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<http://www.thefederationonline.org/docs/Newsletters/NEWS110207.pdf>

This Week's News and Reflections (11/02/07)
The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological,
& Cognitive Sciences
750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002
202-336-5920 (voice); 202-336-5812 (fax)
<http://www.thefederationonline.org/>

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.

SCIENCE BRIEFING – PREVENTING CRASHES: DRIVER SAFETY THROUGH HUMAN FACTORS SCIENCE: RSVP TODAY!

Meghan McGowan reports: On Tuesday, November 13th, the Federation, along with the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society and American Psychological Association, will host a Science Briefing on Capitol Hill here in Washington, DC. This luncheon briefing will take place in the Rayburn House Office Building, 12:00 noon – 2:00pm. Drs. Thomas Dingus (Virginia Tech), Donald Fisher (University of Massachusetts at Amherst), John Lee (University of Iowa), and Paula Sind-Prunier (National Transportation Safety Board), along with Wendy Rogers (Georgia Tech) will present relevant data from the science of human factors as it relates to reducing highway crashes and fatalities. These scientists will discuss topics such as driver drowsiness and inattention, driver distractions, and training, to Congressional staffers, federal agency representatives, and other interested parties.

For more information visit:

http://www.thefederationonline.org/events/2007_HFES/HFES_Invitation.pdf.

RSVP by emailing federation@fbpcs.org, or calling (202) 336-5920. Feel free to pass this invitation along to others who may be interested.

NSF BRINGS IN NEW BLOOD TO THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Many of you know that the National Science Foundation is an agency that has quite a bit of staff movement; that is, they hire “rotators” who come in from academia and other federal agencies to serve as program officers for a while in order to bring new ideas to enhance the program areas. In recent months, there have been some changes in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Division. Here are the new program officers who may be of interest to many of you:

Developmental and Learning Sciences Program: Amy Sussman, PhD, of Georgetown University, asussman@nsf.gov; 703-292-7307

Perception, Action, and Cognition Program: Ping Li, PhD, of the University of Richmond, p-li@nsf.gov, 703-292-8643; and Betty Tuller, PhD, of the Florida Atlantic University, btuller@nsf.gov, 703-292-7238

Cognitive Neuroscience Program: Stacia Friedman-Hill, PhD, of National Institutes of Mental Health, sfriedman@nsf.gov, 703-292-8121

It is always wise to contact these folks when you have a scientific proposal in mind. Also, we welcome them to their new posts and wish them well!

CONFERENCE ON DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY, TRANSLATION, RELATED TO MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS

NCDEU 2008 reports: New Research Approaches for Mental Health Interventions, to be held May 27-30, 2008, in Phoenix, Arizona

Co-sponsored by NIMH and the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology (ASCP), the NCDEU meeting is an annual scientific conference that brings together academic researchers from multiple disciplines involved in clinical trials, clinicians, research pharmacists, psychologists, nurses, and social workers, as well as investigators with the pharmaceutical industry and representatives from NIMH/NIH and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

NCDEU's central focus is on the latest developments in psychopharmacologic clinical research and related methodology. However, the meeting content is being expanded to incorporate a broad range of translational and treatment development research, with an emphasis on research design and methodology. In addition, the meeting will address a number of timely issues relevant to clinical research in psychiatry, such as the translation of research findings into practice, the importance of regulatory issues, and pharmacogenetics and other means of "personalizing" treatment. Please visit the NCDEU Web site at <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/ncdeu> to learn more.

NIH SEEKS INFO ON BASIC BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH

Request for Information (RFI): To Solicit Input and Ideas on Priorities in Basic Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

Response Date: November 26, 2007

Issued by National Institutes of Health, Office of the Director, Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives (OPASI), <http://opasi.nih.gov>; and the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), <http://obssr.od.nih.gov/>.

The NIH is seeking input from the scientific community, health professionals, patient advocates, and the general public about current and emerging priorities in basic Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (bBSSR) that may offer potential for improving and accelerating health research and its impact on the health of the Nation. This information will aid OPASI, working with OBSSR expertise, in developing a congressionally-requested strategic plan for bBSSR at the NIH. Relevant text from the House Appropriations Committee request is available at <http://www.bBSSRresponse.com/>

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the world leader in funding biomedical and behavioral research to improve health. It consists of 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs) and the Office of the Director, which includes several programmatic Offices, each of which coordinates NIH activities in cross-cutting areas that are important to the missions of all the ICs. The Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives (OPASI) provides NIH and its ICs with the methods and information necessary to manage their large and complex scientific portfolios, identifies – in concert with multiple other inputs – important areas of emerging scientific opportunities or rising public health challenges, and assists in the acceleration of investments in these areas, focusing on those involving multiple ICs. The

Office currently has three divisions tasked with coordination, resource development, and evaluation.

The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) serves as the NIH focal point for research on behavioral, social, and lifestyle factors in the causation, treatment, and prevention of diseases. As such, the Office advises and consults on these topics with NIH scientists and others within and outside the federal government, and plays a key role in promoting and enhancing basic and applied behavioral and social sciences research across all of NIH.

