN-4	**CNBT**	Clinical Neuroimmunology & Brain Tumors	Jay Joshi
BDCN-5	**DBD**	Developmental Brain Disorders	Sherry Stuesse
BDCN-6	**NPAS**	Neural Basis of Psychopathology, Addictions & Sleep Disorders	Jay Cinque
VISA	**AED**	Anterior Eye Disease	Christine Livingston
Biobehavioral and Behavioral Processes (BBBP)			
BBBP-1	**BRLE**	Biobehavioral Regulation, Learning & Ethology	Luci Roberts
BBBP-2	**MESH**	Biobehavioral Mechanisms of Emotion, Stress & Health	Thomas Tatham
BBBP-3	**LCOM**	Language & Communication	Weijia Ni
BBBP-4	**CP**	Cognition & Perception	Cheri Wiggs
BBBP-5	**APDA**	Adult Psychopathology & Disorders of Aging	Jeffrey Elias
BBBP-6	**CPDD**	Child Psychopathology & Developmental Disabilities	Karen Sirocco
BBBP-7	**MFSR**	Motor Function, Speech & Rehabilitation	Weijia Ni

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Scientific Areas of Integrated Review Groups (IRGs)

Brain Disorders and Clinical Neuroscience

The six Brain Disorders and Clinical Neuroscience (BDCN) Study Sections review a wide range of applications all of which have, as their main focus, neural disorders and/or injury of the nervous system. Investigations appropriate for review in BDCN Study Sections may include those using animal models of neural injury or disease, may be based on the study of specific patient populations, or may be focused on the development of rehabilitative and therapeutic strategies. Specific areas of interest of the BDCN Study Sections include the investigation of traumatic brain or spinal cord injury, the consequences of episodes of ischemia or hypoxia, the study of mental disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, and other neuropathies. These specific areas of interest may be studied from the perspective of neuroanatomical or neurophysiological alterations, changes in neurotransmitter or neurotrophin function or metabolism, the genetic, cellular, or molecular basis of alterations induced by disease or injury, the influence or involvement of the immune or vascular systems in a neural disease process or response, and the neurological basis of addictive, cognitive, behavioral, and emotional disorders.

CND Clinical Neuroscience and Disease reviews applications relating to the anatomical and functional basis of neural disease and injury across the life span. Emphasis is on the neural substrate, functional consequences (cognitive, sensory/motor, behavioral, pathophysiological), rehabilitation, and the development of therapeutic strategies. Relevant disorders include stroke/ischemia, neurodegenerative diseases, epilepsy, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, dystonia/ataxia, and neuropathies. This study section considers relevant animal models and patient-oriented research.

CNNT Clinical Neuroplasticity and Neurotransmitters reviews applications in the area of neural disease and injury across the life span that focus on neurotransmitter or neurotrophic function. This includes studies of plasticity, regeneration, and therapeutic strategies. Relevant disorders include stroke/ischemia, neurodegenerative diseases, epilepsy, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, dystonia/ataxia, and neuropathies. Studies may involve animal models and patient-oriented research.

CDIN Cell Death and Injury in Neurodegeneration reviews applications relating to the genetic, molecular, and cellular basis of neural disorders and injury across the life span. This includes studies of neuronal cell death and protein and macromolecular function in neurodegenerative disease. Relevant disorders include stroke/ischemia, neurodegenerative diseases, epilepsy, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, dystonia/ataxia, and neuropathies. This study section can review studies of in vitro systems, animal models, and patient-oriented research.

CNBT Clinical Neuroimmunology and Brain Tumors reviews applications related to central and peripheral nervous system disorders, including neuromuscular disorders, and injury across the life span where the focus is on infections, immune, inflammatory or vascular mechanisms. The scope of investigations ranges from in vitro and animal models to human studies and patient-oriented research. Examples of relevant disorders include: multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, infectious diseases of the nervous system, spinal cord and brain injury, inflammatory neuropathies and myopathies, stroke, multi-infarct dementia, subarachnoid hemorrhage, and nervous system tumors.

