

Federation News

a publication of the
Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences

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December 18, 2008

fede'ration *noun*
people, societies, unions, states, etc.
joined together for a common purpose

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Unknowns Surround Federal Science Funding

If you have ever been puzzled by how science gets funded in the U.S., this is not the time to dive in. Advocates of science who have been tracking funding for decades seem perplexed about what may happen next. Of course, clouding the issue is a new stimulus package. How much will it be, and what will be included? Since federal grants and contracts create skilled jobs, new products, and new technologies, while also supporting research that will keep us competitive and lead to new treatments for diseases, funding for science seems like a wise investment — even in a stimulus package. On the other hand, this funding will need to be sustained beyond any immediate stimulus to avoid the "sugar rush." After all, science proceeds at a different pace. Meanwhile, most federal agencies continue to operate under a Continuing Resolution, with funding at FY 2008 levels, through March 6, 2009. And as FY 2009 appropriations bills await further action in Congress amidst the talk of a stimulus package, agencies will need to begin thinking about a new budget!

Federation Hosts Federal Agency Officials at Annual Meeting

On December 8, 2008, the Federation held its Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The meeting provided an opportunity for representatives of the or-

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BEHAVIORAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL,
AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES **FBPCS**

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Dorothy M. Fragaszy, PhD

Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society

Linda Zoe Podbros, PhD

National Academy of Neuropsychology

J. Michael Williams, PhD

ganization's twenty-two member societies serving on the Federation's Council to hear from leaders at NIH and NSF. [Jeremy M. Berg, PhD](#), Director of the [National Institute of General Medical Sciences \(NIGMS\)](#), spoke to attendees about the NIGMS research portfolio and his efforts to integrate areas of behavioral science that are related to the Institute's mission (e.g., social modeling to better understand behavioral responses to a potential pandemic flu outbreak). The "conversation" with Dr. Berg covered areas such as the funding climate in which budget increases have been less than inflation, the tendency to categorize more grants in behavioral science than may be warranted, and finding a home for basic behavioral science research at NIH.

[Christine A. Bachrach, PhD](#), Acting Director of the [Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research](#) at NIH, told Council representatives that the search for the OBSSR Director is still underway, and that the Office is trying to develop and articulate a behavioral and social sciences research agenda for the new administration. For example, what does research tell us about how people make decisions in the health care context? Dr. Bachrach also described an effort to bring together behavioral and social scientists within NIH to determine how to function more effectively as a community. [See highlights of this internal retreat.](#)

Rounding out the day was [David Lightfoot, PhD](#), Assistant Director for the [Social, Behavioral, and Economic \(SBE\) Sciences Directorate](#) at NSF. Dr. Lightfoot described several activities – the transition team's visit to NSF, science as an excellent investment in infrastructure-building, and the end of a large and successful SBE initiative on Human Social Dynamics (HSD). Dr. Lightfoot emphasized that while the HSD initiative has ended, the innovative work will continue through the core SBE programs with funds available to support work in complexity science, large-scale interdisciplinary research, and infrastructure. [Read the "Dear Colleague" letter explaining these areas.](#)

NSTC Releases Report On the "Science of Science Policy"

On December 3-4, 2008, the [National Science and Technology Council \(NSTC\)](#) held a workshop to coincide with its public release of *The Science of Science Policy: A Federal Research Roadmap*. The report was developed by an Interagency Task Group of the NSTC's Subcommittee on Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, an inter-agency group that assists the President in coordinating science policy across the federal government. [Dr. John Marburger](#), Director of the [Office of Science and Technology Policy](#) and advisor to the President on science and technology policy, gave the keynote address for the workshop. Indeed, Dr. Marburger put forth the initial challenge to develop a science of science policy that will "address the need for better scientific theories and analytical tools for improving our understanding of the efficacy and impact of science and technology policy decisions."

[View the complete "Science of Science Policy" report](#)

Federation Council Member Representatives (cont.)

