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<http://www.thefederationonline.org/docs/Newsletters/NEWS060807.pdf>

This Week's News and Reflections (06/08/07)
The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological,
& Cognitive Sciences
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This email newsletter is sent to members of the Federation plus interested governmental agency officials. Its goal is to inform researchers in the field about Federation activities, funding issues, and other relevant topics.

If you would like to learn about the Federation's foundation, i.e., Foundation for the Advancement of Behavioral & Brain Sciences, please visit www.fabbs.org.

CHRISTOPHER WICKENS HONORED BY COLLEAGUES, STUDENTS, & FRIENDS IN SPECIAL FABBS PROGRAM

Christopher D. Wickens, PhD, internationally recognized for his work in human factors, is the current Featured Honoree on the webpage of the Foundation for the Advancement of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS). He is currently Adjunct Professor at the University of Colorado, but enjoyed a distinguished, 22-year-long career at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Those leading the effort to honor Wickens were Richard Pew, PhD (BBN Technologies) and Henry Taylor, PhD (University of Illinois). We congratulate Dr. Wickens on this honor! To learn more about this outstanding scientist, please visit: http://www.fabbs.org/wickens_honor.html

NSF SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL DIRECTORATE HOLDS ADVISORY MEETING: FOUR "GRAND CHALLENGES" OF OUR SCIENCES

Yesterday afternoon, the Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorate of the National Science Foundation held its bi-annual meeting of the advisory council. Due to budgetary constraints, the majority of the board used the telephone and participated virtually, with just two board members present in the room with the NSF staff. David Lightfoot, PhD, Assistant Director, provided updates on some important initiatives.

GRAND CHALLENGES: The National Science and Technology Committee (<http://www.ostp.gov/nstc/>) has a Committee on Science with a Social, Behavioral and Economic Research Subcommittee. This subcommittee has been chaired by Lightfoot (with Joseph Kielman, PhD, of the Department of Homeland Security and David Abrams, PhD, of the National Institutes of Health) for the last two years. They have been working to identify what are to be known as "grand challenges" going forward with our sciences and how we can address them. They have now submitted a draft document to the Office of Science and Technology Policy at the White House; the final version will be made publicly available. In conjunction with help from various other governmental agencies, these Four Grand Challenges were identified:

1. Understanding Our Origins: Who we are and how we got here (including genomics)
2. Mind and Brain: How does behavior arise? (including neuroimaging)

3. Complex Systems: How do people in natural and manmade systems interact? (e.g. cyberinfrastructure)
4. Policy: How can we take charge of our future? (e.g. use of enhanced surveys)

It is extremely important that the behavioral sciences are included in this consideration of the future of what science can offer and, when the public report from Social Behavioral and Economic Research Subcommittee is made available, I will be sure to announce it in the newsletter.

FUNDING: In terms of funding initiatives, Lightfoot announced that the **Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems (CNH)** initiative is now a “standing” program and that soon the competition for money in 2008 will be announced. CNH includes the Biological Sciences, Geosciences, and the Social, Behavioral & Economic Science Directorates. One area of focus going forward will be climate change. For more details, visit: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13681

Lightfoot focused on four areas of interest to the Directorate, including **International Polar Year** (which will actually run for two years, from March 2007- March 2009) and for the first time, this iteration of Polar Year will include the behavioral and social sciences, particularly related to climate change. To learn more about this, visit: <http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/ipy/ipyinfo.jsp>. He also noted that the **Ecology of Infectious Diseases** initiative would be a joint effort between his (SBE) and the Biology Directorate at NSF, but also included will be the Fogarty Center at the National Institutes of Health. During this discussion, the point was raised that perhaps they should also include the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at the NIH since NIGMS has an important initiative underway called MIDAS (Models of Infectious Disease Agent Study). Also mentioned was an initiative on **Explosives and Related Threats**, and a special presentation was made on **Science of Science and Innovation Policy** (or SciSIP). Kaye Husbands-Fealing, PhD, who spearheaded this latter effort, indicated that they narrowed the call for proposals asking for models and tools primarily, using basic science and not descriptive analyses. She also indicated that they are very interested in international input on this topic. This funding round they received 60 proposals and have \$7 million to award. It is expected that in 2008, SciSIP will double its funding level. For more information on SciSIP, visit: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/nsf07547/nsf07547.htm>.