DBD Developmental Brain Disorders reviews disorders that impact specifically on the developing brain and spinal cord. This includes genetic, metabolic, infectious, environmental, and behavioral influences on the fetal, neonatal or pediatric brain that lead to abnormal brain development and function. The study section has clinical and basic expertise in the vulnerability and plasticity of the developing brain, and can review patient-oriented research in children and relevant animal models.

NPAS Neural Basis of Psychopathology, Addictions, and Sleep Disorders reviews applications on the neurobiological basis of addictive, behavioral, cognitive and emotional disorders across the life span. It covers a very broad range of topics including structural, functional, electrophysiological, biochemical, pharmacological, neuroanatomical, neuroendocrine, neurotoxicological, physiological, genetic, and neuropsychological aspects of these disorders.

AED Anterior Eye Disease reviews basic, applied, and clinical research on the anterior portion of the eye (cornea, lens, ciliary body, lacrimal gland) and its disorders, including glaucoma, cataracts, congenital and developmental abnormalities, inflammatory and infectious diseases; heredofamilial and degenerative diseases, and ocular manifestations of systemic diseases, tumors, injury, and trauma

Integrative, Functional, and Cognitive Neuroscience

The ten Integrative, Functional, and Cognitive Neuroscience (IFCN) Study Sections consider applications focused on a very wide range of questions in neuroscience. A common theme of these applications is an overall aim of furthering our understanding of how the nervous system is organized and functions at an integrative, systems level. Specific areas reviewed in IFCN Study Sections include studies of the neural basis of emotional and motivational behavior; regulation of function, at the systems level, by neuroendocrine and neuroimmune influences; the analysis of system function under varying behavioral states, such as sleep and hibernation; the

basis of biological rhythms; the maintenance of homeostasis by the autonomic nervous system; chemosensation, hearing, balance, touch and somatosensation; motor systems and sensorimotor integration; the integration of multisensory information; the development and alteration of memory and other cognitive processes that accompany aging; computational and theoretical models of cognitive processes; mechanisms underlying neural coding of complex stimuli (e.g., pattern recognition, spatial transformations, speech perception); and attention and its effects on information processing in the nervous system. Research proposed in applications reviewed by IFCN Study Sections may have relevance to disorders or disease processes, but the emphasis would be on the effect of the process on the structure or function of the system under investigation, rather than on the disease process itself.

NMB Neurobiology of Motivated Behavior reviews applications on the neural basis of behavior, such as motivation and emotion. Studies include the molecular, cellular, anatomical, genetic and neurobehavioral bases of motivated and emotional behavior. Emphasis is on the neurobiologic processes (genetic, molecular, developmental, maturation and aging) underlying neuronal circuits critical to the mediation of positively and negatively motivated behavior.

NNB Neuroendocrinology, Neuroimmunology, and Behavior is concerned with the regulation of brain and behavior across the life span by neuroendocrine and neuroimmune systems. Studies include the molecular, cellular, anatomical, genetic and neurobehavioral. Mechanisms include: cyclic secretions, transport across blood-brain-barrier (BBB), and hormonal effects on gene expression and homeostatic processes. Preclinical analysis of basic mechanisms underlying neurotoxicity and pathogenesis of neuroendocrine and neuroimmune systems are considered. This includes plasticity, development, maturation and aging in neuroendocrine and neuroimmune systems in both physiological and pathological states. Brain mechanisms underlying addictive, environmental and social influences on the endocrine and immune systems are also of interest.

BRS Biological Rhythms and Sleep reviews applications in a number of areas of integrative, regulatory and behavioral neuroscience across the life span. These include behavioral states, such as wakefulness, sleep, hibernation and variations in arousal level; biological rhythms, including temporal cycles such as ultradian, circadian, infradian and circannual rhythms; and regulatory mechanisms underlying homeostasis, including thermoregulation and other functions of the autonomic nervous system. Applications on the relationship of drug administration, use, and withdrawal on homeostasis are reviewed here. Levels of analysis include genetic/molecular studies, cellular and circuit studies, oscillatory mechanisms, neurobehavioral and neuropharmacological investigations on the whole organism. Emphasis is on integrative studies of mechanisms, functions or neurobehavioral manifestations, but may include studies of single cells, and the development of animal models.