Psychonomic Society

Howard E. Egeth, PhD
Barbara A. Spellman, PhD

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Victoria N. Luine, PhD

Society for Computers in Psychology

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Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology

Steven M. Boker, PhD

Society for Personality and Social Psychology

Laurie A. Rudman, PhD

Society for Psychophysiological Research

TBA

Society for Research in Psychopathology

Eric Turkheimer, PhD

NIH Launching Research Categorization System

NIH has developed a new system to categorize the research it funds. The new [Research, Condition, and Disease Categorization \(RCDC\)](#) system is part of a larger effort by NIH to improve public accessibility. The system will show the amount NIH funds in the 215 categories it reports to Congress and the public, and will list all NIH-funded projects in these categories. You may access the system on a new website at: <http://report.nih.gov/index.aspx>. You may also join a webcast on the RCDC system on January 14, 2009, at 1:30pm EDT.

To RSVP for the webinar, send a message to rcdcpublicinfo@mail.nih.gov by January 9, 2009.

Draft Guidance Issued on Human Research Protections

The federal [Office for Human Research Protections](#) has prepared a draft guidance document, *OHRP Guidance on Important Considerations for When Participation of Human Subjects in Research is Discontinued*. The draft document provides guidance in situations where the subject voluntarily discontinues participation in research, or when an investigator terminates a subject's participation. OHRP welcomes comments on the draft document before January 30, 2009. This document, once finalized, will be OHRP's first formal guidance on the topic.

[Read the Federal Register notice of the draft guidance document](#)

NSF and UK Research Council Invite You to the "Sandpit"

Attention risk-takers: Grab your bucket and head to the sandpit! Several NSF Directorates, including the [Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate](#), are joining forces with the [Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council](#) of the United Kingdom to sponsor an intensive and interactive 5-day workshop for a selected group of 20-30 people to develop research projects that address the grand challenge of synthetic biology.

A "Call for Participants" has been issued and interested participants should complete a two-page expression of interest form by January 15, 2009.

[Learn more about the "Call for Participants" and apply to the program](#)

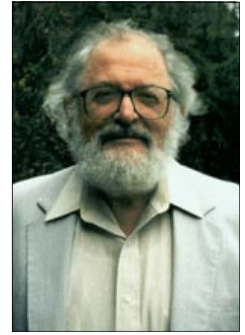
Honoring Julian Hochberg

Dr. Julian Hochberg, Emeritus Centennial Professor at Columbia University, is featured in the FABBS program which honors outstanding individuals. Dr. Mary Peterson (University of Arizona) and Dr. James Pomerantz (Rice Uni-

versity) nominated Hochberg for this honor and contacted colleagues and friends to contribute to this effort.

Hochberg has been a leading experimentalist and theoretician in visual perception for half a century. Among his many contributions, he has pioneered work on how we integrate the snapshot-views of the world with individual visual fixations into fully-formed percepts of the world "in the mind's eye." He has led our research and thinking on the Gestalt problem and how our percepts are structured to maximize both the likelihood of their being accurate and their simplicity. Beyond his explorations of form and motion perception, Hochberg extended his reach into the perception of pictures, film, and dance.

Congratulations to Julian Hochberg on this honor.



Julian Hochberg, PhD

[Learn more about Hochberg's career and contributions](#)

[View the gallery of scientists who have previously been honored in this way](#)

FABBS Thanks Its Supporters

FABBS would like to thank [The David & Carol Myers Foundation](#) for its generous support of our activities. We would also like to thank our many donors — first-time and continuing — who enable us to enhance the public's understanding of research in the behavioral and brain sciences. On behalf of the FABBS Board, we wish all of you a safe and peaceful holiday and happy new year!

Announcements

Member Society Highlights

American Educational Research Association: The December 2008 issue of AERA's journal, Educational Researcher (ER), examines the final report of the President's [National Mathematics Advisory Panel](#), a body formed to advise the U.S. Secretary of Education on ways to improve mathematics instruction. The advisory panel spent two years synthesizing existing research and holding public hearings before releasing [Foundations for Success: The Final Report of the National Mathematics Advisory Panel](#). The December 2008 issue of ER provides a scholarly examination of the advisory panel's report. [Access the entire issue of ER](#).

Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society: The Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society sponsors an APA-approved continuing education lecture series. The next lecture will be:

"[Neurocognition in Bipolar Disorder](#)" with Anthony Guiliano, PhD
Tuesday, January 6, 2009; 7:30PM - 9:00PM

Position Openings

NSF Program on Perception, Action, and Cognition (2 positions)

[Program Director Rotator Position](#)

[Program Director Permanent Position](#)

Funding Opportunities**NSF****Cognitive Neuroscience****Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with Industry****Developmental and Learning Sciences****Partnerships for International Research and Education****Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program****ADVANCE: Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers****NIH****Brain Imaging Studies of Negative Reinforcement in Humans (R01)****Brain Imaging Studies of Negative Reinforcement in Humans (R21)****Pre-Application for the 2009 NIDA Avant Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS Research (X02)****Research on the Cognitive Sequelae of Parkinsons Disease (R01)****Biosocial Approaches to Infertility Research (R21)****Education Programs of Excellence in Scientifically Validated Behavioral Treatment (R25)****NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99, R00)****Independent Scientist Award (K02)****Mentored Quantitative Research Development Award (K25)****Support Opportunity for Addiction Research for New Investigators (R03)****Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01)*****Webinars, Blogs, and Videos*****National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism video conference on adolescence and alcohol****The Future of Children Blog****NIH Webinar on the new Research, Condition, and Disease Categorization System****Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences**
Mission Statement

The Federation promotes human potential and well-being by advancing the sciences of mind, brain, and behavior. As a coalition of scientific societies, we communicate with policy makers and the public about the importance and contributions of basic and applied research in these sciences.

Please Support the Behavioral and Brain Sciences

FOUNDATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF BEHAVIORAL
AND BRAIN SCIENCES



The [Foundation for the Advancement of Behavioral and Brain Sciences \(FABBS\)](http://www.fabbs.org) is an educational, non-profit organization established to promote and enhance understanding of the behavioral, psychological, cognitive, and brain sciences.

Created to take over a substantial part of the educational mission of the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences on behalf of its constituent sciences, FABBS focuses its efforts in three directions. One is to educate the public about the contributions of these important fields to the well-being of individuals and society. A second is to educate Congressional staff and others in the Federal Government about our sciences. The third is to facilitate productive dialogue between scientists and relevant stakeholders in the public and private sector on topics at the intersection of science and public policy, such as human subject protections and new but risky scientific directions. We urge you to respond generously. The President of FABBS is Susan Fiske (Princeton University).

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Federation Societies' Annual Meetings

FEBRUARY 2009

[Society for Personality and Social Psychology](#)

2/5/09 - 2/7/09 (Tampa, FL)

APRIL 2009

[Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback](#)

4/1/09 - 4/4/09 (Albuquerque, NM)

[Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology](#)

4/2/09 - 4/4/09 (New Orleans, LA)

[American Educational Research Association](#)

4/13/09 - 4/17/09 (San Diego, CA)

MAY 2009

[Association for Behavior Analysis International](#)

5/22/09 - 5/26/09 (Phoenix, AZ)

JUNE 2009

[International Behavioral Neuroscience Society](#)

6/9/09 - 6/14/09 (Manzanillo, Mexico)

[Behavior Genetics Association](#)

6/17/09 - 6/20/09 (Minneapolis, MN)

[Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology](#)

6/25/09 - 6/27/09 (East Lansing, MI)

JULY 2009

[Cognitive Science Society](#)

7/30/09 - 8/1/09 (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

AUGUST 2009

[Society for Mathematical Psychology](#)

8/1/09 - 8/4/09 (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

[American Psychological Association](#)

8/6/09 - 8/9/09 (Toronto, ON, Canada)

SEPTEMBER 2009

[Society for Research In Psychopathology](#)

9/10/09 - 9/13/09 (Minneapolis, MN)

OCTOBER 2009

[Society for Experimental Social Psychology](#)

10/8/09 - 10/10/09 (Gleneden, OR)

[Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology](#)

10/15/09 - 10/17/09 (Portland, ME)

[Human Factors and Ergonomics Society](#)

10/19/09 - 10/23/09 (San Antonio, TX)

[Society for Psychophysiological Research](#)

10/21/09 - 10/24/09 (Berlin, Germany)

NOVEMBER 2009

[National Academy of Neuropsychology](#)

11/11/09 - 11/14/09 (New Orleans, LA)

[Psychonomic Society](#)

11/19/09 - 11/22/09 (Boston, MA)

[Society for Computers in Psychology](#)

11/19/09 (Boston, MA)

[Society for Judgment and Decision Making](#)

11/21/09 - 11/23/09 (Boston, MA)

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[International Society for Developmental Psychobiology](#)

[Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society](#)

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