

National Institutes of Health; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings of the National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel:

Agenda/Purpose: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: March 14, 1997.

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: River Inn, 924 25th Street NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Contact Person: Jean G. Noronha, Parklawn, Room 9C-26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: (301) 443-6470.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: March 19, 1997.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Parklawn, Room 9C-26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: Phyllis D. Artis, Parklawn, Room 9C-26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: (301) 443-6470.

The meetings will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Numbers 93.242, 93.281, 93.282)

Dated: February 13, 1997.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 97-4258 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

Public Health Service**National Institutes of Health****Office of Research on Women's Health; Notice of Meeting—"Beyond Hunt Valley: Research on Women's Health for the 21st Century"**

Notice is hereby given that the Office of Research on Women's Health, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, will convene a meeting on April 5, 6, and 7, 1997, at the Pyramid Crowne Plaza Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The purpose of the meeting is to update the current biomedical and behavioral research agenda for women's health, as presented in the Report of the National Institutes of Health: Opportunities for Research on Women's Health, a publication based on a conference held

in Hunt Valley, Maryland, September 1991.

The NIH/FAES is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor continuing medical educations for physicians.

The NIH/FAES designates this educational activity for a maximum of 10 hours in category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

The first day, April 5 will be devoted to receiving public testimony from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 from individuals representing organizations interested in biomedical and behavioral research on women's health issues. On April 6 and 7 concurrent working groups will discuss women's health research, with particular reference to differences among populations of women. The schedule for April 6 is 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on April 7 the meeting will end approximately at 2:30 p.m. All sessions of the meeting are open to the public.

Studies have shown that differences exist among women, in regards to health status and health outcomes. Also, some diseases, disorders, and conditions are more common among some populations of women than others. The reasons for these differences have not been delineated. Some studies have implicated socioeconomic status, access to health care, individual behavior and attitudes, provider attitudes, culture and race/ethnicity as different reasons. However, some differences cannot be explained totally on the basis of any of these examples.

The purpose of this conference is to identify where differences exist in the diverse populations of women and to modify the NIH research agenda to better enable the identification of why these differences exist. In addition, strategies, based upon the research which can result in an improved health status and health outcome for all women, will be developed.

Experts in the fields of basic and clinical science, practitioners interested in women's health, representatives of scientific, professional and women's health organizations, and women's health advocates will be asked to assess the current status of research in women's health, in these, and other areas, identify gaps in existing knowledge, and recommend scientific approaches and strategies to take advantage of promising opportunities for research on women's health.

Open sessions will be devoted to identifying those factors which may influence health status and health outcomes including, but not limited to, racial, cultural and ethnic beliefs, attitudes, behavior environmental influences, biologic difference, effects of the changing health care environment, and socioeconomic status.

Sessions that follow will be devoted to identifying major factors among populations of women within each life stage/age group and examples of diseases, disorders, and conditions where population differences most impact women's health, and recommend research (and public policy) strategies to address these gaps in knowledge.

The Office of Research on Women's Health invites individuals representing organizations with an interest in research areas related to women's health to provide written and oral testimony on these topics and on career issues for women scientists.

Due to time constraints, only one representative from each organization may present oral testimony, with presentations limited to 10 minutes. A letter of intent to present such testimony should be sent by interested individuals and organizations to Ms. Nancy Teed, Houston Associates, 1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1200, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The date of receipt of the letter will establish the order of presentations at the April meeting.

Presenters should send three (3) written copies of their testimony, including a brief description of their organization, to the above address no later than March 20, 1997.

Individuals and organizations wishing to provide written statements only made send three (3) copies of their statements to the above address by March 20, 1997. All written testimony will be made available to the conferees prior to the April 6 meeting day. Comments and questions related to the April meeting should be addressed to Ms. Teed.

This meeting is the second of three regional public hearings and scientific workshops of similar design to be convened by the Office of Research on Women's Health. At the conclusion of this series of meetings, the Office of Research on Women's Health will convene a national meeting to address the deliberations and recommendations from the regional public hearings and scientific workshops for the purpose of developing a report of priorities for research on women's health for the 21st century.