SCS Somatosensory and Chemosensory Systems reviews applications on structure and function of sensory and perceptual systems, including chemosensation, pain and analgesia and somatosensation. Emphasis is on integrative systems approaches to understanding normal sensory function; dysfunction; development, maturation and aging; recovery from injury; perceptual and sensory perturbations; as well as drug and other factors.

SMI Sensorimotor Integration reviews applications on the structure and function of motor, balance control and sensorymotor integration. Emphasis is on integrative systems approaches to understanding normal sensory-motor or motor function, development, maturation and aging, dysfunction and recovery from injury.

AUD Auditory System reviews applications on the structure and function of the auditory and vestibular systems and the integration of multisensations. Emphasis is on integrative systems approaches to understanding hearing, balance and the integration of normal sensory-sensory function, development, maturation and aging, dysfunction and recovery from injury.

LAM Neurobiology of Learning and Memory reviews applications on the neurobiological structures, mechanisms, and principles underlying specific aspects of learning, memory, and associated neural plasticity. The scope of this committee is broad, including studies of the molecular and cellular changes, functional circuitry, and neural coding and integration that underlie learning and memory processes, as well as their disorders. Particular emphasis is placed on studies that directly relate behavioral/cognitive processes to their neural substrates.

COG Cognitive Neuroscience reviews a broad range of applications on the neurobiological mechanisms and principles underlying cognitive functions other than learning and memory. The scope of the committee is broad, including molecular and cellular mechanisms, functional circuitry, and neural coding and integration that underlie behavioral/cognitive processes as well as their disorders. Particular emphasis is placed on studies that directly relate behavioral/cognitive processes to their neural substrates

CVP Central Visual Processing reviews basic, applied, and clinical research on the visual pathways of the brain, eye, and extraocular muscle system that function in visual sensation and related eye movements in both normal vision and visual or visual-motor deficits, low vision, blindness, myopia, amblyopia, strabismus, neuro-ophthalmic and extraocular (muscular, orbital) disorders

NAL Neurotoxicology and Alcohol Effects of toxicants and alcohol on the central nervous system, including behavior, neuropathology, neurophysiology, neuropharmacology, neuroendocrinology, neuroimmunology, and neuroteratology.

Molecular Cellular and Developmental Neuroscience

The nine Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Neuroscience (MDCN) Study Sections have in common an interest in the basic mechanisms by which neuronal, glial, and neuromuscular structure and function are determined as well as applications that focus on aspects of both central and peripheral nervous system development. Areas of interest include the functional characteristics of ion channels, the mechanisms by which extra- and intracellular signals are transduced and the functional characteristics of the transducers themselves, general mechanisms underlying the process of cell death, analyses of neural cell lineage, factors that specify or influence neuronal migration pathways or axonal pathfinding, processes that involve the maturation of neurons and glia, the formation of patterns and boundaries that lead to the development of adult brain regions and nuclei, and other aspects of the basic cellular and molecular physiology of neurons and glia. Any of the lines of investigation reviewed in the MDCN Study Sections may be relevant to disorders or injuries, but the emphasis lies less in gaining an understanding of the disorder or its manifestations than on revealing the basic biological processes that underlie or may be altered in disorder.

SYN Synapses, Cytoskeleton, and Trafficking reviews applications in basic neuronal cell biology including synaptic plasticity, protein and organelle trafficking, and cytoskeletal functions across the life span. Emphasis is on fundamental mechanisms of neuronal cell function, including those relevant to disease processes.

