



NIA Office of Special Population: Working Toward Health Equity in Partnership with Programmatic Divisions and Beyond

Patricia Jones DrPH, MPH, MS, MBA

Director, Office of Special Populations, National Institute on Aging



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Introduction to NIA

The National Institute on Aging

- NIA leads a broad scientific effort to understand the nature of aging and to extend the healthy, active years of life.
- Established in 1974.
- The primary federal agency supporting and conducting Alzheimer's disease research.
- Total budget: \$3.899 billion for FY 2021.



**National Institute
on Aging**

NIA's Mission

- Support and conduct genetic, biological, clinical, behavioral, social, and economic research on aging.
- Foster the development of research and scientists (e.g., clinician, Public Health, etc.) in aging.
- Provide research resources.
- Disseminate information about aging and advances in research to the public, health care professionals, and the scientific community, among a variety of audiences.

NIA Strategic Directions for Research (2020—2025)

- Serve as a point of reference for NIA's research priorities over a five-year period, in addition to providing a framework for assessing research progress across that time.
- Encompass the following broad goals:
 1. To understand the dynamics of the aging process;
 2. To improve the health, well-being, and independence of adults as they age;
 3. To support the research enterprise

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/about/aging-strategic-directions-research>



Budgetary Updates

FY 2021 Budget: Funding Increases Across the Board

**\$42.9 Billion
for NIH**

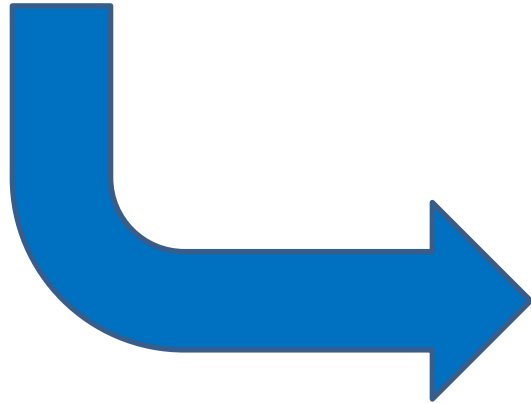


\$500M for All of Us

\$560M for BRAIN

\$65M for Down Syndrome

\$300M increase for AD/ADRD (\$3.1B total)



