

Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5116, MSC 7854, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1171.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93-846-93.878, 93-892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: February 2, 1999.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 99-3002 Filed 2-5-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke; 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.

The meetings 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 contract proposals and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* February 16, 1999.

*Time:* 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate contract proposals.

*Place:* 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Federal Building, Room 9C10, Bethesda, MD 20814-9692 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Phillip F. Wiethorn, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, NINDS, National Institutes of Health, PHS, DHHS, Federal Building, Room 9C10, 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-496-9223.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* February 18, 1999.

*Time:* 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate contract proposals.

*Place:* Federal Building, Room 9C10, 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814-9692 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Phillip F. Wiethorn, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, NINDS, National Institutes of Health, PHS, DHHS, Federal Building, Room 9C10, 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-496-9223.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Special Emphasis Panel.

*Date:* February 25, 1999.

*Time:* 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate contract proposals.

*Place:* 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Federal Building, Room 9C10, Bethesda, MD 20814-9692 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Phillip F. Wiethorn, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, NINDS, National Institutes of Health, PHS, DHHS, Federal Building, Room 9C10, 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-496-9223.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.853, Clinical Research Related to Neurological Disorders; 93.854, Biological Basis Research in the Neurosciences, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: February 2, 1999.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 99-3001 Filed 2-5-99; 8:45 am]

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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, NIEHS Special Emphasis Panel—Environmental Justice: Partnerships for Communication.

*Date:* February 17-19, 1999.

*Time:* February 17, 1999, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Hawthorne Suites, 300 Meredith Drive, Durham, NC 27713.

*Time:* February 18, 1999, 8:30 am to 5:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Hawthorne Suites, 300 Meredith Drive, Durham, NC 27713.

*Time:* February 19, 1999, 8:30 am to 5:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Hawthorne Suites, 300 Meredith Drive, Durham, NC 27712.

*Contact Person:* David Brown, MPH, Nat'l Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (919) 541-4964.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.113, Biological Response to Environmental Health Hazards; 93.114, Applied Toxicological Research and Testing; 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 Hazards Substances—Basic Research and Education; 93.894, Resources and Manpower Development in the Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: February 1, 1999.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 99-3003 Filed 2-5-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute on Drug Abuse; 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.

The meetings 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 on Drug Abuse Initial Review Group, Treatment Research Subcommittee.

*Date:* March 4–5, 1999.

*Time:* 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814.

*Contact Person:* Kesinee Nimit, Health Scientist Administrator, Office of Extramural Program Review, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, DHHS, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10–22, Rockville, MD 20857 (301) 443–9042.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Drug Abuse Initial Review Group, Health Services Research Subcommittee.

*Date:* March 4, 1999.

*Time:* 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814.

*Contact Person:* Marina L. Volkov, Special Assistant, Office of Extramural Program Review, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, DHHS, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10–22, Rockville, MD 20857, (301) 443–9042.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute on Drug Abuse Special Emphasis Panel, Training and Career Development.

*Date:* March 16–18, 1999.

*Time:* 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Gathersburg Marriott Washington Center, 9751 Washingtonian Boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

*Contact Person:* Mark Swieter, Health Scientist Administrator, Office of Extramural Program Review, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, DHHS, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10–42, Rockville, MD 20857, (301) 443–2620.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.277, Drug Abuse Scientist Development Award for Clinicians, Scientists Development Awards, and Research Scientist Awards; 93.278, Drug Abuse National Research Service Awards for Research Training; 93.279, Drug Abuse Research Programs, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: January 29, 1999.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 99–3004 Filed 2–5–99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Public Health Services

#### National Toxicology Program; Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods

Pursuant to Section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given to a meeting of the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods, U.S. Public Health Service. The meeting will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on March 4, 1999 in the Conference Center, Building 101, South Campus, NIEHS, 111 Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709. The meeting will be entirely open to the public from 8:45 a.m. to adjournment with attendance limited only by 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.

#### Background

Under authority of 42 U.S.C. 217a, Section 222 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended, the Department of Health and Human Services has established an Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods. The Committee functions to provide advice on the activities and priorities of the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (Center) and the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM), and to provide advice on ways to foster partnership activities and productive interactions among all stakeholders. The Advisory Committee is composed of knowledgeable representatives drawn from academia, industry, public interest organizations, other state and Federal agencies, and the international community.

The National Toxicology Program established the Center and ICCVAM to fulfill specific mandates provided to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences by Public Law 103–43, Section 1301. The NIEHS was directed to (1) develop and validate toxicological testing methods, including alternative methods that can reduce or eliminate the use of animals in acute or chronic toxicity testing, (2) establish criteria for the validation and regulatory acceptance of alternative testing methods, and (3)

recommend a process through which scientifically validated alternative methods can be accepted for regulatory use. Criteria and processes for validation and regulatory acceptance were developed in conjunction with 14 other Federal agencies and programs with broad input from the public. These are described in the document “Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Toxicological Test Methods: A Report of the Ad Hoc Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods” NIH publication 97–3981, March 1997, which is available on the internet at <http://ntp-server.niehs.nih.gov/htdocs/ICCVAM/ICCVAM/html>, or by request to the Center at the address provided below.

A standing Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) was subsequently established as a collaborative effort by NIEHS and 13 other Federal regulatory and research agencies and programs. The ICCVAM facilitates cross-agency communication and coordination on issues relating to validation, acceptance, and national/international harmonization of toxicological test methods. The ICCVAM works with the Center to carry out the scientific review of proposed methods of multi-agency interest, and provides recommendations regarding their usefulness to appropriate agencies. The ICCVAM also provides a mechanism for interagency communication with stakeholders throughout the process of test method development and validation. The following Federal regulatory and research agencies and organizations are participating in this effort:

Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Department of Defense  
Department of Energy  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
Food and Drug Administration  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health/CDC  
National Institutes of Health  
National Cancer Institute  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
National Library of Medicine  
Department of the Interior  
Department of Labor  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
Department of Transportation  
Research and Special Programs Administration  
Environmental Protection Agency

The Center was established to provide operational support for the ICCVAM