NDBG Neurodegeneration and the Biology of Glia reviews applications involving cell-surface and extracellular matrix molecules in cell recognition and function; regulation of cell cycle and programmed cell death; mapping novel transcripts and functional analysis of cloned gene products involved in cell survival or death; aspects of oxidative metabolism; glial-neuronal interactions (Schwann cells, oligodendrocytes, astrocytes, microglia); mechanisms of glial differentiation, metabolism, and myelination; neuroimmune function across the life span. The roles of genetic factors, trophic molecules and extrinsic influences (including toxins and addictive substances) in these processes, and aspects of disease, injury, repair and interventive strategies are considered.

BSCT Biophysics of Synapses, Channels and Transporters reviews applications on neuronal and muscle signal transduction where the primary focus is on the structure and function of the transducers themselves. This includes basic studies of subunit structure, molecular dynamics, gating and selectivity, and second-messenger cascades. General approaches may include molecular and structural biology, pharmacology, biophysics, electrophysiology, and protein chemistry, imaging and labeling techniques. Emphasis is on fundamental molecular mechanisms, including those relevant to disease processes.

NTRC Neurotransporters, Receptors, and Calcium Signaling reviews studies of neuronal and muscle signal transduction pathways with particular emphasis on cellular regulation and physiology. This includes studies on calcium physiology, regulation of ionic gradients, ion pumps and molecular transporters, and synthesis and regulation of transduction molecules. Studies may integrate molecular, cellular, electrophysiological, and imaging approaches to examine molecular regulation, transduction, biochemical changes, cellular physiology, and functional consequences. Emphasis is on fundamental cellular mechanisms, including those relevant to disease processes.

MNPS Molecular Neuropharmacology and Signaling reviews projects on neuronal and muscle signal transduction and neurotransmitters with a particular focus on neurochemical and pharmacological mechanisms. This includes studies of ligand interactions, neuromodulator interactions, neurotransmitter metabolism, and the development of therapeutic compounds. Emphasis is on fundamental cellular mechanisms, including those relevant to disease processes.

NCF Neurogenesis and Cell Fate reviews applications concerned with the initial formation of, as well as cell specification and differentiation in the developing nervous system. Areas to be included are induction of neural tissue; brain region specification and patterning; stem cell and progenitor cell proliferation and phenotypic determination, and neuronal and glial differentiation. Emphasis is on fundamental mechanisms underlying these processes in normal development, and in response to disease, injury, and extrinsic factors, including prenatal exposure to drugs.

NDPR Neurodifferentiation, Plasticity, and Regeneration applications focused on migratory events; and the development, aging, and regeneration of neuronal connectivity. This area includes neuronal and glial migration, process outgrowth, axon guidance, selection of synaptic targets, establishment of neural maps, and formation and elimination of synaptic connections. Emphasis is on fundamental mechanisms underlying these processes in normal development and aging, and in response to disease, injury, and extrinsic factors, including prenatal exposure to drugs. The study section also reviews studies of the reestablishment of connectivity in aging, disease, and following injury, but with a focus on the analysis of cellular and molecular mechanisms that stimulate, inhibit, or otherwise perturb process growth and synapse formation.

Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience

CRCNS

Innovative Approaches to Science and Engineering Research on Brain Function

Letter of Intent due December 1, 2004

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04514/nsf04514.htm

Biobehavioral and Behavioral Processes

The seven Biobehavioral and Behavioral Processes (BBBP) Study Sections consider applications on biobehavioral and behavioral processes across the lifespan. Research on non-human animals as well as humans is included, and both normal and disordered processes are addressed. While the focus is on behavior, studies may also consider related central, autonomic, neuroendocrine, immune, neural, hormonal, motor, and genetic issues. Neuroimaging and molecular and/or behavioral genetic approaches may be employed.

BRLE Biobehavioral Regulation, Learning and Ethology reviews applications investigating basic biobehavioral processes and adaptation across the lifespan (infancy through old age). BRLE primarily considers research with non-human animals (vertebrates and invertebrates), but relevant work with humans is also included. Normal and disordered processes are addressed. Although the focus is on behavior, studies may also consider related neural, hormonal, and genetic factors. Methods include (but are not limited to) behavioral experiments, naturalistic observation, pharmacologic interventions, and computational modeling.