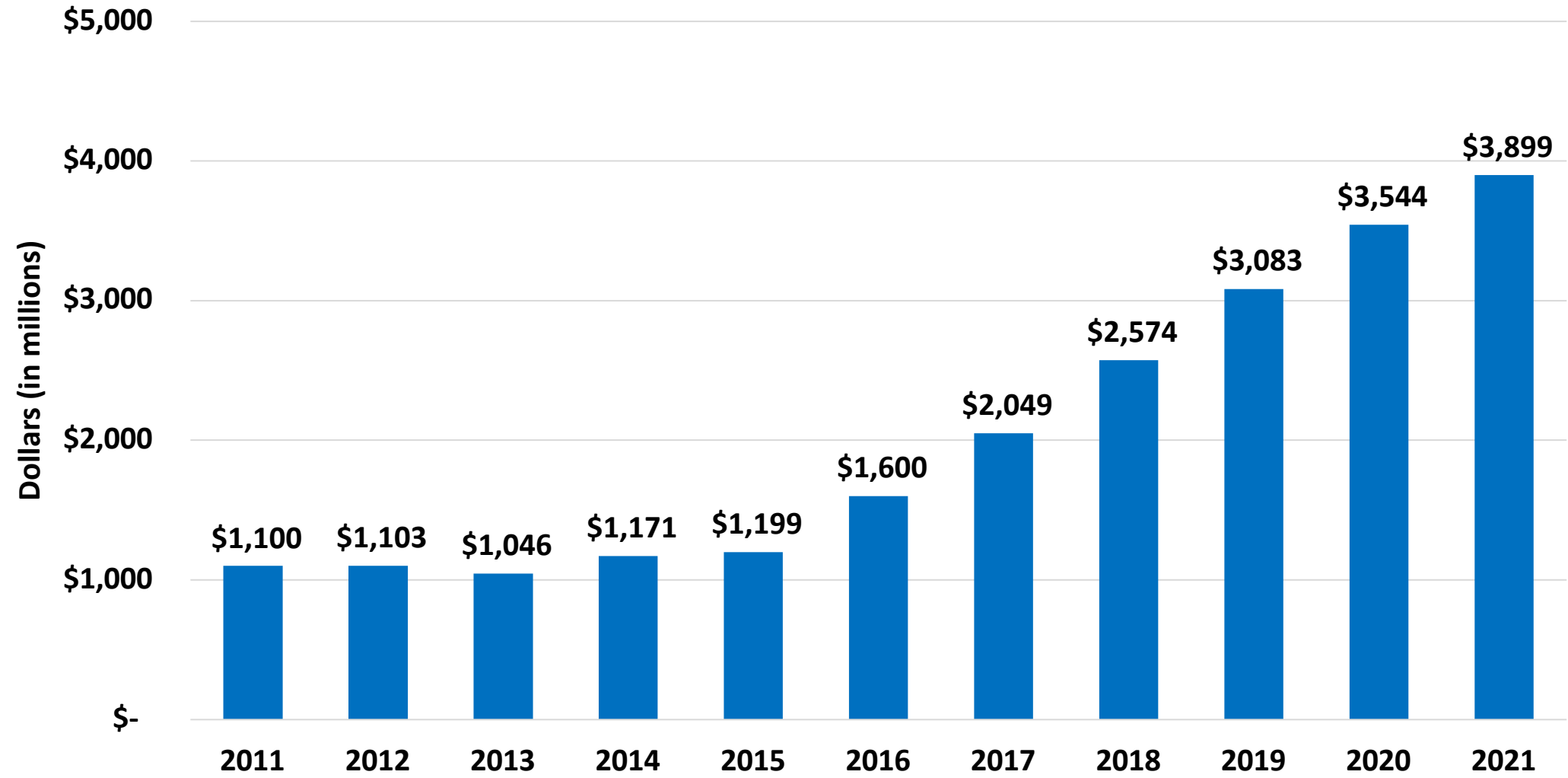
- **\$3.899B for NIA**
- 1.57% base increase
 - \$40.6M for AD/ADRD
 - \$14.9M for non-targeted NIA research
- **All divisions will benefit: DAB, DBSR, DN, DGCG**

FY 2022 Budget Status

- The **President's Budget** was released on May 28, 2021.
 - Proposes **\$51B for NIH**, a \$9B increase over the FY 2021 enacted level.
 - The \$9B ask includes \$6.5B to establish the **Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)**, which would initially “focus on **cancer** and other diseases such as **diabetes** and **Alzheimer's**.”
 - Includes **\$4.036B for NIA**, an increase of \$135.7M over the FY 2021 enacted level.
- **Senate and House FY 2022 appropriations bills:**
 - On July 29, 2021, the House passed its Labor-HHS appropriations bill, which provides \$49.4B for NIH, an increase of \$7B over the FY 2021 enacted level, including:
 - \$3B for ARPA-H
 - **\$4.258B for NIA (includes an additional \$200M for AD/ADRD research)**
 - The Senate has not released its FY22 Labor-HHS appropriations bill.
- The federal government is **currently funded through December 3, 2021**, via a Continuing Resolution.

NIA Appropriations

Fiscal Years 2011-2021



NIA AD/ADRD Appropriations

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA)	\$50 M* redirected within NIH budget	\$40 M* redirected within NIH budget	\$100 M additional approp.	\$25 M additional approp.	\$350 M additional approp.	\$400 M additional approp.	\$414 M additional approp.	\$425 M additional approp.	\$350 M additional approp.	



