

Drive, MSC 7616, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-402-3938. lr228v@nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel. Bioinformatics Resource Centers for Infectious Diseases.

Date: April 23, 2009.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Place: Residence Inn Bethesda, 7335 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Lynn Rust, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institutes of Health/NIAID, 6700B Rockledge Drive, MSC 7616, Bethesda, MD 20892. 301-402-3938. lr228v@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 18, 2009.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. E9-6477 Filed 3-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Director, NIH.

The meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee to the Director, NIH.

Date: April 16, 2009.

Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To address the NIH's implementation plans associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 1, 1 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call)

Contact Person: Penny W. Burgoon, PhD, Senior Assistant to the Deputy Director, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, 1 Center Drive, Building 1, Room 109, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-451-5870, burgoonp@od.nih.gov.

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's home page: <http://>

www.nih.gov/about/director/acd.htm, where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.14, Intramural Research Training Award; 93.22, Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds; 93.232, Loan Repayment Program for Research Generally; 93.39, Academic Research Enhancement Award; 93.936, NIH Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome Research Loan Repayment Program; 93.187, Undergraduate Scholarship Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 18, 2009.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. E9-6472 Filed 3-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Notice Designating Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, as Data Sciences Lead Institution for the DHS Center of Excellence for Command, Control and Interoperability

AGENCY: Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security has designated Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey (Rutgers) as a DHS Center of Excellence for Command, Control and Interoperability **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph Kielman, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528; telephone 202-254-5787; e-mail joseph.kielman@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 308 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, (the "Homeland Security Act"), as amended by the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution 2003, Public Law 108-7, and as codified in Title 6 of the United States Code Chapter I Subchapter III Section 188(b)(2) [6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)], directs the Department of Homeland Security ("Department") to sponsor extramural research, development, demonstration, testing and evaluation programs relating to homeland security. As part of this program, the Department has established a coordinated system of university-based centers for homeland security (the "Centers").

The Centers are envisioned to be an integral component of the Department's

capability to anticipate, prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks and natural disasters. The Centers will leverage multidisciplinary capabilities and fill gaps in current knowledge.

6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(B) lists fourteen areas of substantive expertise that, if demonstrated, might qualify universities for designation as university-based centers. The listed areas of expertise include: (1) The training of first responders; (2) responding to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction and biological warfare; (3) emergency and diagnostic medical services; (4) chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear countermeasures or detection; (5) animal and plant health and diagnostics; (6) food safety; (7) water and wastewater operations; (8) port and waterway security; (9) multi-modal transportation; (10) information security and information engineering; (11) engineering; (12) educational outreach and technical assistance; (13) border and transportation security; and (14) the public policy implications and public dissemination of homeland security relevant research and development.

However, this list is not exclusive. 6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(C) gives the Secretary discretion to except certain criteria specified in 6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(B) and consider additional criteria beyond those specified in 6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(B) in selecting universities for this program, as long as the Department issues a **Federal Register** notice explaining the criteria used for the designation. This Center of Excellence will address statutory criterion 6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(B)(10), information security and information engineering.

Evaluation

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) chose Rutgers University and its partner institutions for the new Center of Excellence (COE) through a merit-based, competitive, and rigorous review process consistent with guidelines set forth in Section 308 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-296), as amended. The DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) issued a research funding opportunity announcement (FOA) soliciting applications for the establishment of a COE for the Study of Command, Control and Interoperability (CCI) issues on May 1, 2008 on <http://www.grants.gov>.

DHS received eight proposals in response to this announcement. External subject matter experts considered the merits of these proposals with respect to the evaluation criteria in the announcement and referred four