MESH Biobehavioral Mechanisms of Emotion, Stress and Health reviews applications focused on basic biobehavioral, psychological, social and cultural processes governing affect (emotion, mood) and stress in animals and humans. These studies may include application of basic research, theories and techniques to the study of physical and mental disease processes. Studies also focus on central, autonomic, neuroendocrine, immune, genetic, experiential and lifespan developmental processes, appraisal and coping processes, as well as studies of attachment, well-being, hedonic processes, resilience and behavioral expression. Studies of stress include both laboratory-induced and naturally occurring stressors.

LCOM Language and Communication reviews applications investigating language and other types of communication and their development across the lifespan (infancy through old age), primarily in humans. All forms of language and communication, both normal and disordered, are considered. As well as research concerned with the development and evaluation of preventive and therapeutic interventions for language and communication disorders. Studies of non-human animals may be included when these are directly relevant to understanding human language and communication. Methods include (but are not limited to) psychological experiments, naturalistic observation, linguistic and logical analyses, computational modeling, neuroimaging, and psychophysiological measurement.

CP Cognition and Perception reviews applications investigating cognition and perception and their development across the entire lifespan (infancy through old age), primarily in humans. Normal and disordered forms of cognition and perception are considered. Studies of non-human animals are appropriate when these are directly relevant to understanding processes in humans. Also included are the influences of affect, stress, and substance use and of physical, social and cultural contexts, provided that the emphasis is on the nature of cognitive and perceptual processes. Methods include (but are not limited to) psychological experiments, naturalistic observation, mathematical and computational modeling, neuroimaging, neuropsychology, and psychophysiological measurement.

APDA Adult Psychopathology and Disorders of Aging reviews applications concerned with emotional, behavioral, and cognitive disorders in adults. Emphasis is on clinical aspects of disorders including: schizophrenia, mood disorders, suicide, anxiety and traumatic stress disorders, eating disorders, substance use disorders, personality disorders; Alzheimer's disease, traumatic brain injury, and sleep disorders. Samples may include clinic, community diagnosed, symptomatic and high-risk groups. Relevant research includes investigations of psychological and biological vulnerability factors, processes and markers; and studies of etiology, diagnosis, course, treatment, functional outcome and comorbidity with other physical conditions and disorders. Environmental, social and cultural factors may also be studied as they relate to individual differences in psychological and biological dysfunction.

CPDD Child Psychopathology and Developmental Disabilities reviews applications on developmental, psychopathological, and substance use disorders in infants, children, adolescents, and adults with disorders originating in early development. Emphasis is placed on cognitive, behavioral, social, family, and neurobiological aspects of a) developmental disabilities such as autism and mental retardation; brain injury and communication and learning disabilities; b) disorders of behavioral and/or emotional regulation such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS), mood disorders, suicide, anxiety and traumatic stress disorders, conduct disorder, eating disorders, personality disorders, and psychoses; c) substance use disorders; and d) the relationship among these disorders over time.

MFSR Motor Function, Speech and Rehabilitation reviews applications on normal and disordered motor function, including speech and voice production. Function across the lifespan (infancy through old age), in humans and other animals, is addressed. Also included are the development and evaluation of preventive and therapeutic interventions for movement, speech, voice, and related disorders. Although the focus is on behavior, studies may also consider associated anatomical, physiological, neural, hormonal, and genetic factors. Methods include (but are not limited to) behavioral experiments, physiological measurement, acoustic analysis, structural and functional imaging, and computational modeling.

Neuroscience Fellowships

The Center for Scientific Review (CSR) now reviews most applications for individual National Research Service Awards (NRSA) in dedicated fellowship study sections:

F30 and **F31** applications (pre-doctoral awards)
F32 applications (post-doctoral awards)
F33 applications (senior fellowship awards)

N.B. This change in CSR review practice does not affect fellowship applications reviewed within the individual Institutes.

