

Dated: January 28, 2004.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**  
Director, Office of Federal Advisory  
Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-2371 Filed 2-4-04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine Announcement of Strategic Planning Stakeholder Forums

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) is developing its 5-year strategic plan (2005-2009), and invites the public to provide input regarding NCCAM research, training, outreach, and integration. Two strategic planning stakeholder forums will be held (March 22, 2004 in Bethesda, Maryland and April 19, 2004 in Seattle, Washington). In addition, the public is invited to provide comments via the NCCAM Web site.

#### Background

The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) was established in 1999 with the mission of exploring complementary and alternative healing practices in the context of rigorous science, training CAM researchers, and disseminating authoritative information to the public and professionals.

To date, NCCAM's efforts to rigorously study CAM, to train CAM researchers, to conduct outreach, and to facilitate integration have been guided by NCCAM's current strategic plan, "Expanding Horizons of Healthcare: Five Year Strategic Plan 2001-2005" located on the NCCAM Web site at <http://nccam.nih.gov/about/plans/fiveyear/index.htm>. Since its inception, NCCAM has funded over 300 projects and has over 700 grantee publications.

NCCAM's new strategic plan will also stipulate strategic goals, and will outline a research agenda that prioritizes among and between CAM domains, scientific area, and health conditions, based on identified needs and opportunities.

#### Request for Comments

The public is invited to provide input into the development of NCCAM's strategic plan for 2005-2009.

NCCAM will host two Strategic Planning Stakeholder Forums. These events will give NCCAM stakeholders

an opportunity to voice their opinions regarding future directions for research, training, outreach, and integration in complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). The forums will be held:

March 22, 2004, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.,  
Natcher Conference Center, National  
Institutes of Health, Bethesda,  
Maryland 20892.

April 19, 2004, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., The  
Westin Seattle, 1900 Fifth Avenue,  
Seattle, Washington 98101.

Forum attendees are welcome to address a listening panel composed of NCCAM senior staff and National Advisory Council members. Remarks should be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Those wishing to address the panel should register to attend at least 5 days prior to their selected forum. NCCAM will schedule speakers until the time allotted is filled. To register, please visit <http://nccam.nih.gov>. Alternatively, the public is invited to submit written testimony via this Web site.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information, visit the NCCAM Web site at <http://nccam.nih.gov>, call 1-888-644-6226, or e-mail [info@nccam.gov](mailto:info@nccam.gov).

#### Comments Due Date

Comments regarding the development of NCCAM's strategic plan are best assured of having their full effect if received by April 20, 2004.

Dated: January 29, 2004.

**Christy Thomsen,**

Director, Office of Communications and  
Public Liaison, National Center for  
Complementary and Alternative Medicine,  
National Institutes of Health.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Notice of Closed Meeting

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 meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial

property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Special Emphasis Panel; Review of Conference Grants (R13s).

*Date:* March 16, 2004.

*Time:* 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 4401, East Campus, 79 T.W. Alexander Drive, EC 122, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* RoseAnne M. McGee, Associate Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, Office of Program Operations, Division of Extramural Research and Training, Nat. Inst. of Environmental Health Sciences, P.O. Box 12233, MD EC-30, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (919) 541-0752.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.115, Biometry and Risk Estimation—Health Risks from Environmental Exposures; 93.142, NIEHS Hazardous Waste Worker Health and Safety Training; 93.143, NIEHS Superfund Hazardous Substances—Basic Research and Education; 93.894, Resources and Manpower Development in the Environmental Health Sciences; 93.113, Biological Response to Environmental Health Hazards; 93.114, Applied Toxicological Research and Testing, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: January 28, 2004.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

Director, Office of Federal Advisory  
Committee Policy.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Notice of Closed Meeting

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