

by OF 523B allowing individual hospitals to use the consortium forms. The optional form is authorized for local reproduction. Upon request, a camera copy of OF 520 will be provided by the General Services Administration (CARM), Attn.: Barbara Williams, (202) 501-0581.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Barbara Williams, General Services Administration, (202) 501-0581.

Dated: January 12, 1995.

Theodore D. Freed,

Chief, Forms Management Branch.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Agency Forms Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Clearance

On Fridays, the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary publishes a list of information collections it has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The following are those information collections recently submitted to OMB.

1. Applicant Background Survey—This form will be used to ask applicants for employment how they learned about a vacancy, to make sure that recruitment sources yield qualified women, minority and handicapped applicants in compliance with EEOC Management Directives.

Respondents: Individuals; Annual Number of

Respondents: 310,000; Annual Frequency of Response: one time; Average Burden per Response: 2 minutes;

Total Annual Burden: 10,333 hours.

OMB Desk Officer: Allison Eydt.

Copies of the information collection packages listed above can be obtained by calling the OS Reports Clearance Officer on (202) 619-0511. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent directly to the OMB disk officer designated above at the following address: OMB Reports Management Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 3208, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: January 9, 1995.

Dennis P. Williams,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Budget.

[FR Doc. 94-1163 Filed 1-19-94; 8:45 am]

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Notice of a Regional Public Hearing of the Commission on Research Integrity

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92-463, notice is hereby given of a public hearing and meeting, respectively, of the Commission on Research Integrity on Thursday and Friday, February 9 and 10, 1995, from 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. at University of California-San Francisco in the auditorium of the Laurel Heights Conference Center at 3333 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94118. The sessions will be open to the public. Interested parties are advised to call the Executive Secretary shortly before the meeting to verify the date, place, and agenda.

The mandate of the Commission is to develop recommendations for the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Congress on the administration of Section 493 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended by and added to, by Section 161 of the NIH Revitalization Act of 1993.

It has become increasingly clear to the Commission that the current DHHS and institutional oversight of research integrity deserves serious attention. Also, the Commission has confirmed that there are no quick and easy answers as it searches for fair, effective, and realistic administrative solutions to these issues. Therefore, an essential component of the Commission's information-gathering is to interact extensively with all relevant constituencies of the scientific community—including junior and senior scientists, witnesses, respondents, and academic administrators—to understand their particular experiences and perspectives and to explore possible improvements.

Three major areas are currently of great interest to the Commission:

1. *A New Definition of Research Misconduct.* The Commission believes that any definition needs to address the full extent of serious research misconduct, but must avoid a definition that is too broad, vague, and potentially unfair. In addition, a two-tiered approach for research integrity, and failures thereof, would be useful; it would emphasize institutional responsibility, and reserve an oversight role for the Federal Government.

2. *Assurance for Institutions and Accountability for Federally-Funded*

Research. The Commission is considering that each institution receiving Federal funds develop and submit for Federal review and approval assurances concerning the establishment and implementation of: (a) good research practices and professional norms; (b) procedures for disseminating that information throughout its community; and (c) educational activities designed to foster practice of the highest ethical standards in the conduct of research with particular emphasis on beginning researchers. Topics affecting good research practices that might be addressed in institutional assurances include: data recording and retention; supervisory responsibility; authorship practices; protection of witnesses; and other professional conduct bearing directly on the integrity of Federally-supported research.

3. *Bill of Rights for Witnesses.*

Testimony from witnesses (also called "whistleblowers") who had challenged perceived research misconduct reaffirms the Commission's mandate to propose effective whistleblower protection rules. Witnesses stated that retaliation occurs with sufficient frequency to have a chilling effect on potential witnesses throughout the research community. The Commission is considering a Witness Bill of Rights and procedures for its implementation.

The Commission will also continue its discussion of other issues on which the Commission is planning to make recommendations.

Lengthy statements from witnesses exceeding the 10 or 15 minutes of oral presentation may be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary before or at the meeting. Each statement will be reviewed by Commission Members.

Henrietta D. Hyatt-Knorr, Executive Secretary, Commission on Research Integrity, at Rockwall II, Suite 700, 5515 Security Lane, Rockville, MD 20852, (301) 443-5300 or (301) 443-9369 (voice mail), will furnish the meeting agenda, the Committee charter, and a roster of the Committee members upon request. Members of the public wishing to make presentations should contact the Executive Secretary. Depending on the number of presentations and other considerations, the Executive Secretary will allocate a reasonable timeframe for each speaker.

Henrietta D. Hyatt-Knorr,

Executive Secretary, Commission on Research Integrity.

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