Basic research in the behavioral and social sciences is designed to further our understanding of fundamental mechanisms and patterns of behavioral and social functioning relevant to the Nation's health and well-being, and as they interact with each other, with biology and the environment. As is the case with basic biomedical research, basic behavioral and social sciences research is designed to elucidate knowledge about underlying mechanisms and processes, knowledge that is fundamental to improving the understanding, explanation, observation, prediction, prevention, and management of illnesses, as well as the promotion of optimal health and well being. The range of focus includes different "granularity" or levels of complexity. Basic behavioral and social sciences research involves both human and animal studies and spans the full range of scientific inquiry, from processes within the intra-individual level ("under the skin"), to mechanisms "outside the skin" that explain inter-individual, group, organizational, community, population, macroeconomic and other systems level patterns of collective behavior. While the primary focus of basic BSSR must ultimately be directly relevant to behavioral and social factors, the domains and units of analysis can include intra-organismic as well as inter-organismic factors ("cells to society"), over varying units of time from nanoseconds to centuries, and including lifespan developmental phases and phenomena that may occur within and across generations. An expanded definition of bBSSR can be found here: <http://www.bBSSRresponse.com/>.

The current request for information supplements previous efforts to identify bBSSR priorities, including reports from the Institute of Medicine and National Research Council of the National Academies of Sciences, and most notably, a report from the Working Group of the NIH Advisory Committee to the Director on Research Opportunities in the Basic Behavioral and Social Sciences (2004), which includes descriptions of ICs' portfolios in bBSSR and identifies future bBSSR opportunities for NIH. These sources and a summary of the Working Group's identified priorities can be viewed at <http://www.bBSSRresponse.com/>.

This RFI invites the scientific community, health professionals, patient advocates, and the general public to respond to the following questions:

- 1) What are the existing essential/foundational research topics already being supported and in need of continued support or further development (i.e. core areas of bBSSR)? What existing areas need to be phased out or dropped?
- 2) What exciting new emergent areas of bBSSR are likely to significantly advance the NIH mission and address pressing biomedical and public health needs? What areas are not being addressed that ought to be addressed because they will likely lead to important or perhaps even breakthrough insights that will ultimately improve the Nations health and well-being?

We welcome identification of priority areas that cut across the missions of multiple NIH Institutes and Centers (e.g. understanding fundamental mechanisms in human motivation and goal directed behaviors), as well as specific examples of basic research that fit the mission of a particular IC.

Responses will be accepted through November 26, 2007 and can be entered at the following web site: <http://www.bBSSRresponse.com/>. Formal acknowledgement of receipt of responses will not be made beyond that provided by the survey utility.

This RFI shall not be construed as a solicitation for applications or as an obligation on the part of the government. The government will not pay for the preparation of any information submitted. Responders should be aware that the information provided will be analyzed and may appear in various reports. Additionally, the government cannot guarantee the confidentiality of the information provided.

Questions about this request for information may be directed to:

Deborah H. Olster, Ph.D.

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National Institutes of Health

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E-mail: OlsterD@od.nih.gov

FEDERAL REPORTS & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Delays in Grant Application Submission Due to Fires in California (NOT-OD-08-009)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-009.html>

Pilot Compliance Program--Financial Conflict of Interest Requirements for All NIH-Supported Institutions (NOT-OD-08-010)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-010.html>

Extension of the NRSA Awards for Individual Predoctoral Fellows (F31) Funding Opportunity Announcement (PA-07-002) (NOT-OD-08-011)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-011.html>

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Social Scientist (Program Director), AD-0101-04, Science Society Program, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Closes: 01/15/2008 URL :

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=e20080010

Vacancy Announcements

Scientific and Professional

NSF, NIH Award Ecology of Infectious Diseases Grants

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=pr07157

News Releases Biology

Digital Eyes in the Sky Play Key Role in Battling Flames in Southern California

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=pr07158

News Releases Computer/Information Sciences

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

Aviation and the Environment: Impact of Aviation Noise on Communities Presents Challenges For Airport Operations and Future Growth of the National Airspace System, by Gerald L. Dillingham, director, physical infrastructure issues, before the Subcommittee on Aviation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. GAO-08-216T, Oct 24.

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-216T>
Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08216thigh.pdf>

Securing, Stabilizing, and Rebuilding Iraq: GAO Audits and Key Oversight Issues, by Joseph A. Christoff, director, international affairs and trade, before the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, House Committee on Appropriations. GAO-08-231T, Oct 30.

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-231T>
Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08231thigh.pdf>

Stabilization and Reconstruction: Actions Needed to Improve Government-wide Planning and Capabilities for Future Operations, by Janet A. St. Laurent, director, defense capabilities and management; and Joseph A. Christoff, director, international affairs and trade, before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, House Committee on Armed Services. GAO-08-228T, Oct 30.

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-228T>
Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08228thigh.pdf>

Aviation and the Environment: Impact of Aviation Noise on Communities Presents Challenges For Airport Operations and Future Growth of the National Airspace System, by Gerald L. Dillingham, director, physical infrastructure issues, before the Subcommittee on Aviation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. GAO-08-216T, Oct 24.

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-216T>
Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08216thigh.pdf>

FEDERATION SOCIETY NEWS CORNER...

Upcoming Federation society annual meetings:

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 President-Elect 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 Dr. Janellen Huttenlocher. To learn more about her, visit: http://www.fabbs.org/huttenlocher_honor.html.

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.....

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:
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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APA Division Affiliates

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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.