The new plan does not affect the review criteria for fellowship applications. Application submission and review processes also are unaffected. Additional information in the form of review criteria for specific grant application types is available online to help applicants prepare their applications. Any questions regarding assignments should be directed to the Division of Receipt and Referral (DRR), CSR, at (301) 435-0715. These and all other questions pertaining to the review process may also be directed to the Scientific Review Administrator (SRA) responsible for the appropriate study section. A list of SRAs and meeting dates for each of these new fellowship study sections is available at:

http://www.csr.nih.gov/studysec.htm

F01 Brain Disorders and Clinical Neuroscience. The specific areas of interest listed below may be studied from the perspective of neuroanatomical or neurophysiological alterations, changes in neurotransmitter or neurotrophin function or metabolism, the genetic, cellular, or molecular basis of alterations induced by disease or injury, the influence or involvement of the immune or vascular systems in a neural disease process or response, and the neurological basis of addictive, cognitive, behavioral, and emotional disorders. Areas include: neural disorders and/or injury of the nervous system; animal models of neural injury or disease; studies of neural disorders or injury based on specific patient populations; the development of rehabilitative and therapeutic strategies; investigation of traumatic brain or spinal cord injury; studies of the consequences of episodes of ischemia or hypoxia; study of mental disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, and other neuropathies

F02A Integrative, Functional and Cognitive Neuroscience A. Specific areas of interest for this study section focus on the limbic system. Key areas are: neural basis of behavior such as motivation, emotion, learning and memory; neuroendocrinology; neuroimmunology; circadian rhythms and neurotoxicology.

F02B Integrative, Functional and Cognitive Neuroscience B. Specific areas of interest for this study section focus on sensory systems. Key areas are: Chemosensation; Pain; Somatosensory function; Motor function; Sensorimotor function; Vestibular function, hearing, vision, multi-sensory systems, and higher cortical function.

F03A Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Neuroscience A. Areas of interest for this study section include basic neuronal cell biology with an emphasis on fundamental mechanisms of neuronal cell function, including those relevant to disease processes. These areas also include applications concerned with the initial formation of, as well as cell specialization and differentiation in, the developing nervous system. Migratory events and the development, aging, and regeneration of neuronal connectivity are covered. Key areas, as they relate to neuronal systems, are: synaptic plasticity; trafficking; protein assembly; cytoskeleton; membrane recycling; progenitor and stem cells; development; regeneration/apoptosis; differentiation; axon outgrowth; glial biology; transcriptional regulation; cell cycle; myelination and regeneration.

F03B Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Neuroscience B. The area encompassed by this study section includes neuronal and muscle signal transduction, with a focus on both the structure and function of the transducers themselves, as well as cellular regulation/physiology and neurochemical and pharmacological mechanisms. Key areas, as they relate to neuronal systems, are: signal transduction; model systems; protein structure/function; second messengers; electrophysiology; ion transport; transporters; imaging; calcium; gap junctions; connexins; ion channels; neuromodulators; ligand-activated pathways; neurotransmitter synthesis and neuropharmacology.

Jointly Sponsored NIH Predoctoral Training Program in the Neurosciences

Ten NIH Institutes are continuing joint sponsorship of a predoctoral research training program in the neurosciences. The aim of this program is to encourage and support broad, early-stage training in the neurosciences by offering institutions a single comprehensive training grant. Support through the program is focused on the early years of training, typically the first and second years, before full-time thesis research is started. Trainees are expected to be participants in a formal predoctoral curriculum offering broad and fundamental training in the neurosciences. Such training would include taking core courses, laboratory rotations and multidisciplinary courses, but not full time thesis research.

For further information please contact:

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Full text of the program announcement can be found at:

http://www.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-02-017.html

Neuroscience Training Contact Information at the NIH

Extramural Programs (in Roman type) support pre- and postdoctoral NRSA fellowships, Institutional Training Grants and some Mentored Career Awards

Intramural Programs (in Italic type) support young investigators to come to the NIH laboratories to conduct biomedical research