COMMITTEE OF VISITORS (COV): In the interest of transparency, periodically the NSF is visited by outside individuals who assess their programs and processes. A summary of a COV report was presented by Edward Hackett, PhD, with some interesting data (e.g. the ratio of permanent staff to rotating scientists is at about 50-50 now), but there was quite a bit of discussion at this meeting on how post-doctoral students are treated, and viewed, in the academic community. Clearly the SBE Directorate is concerned with the status of post docs, that is, that they are often viewed (improperly) as graduates who can not find a “real” job. SBE is interested in conducting a post-doc survey to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the current system. They envision a day when the time spent as a post-doc will be a “transformative” experience and have greater status. Mention was made of possibly one day encouraging older academicians to apply for these funds, not just new PhDs. To learn more about the COV process, visit: <http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/gpra/start.jsp>

NIAAA HOLDS NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Meghan McGowan reports: On May 24, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism hosted the 115th meeting of the National Advisory Council. Dr. Ting-Kai Li, the institute’s director, opened the meeting with his Director’s Report. Highlights include:

Legislation has been introduced to change the name of NIAAA and NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse). This legislation aims at “recognizing addiction as a disease.” Complimentary bills in the House and Senate seek to change NIAAA’s name to the National Institute on Alcohol Disorders and Health and NIDA’s name to the National Institute on Diseases of Addiction.

In March of this year, Li participated in “themed” budget hearings to House and Senate appropriations committees. While presenting to the House Labor, HHS and Education Subcommittee, he was joined by NIDA Director Nora Volkow, NIMH Director Thomas Insel, and the Administrator of SAMHSA, Terry Cline. Li also participated in a Senate hearing on “Mind, Brain and Behavior,” for the Senate Appropriation Subcommittee. NIDA, NIMH, NINDS, NIDOD were present for this hearing as well.

To read Dr. Li’s statement before the House appropriations subcommittee, visit:
http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/AboutNIAAA/CongressionalInformation/Testimony/housestatement03_07.htm

To read Dr. Li’s statement before the Senate appropriations subcommittee, visit:
http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/AboutNIAAA/CongressionalInformation/Testimony/senatestatement03_07.htm

Mentioned as a major initiative of 2008, Drs. Li and Sam Zakhari have been working on an initiative proposal to add epigenetics as a future development for *NIH’s Roadmap*.

NIH ACCEPTING REGISTRANTS FOR FALL CONFERENCE ON THE SCIENCE OF DISSEMINATION

The NIH Conference on "Building the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in the Service of Public Health" (September 10-11, 2007) website is now live and accepting registrations. Please see: <http://obssr.od.nih.gov/di2007/index.html> for more information. Questions regarding meeting content should be directed to: Dara Blachman, 301.435.6780, blachmand@od.nih.gov or Jerry Flanzer, 301.402.0116, jflanzer@mail.nih.gov.

NIH ESTABLISHES WORKING GROUPS TO ADDRESS PEER REVIEW PROCESS: CAN IT BE ANY BETTER?

The NIH Director, Elias Zerhouni, MD, announced today that the NIH has formed two working groups, one internal and one external, to assess the current peer-review process at the NIH and suggest improvements where needed. These working groups will request input from scientists, scientific societies, universities, and others, to obtain their views and advice. Zerhouni noted that while the peer review process conducted by the NIH is already copied around the world, he strives to make it even better if possible. To see the list of working group participants, visit: <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/jun2007/od-08.htm>

FEDERAL REPORTS & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

General Grant Conditions (GC-1) June 1, 2007 [gc160107]
http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=gc160107
Policies and Procedures NSF-wide

Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering: Fall 2005 [nsf07321]
http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07321

Statistical Reports on U.S. Science
Statistical Reports on the Education of Scientists and Engineers

Science and Engineering State Profiles: 2003-05 [nsf07322]
http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07322

Statistical Reports on U.S. Science
Statistical Reports on Research and Development Funding and Performance

Three Wishes for a Future Internet? GENI Project Will Soon Be At Your Command
[pr07057] http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=pr07057
News Releases Computer/Information Sciences

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Reminder: Additional Application Receipt Dates for PAR-06-389 - Basic and Translational
Research Opportunities in the Social Neuroscience of Mental Health (NOT-MH-07-113)
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-07-113.html>

Genetic Roots of Bipolar Disorder Revealed by First Genome-Wide Study of Illness
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/press/mcmahon-bipolar-genetics.cfm>

Bipolar Spectrum Disorder May Be Under-recognized and Improperly Treated
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/press/bipolarsurvey.cfm>

Cell Networking Keeps Brain's Master Clock Ticking
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/press/masterclock.cfm>

In Second Try to Treat Depression, Cognitive Therapy Generally As Effective As
Medication
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/press/stardcognitivetherapy.cfm>

Cortex Area Thinner in Youth with Alzheimer's-Related Gene
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/press/alzheimerscortex.cfm>

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

NIH Conflict of Interest: Recusal Policies for Senior Employees Need Clarification. GAO-
07-319, April 30. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-319>
Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07319high.pdf>

DHS Privacy Office: Progress Made but Challenges Remain in Notifying and Reporting to
the Public. GAO-07-522, April 27.
<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-522>
Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07522high.pdf>

FEDERATION SOCIETY NEWS CORNER...