\$300M in additional appropriations as of 12/27/20

*One-year money
Years displayed are fiscal years

Recruitment to a Growing AD/ADRD Workforce

- ~**1/3** of NIA's Alzheimer's disease and related dementias awardees from Fiscal Year 2015—2020 were either **new or early-stage** investigators.
- ~**1/4** of NIA's Alzheimer's disease and related dementias awardees were **new to the field**.

NIA Scientific OD Offices, Programmatic Divisions, Intramural Research Program

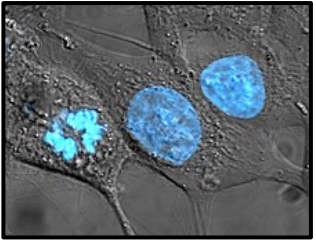
Office of Special Populations

- Catalyze research across the Institute and beyond NIA (e.g., NIH trans-agency initiatives, HHS initiatives, other stakeholders vested in advancing aging research)
- Promote redressing health disparities by encouraging aging research that investigates differences in life expectancy among populations and research that identifies factors that lead to disparate in health outcomes among older persons.
- Works across the Institute to support and strengthen the NIA mission in understanding and redressing health disparities for marginalized groups including sexual/gender minority persons, older women, underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, and persons with disabilities in aging research.
- Serve as Executive Secretary to Task Force on Minority Aging Research- component of the National Advisory Council on Aging (NACA)
- Support pathway toward more diverse biomedical workforce
 - Butler-Williams Scholars Program (rich 30+ year history in aging research)
 - Co-Chair, NIA Diversity Supplement Committee
 - NIA Annual Director's Regional Meeting to make institutions with less aging research funding better aware of funding opportunities

Division of Aging Biology

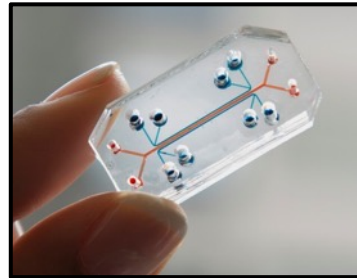
BASIC

Discovery of molecular mechanisms of aging.



APPLIED

Develop analytical tools and resources.



TRANSLATIONAL

... research for healthy aging.



Division of Behavioral and Social Research

- **Elucidate the pathways** by which social, psychological, economic, and behavioral factors affect health at older ages
- **Identify the causal mechanisms** driving these associations
- **Target these mechanisms** to modify individual and organizational behaviors to promote health, prevent disease, and optimize health care
- **Cross-cutting themes:**
 - Understanding and Addressing Health Disparities
 - Life Course Perspective on Aging Processes
 - Biobehavioral and Biosocial Integration
- [Data Resources](#)
- [Research Networks](#)
- [Centers: RCMAR, Roybal, Demography & Economics](#)

Alzheimer's-related Research in BSR



Director: Lis Nielsen, Ph.D.
lisbeth.nielsen@nih.gov

Deputy Director: Dana Plude, Ph.D.
Dana.plude@mail.nih.gov

Division of Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology

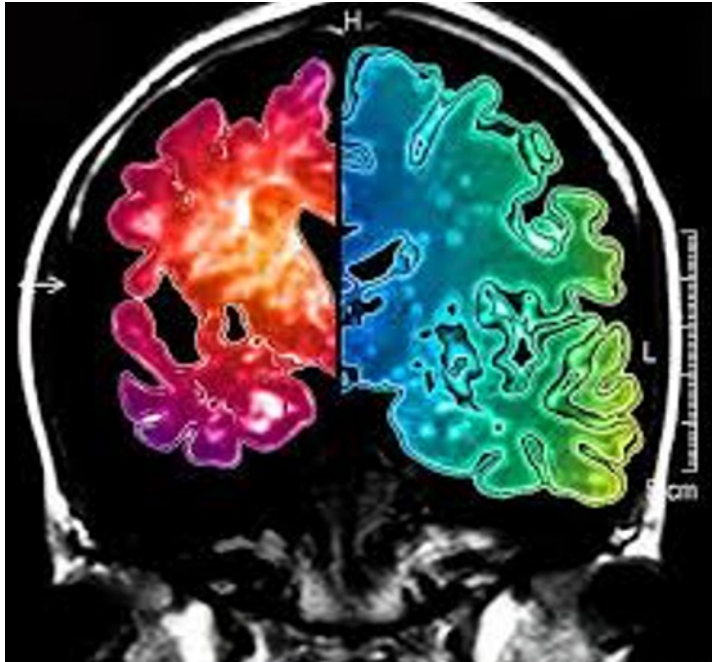
- Maintaining health and independence in older age
- Improving functional abilities in older age
- Coexisting conditions
- Aging across the life span; exceptionally healthy aging
- Aging mechanisms influencing health span and longevity
- Clinical trials: Prevention and treatment