NIH Institute	Contact	Phone	E-mail
National Institute of Mental Health	Nancy Desmond *Barry Kaplan*	(301) 443-3563 *(301) 451-4512*	ndesmond@mail.nih.gov *barry.kaplan@nih.gov*
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	Margaret Jacobs	(301) 496-1917	jacobsm@ninds.nih.gov
National Institute on Drug Abuse	Suman Rao *Stephen Heishman*	(301) 443-6071 *(410) 550-1547*	srao@nida.nih.gov *heishman@nih.gov*
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National Eye Institute	Chyren Hunter *Belinda Davis*	(301) 451-2020 *(301) 451-6763*	clh@nei.nih.gov *bd122y@nih.gov*
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National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	Carol Shreffler *William Schrader*	(919) 541-1445 (919) *541-3433*	shreffl1@niehs.nih.gov *schrader@niehs.nih.gov*
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The Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science mission is to encourage, facilitate and support a broad spectrum of scientific activities that will generate basic neuroscience and behavioral science knowledge that will enable improved prevention and treatment of mental and behavioral disorders. Members of the Division seek to accomplish this mission by facilitating interactions at the interface between the research community on the one hand, and the funding, knowledge, and infrastructure resources of the NIMH and the NIH on the other. For investigators, the key to accessing our assistance is to contact the most relevant program officer(s). Through specific Programs in our Branches and Offices, the Division offers support for many of the basic aspects of neuroscience and behavioral science. By reviewing the descriptions of our programs, investigators should be able to identify an appropriate contact. The Division has the responsibility, in cooperation with other components of the Institute, and with the research community, of ensuring that relevant basic science knowledge is harvested to create improved diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental and behavioral disorders. We are eager to assist you if your goal is to translate your science into a clinical domain. If you are potentially interested in any of these programs, please call us. Our job is to help you interface efficiently and productively with NIH in the interest of furthering biomedical research. A full listing of programs and professional personnel in the Division can be found on pages 1 and 2 of this directory. Visit us online at: ***http://www.nimh.nih.gov/diva/index.cfm***

The Behavioral Science and Integrative Neuroscience Research Branch supports innovative research, including empirical, theoretical and modeling approaches, on cognitive, affective, social, motivational, and regulatory systems and their development across the lifespan, in humans and animals, including relevant reduced and model systems. Interdisciplinary research that investigates the linkages across levels of behavioral and neural organization is especially encouraged. Research involving many approaches is supported, including all those commonly employed by the behavioral science, neuroscience, genetics and computational modeling communities.

The Molecular, Cellular, and Genomic Neuroscience Research Branch plans, supports, and administers programs of research to elucidate the genetic, molecular, and cellular mechanisms underlying brain development, neuronal signaling, synaptic plasticity, circadian rhythmicity, and the influence of hormones and immune molecules on brain function, drug discovery, identification of novel drug targets, development of functional imaging ligands, development of imaging probes as potential biomarkers, testing of models for assessing novel therapeutics, and studies of mechanisms of action of therapeutics in animals and humans.

The Office of Human Genetics & Genomics Resources plans, supports, and administers research that directly contributes to the identification of genes that produce susceptibility to mental disorders, including autism and autism spectrum disorders, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, bipolar disorder or other related mood disorders, recurrent early-onset depression and other depressive disorders, Fragile X syndrome, eating disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorder or other anxiety disorders, panic disorder, schizophrenia or other psychotic disorders, personality disorders, and Tourette syndrome.

The Research Training and Career Development Office plans, supports, and administers the training of new investigators and the career development of basic neuroscientists and basic behavioral scientists in the scientific domains in which the DNBBS supports research grants. Our primary goal is to ensure that sufficient, highly trained research investigators will be available to address basic and clinical research questions pertinent to mental health and mental illness and thereby to reduce the burden of mental and behavioral disorders.

The Office of Interdisciplinary Research and Scientific Technology supports interdisciplinary research centers that span and integrate different aspects of basic brain research that are fundamental to serving the mission of the NIMH. The Office also supports interdisciplinary research and development of scientific technologies related to brain and behavioral research, including software, hardware, and wetware. Research and research-related activities supported by the Office cross disciplines, theoretical and technological approaches, as well as academic and commercial sectors of the research community.