Upcoming Federation society annual meetings:

MAY/JUNE

International Behavioral Neuroscience Society

June 12-16, Rio De Janiero, Brasil

www.ibnshomepage.org

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

June 21-24, Pacific Grove, CA

www.sbn.org

JULY/AUGUST

American Psychological Association

August 17-20, San Francisco, CA

www.apa.org

Cognitive Science Society

August 1-4, Nashville, TN

www.cognitivesciencesociety.org

Society for Mathematical Psychology

July 25-28, Costa Mesa, CA

www.cogs.indiana.edu/socmathpsych

OCTOBER

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

October 1-5, Baltimore, MD

www.hfes.org

International Society for Developmental Psychobiology

Oct 31 – Nov 4, San Diego, CA

www.isdp.org

Society for Experimental Social Psychology

October 11-13, Chicago, IL

www.sesp.org

Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology

October 18-20, Chapel Hill, NC

www.smep.org

Society for Psychophysiological Research

October 17-21, Savannah, GA

www.sprweb.org

Society for Research in Psychopathology

October 4-7, Iowa City, IO

www.psychopathology.org

NOVEMBER

National Academy of Neuropsychology

November 14-18, Scottsdale, AZ

www.nanonline.org

Psychonomic Society

November 15-18, Long Beach, CA

www.psychonomic.org

Society for Computers in Psychology

November 15, Long Beach, CA

<http://home.scip.ws>

Society for Judgment and Decision Making

November 17-19, Long Beach, CA

www.sjdm.org

PLEASE SUPPORT THE BEHAVIORAL & BRAIN SCIENCES

No doubt the most significant activity the Federation has engaged in during the past year is the creation of the **Foundation for the Advancement of the Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS)**. The Federation developed FABBS as a vehicle for supporting and expanding this work. In short, FABBS was created to take over much of the task of educating the public and their congressional representatives about the behavioral and brain sciences and the contributions these disciplines make to society. FABBS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose work is supported by tax-deductible contributions and grants. We urge you to respond generously as the future health of our scientific enterprise is at stake. *The President of FABBS is James Pomerantz (Rice University), the Vice President is Susan Fiske (Princeton University), the Secretary is Elaine Hull (Florida State University), and the Treasurer is Judith Albino (University of Colorado)*. Please visit: www.fabbs.org.

NOTE: The current featured scientist on the FABBS site is Christopher Wickens. To read about this honor, visit: http://www.fabbs.org/wickens_honor.html.

Have a great weekend and keep those cards and letters coming! ☺

Barb

Barbara A. Wanchisen, Ph.D.
Executive Director

INTERESTED IN READING OUR PAST NEWSLETTERS?

All of our e-newsletters are archived on the American Psychological Association's "List Archives." To access the archives, visit listserve.apa.org. Click on "List Archives and List Management", which will take you to a list of options. For archived newsletters, click on the third option, "Online Mailing List Archives", which will take you to another long list of options. Scroll down this alphabetical list and click on "FederationNewsletter." You will now be viewing all of our past newsletters, archived by month. Click on each month to access the newsletters sent out during that time period.

FOR A LIST OF OUR COMPLETE LEADERSHIP, CLICK ON:

<http://www.thefederationonline.org/leadership.htm>

BRIEF REMINDER ON HOW TO HAVE YOUR MEMBERS SUBSCRIBE THE LIST SERV TO GET THIS NEWSLETTER....

1. Send an email to listserv@lists.apa.org <<mailto:listserv@lists.apa.org>>
2. Do not put any text in the subject line
3. In first line of the text area, by example, if your name is Joe Smith, type:
SUB federationnewsletter Joe Smith

If you have trouble getting onto the list, just send me an email and I will take care of it but this method above will be more efficient (well it should be!).

BRIEF REMINDER ON HOW TO UNSUBSCRIBE (SIGN OFF) FROM THE LIST SERV NEWSLETTER.....

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3. In first line of the text area, by example, if your name is Joe Smith, type:
SIGNOFF federationnewsletter

In signing off, be sure you are emailing from the email account that is to be unsubscribed.
If you have any trouble, just send me an email and we will do it for you.

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Special acknowledgment is extended to Ms. Meghan McGowan, the Federation's Policy and Program Specialist and Mr. Steven Schwark, the Federation's Program Assistant. Also thanks are extended to the APA for hosting this list serve.