Director: Evan Hadley, M.D.
ehadley@nih.gov

Deputy Director: Winifred Rossi, M.A.
rossiw@nia.nih.gov

Division of Neuroscience



Director: Eliezer Masliah, M.D.
eliezer.masliah@nih.gov

Deputy Director: Jennie Larkin, Ph.D.
jennie.larkin@nih.gov

To advance research leading to better understanding of the mechanisms of brain aging and Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias (LBD, Vascular, FTD, Mixed)

Population Studies and Genetics Branch

ADSP, NIGADS, ADGC, GCAD, AI/ML Harmonization, Epidemiology Cohorts

Neurobiology of Aging and Neurodegeneration Branch

IPSC's, BRAIN, Connectome, Pathogenesis Sleep, Circadian, Infectious agents

Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience Branch

Cognitive aging/MCI, NIH Toolbox, resilience, Somatosensory, Pain, Delirium

Translational Research Branch

Clinical Interventions and Diagnostics Branch

ADRCs, NACC, NCRAD, AMP-AD, MOVE-AD, MODEL-AD, DIAN, ACTC, ADNI, TREAT-AD, ALZ-Ped, AD Neurotherapeutics, ABC-DS, BPN, MOVE-AD, Resilience-AD, NPS-AD

Strategic Development and Partnerships Office

Intramural Research Program

- Multidisciplinary research program focused on:
 - Studying **biological, phenotypic, and functional** manifestations of aging.
 - Uncovering **mechanisms that can maximize health span and active life expectancy**.
 - Understanding the **complex relationship between aging and chronic disease**, with a focus on multimorbidity.
 - Understanding **the role of genetic, demographic, cultural, environmental, and behavioral factors** that affect trajectories of aging.
- 10 scientific laboratories and specialized branches for clinical research located in Baltimore and Bethesda.



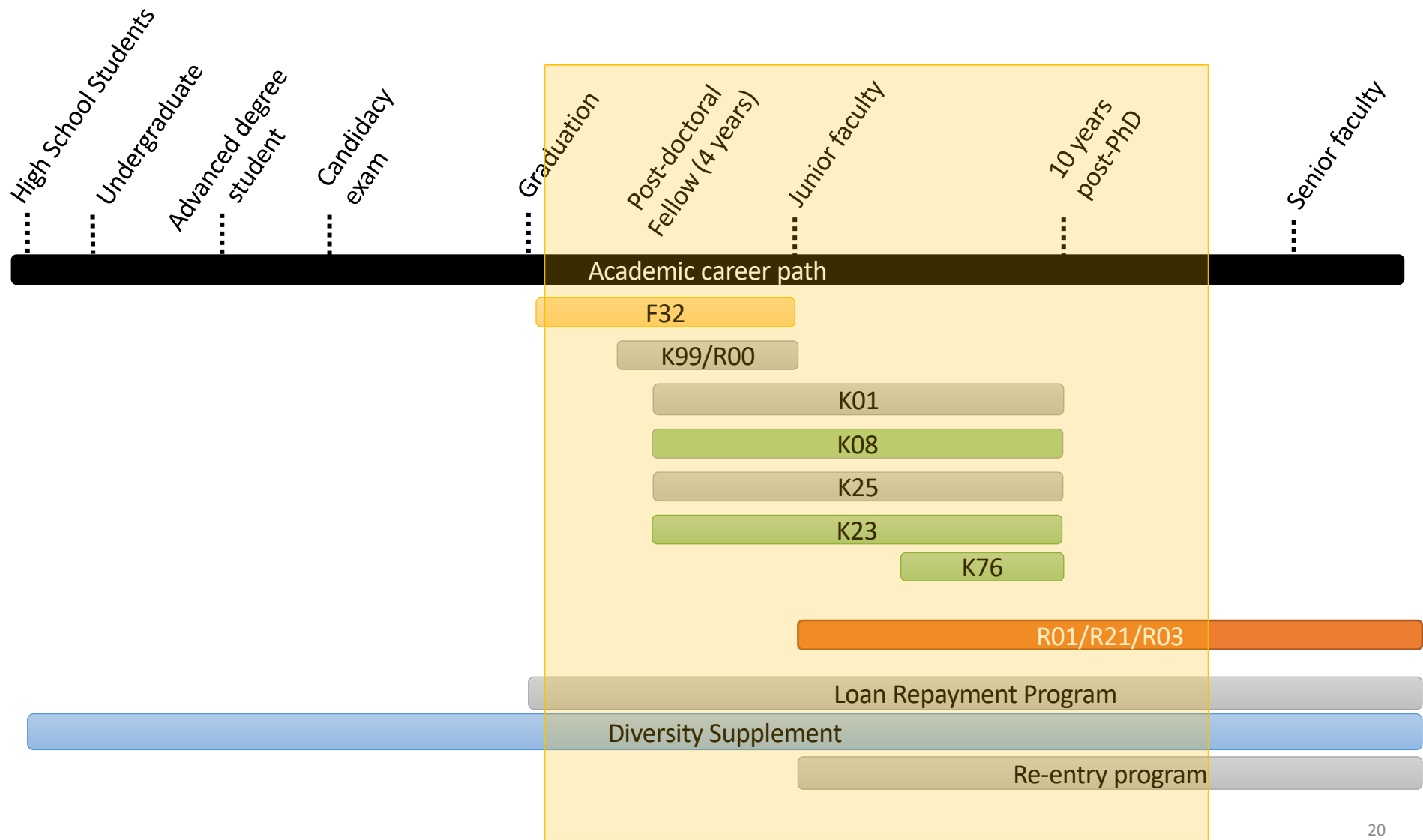
Scientific Director: Luigi Ferrucci, M.D., Ph.D.

Ferruccilu@grc.nia.nih.gov

Deputy Director: Michele K. Evans, M.D.

me42v@nih.gov

NIA Training/Career Development FOAs and Resources



Training/Career Development Opportunities & Resources

- **NIA Training and Career Development:**
 - <https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/training>
- **NIA New and Early-Stage Investigators**
 - <https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/grants-funding/nia-new-and-early-stage-investigators>
- **NIA Grants & Funding**
 - <https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/grants-funding>
- **Sample Applications:**
 - <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications>
- **NIA Training Officer:** Dr. Maria Carranza, Division of Extramural Affairs
Email address: maria.carranza@nih.gov

Diversity and Early Career Researchers

NIH-Wide Programs

For PhD Students

- F31 Diversity Predoctoral Fellowship (PA-21-052)
- T32 Institutional Training Awards Diversity Add-on Slots (PAR-21-112)
- BRAIN Initiative F99 Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Transition (RFA-NS-21-012)

For Postdocs

- BRAIN Initiative K99 Pathway to Independence Award (RFA-NS-19-043, 044)
- MOSAIC K99 (PAR-21-271, 272, 273)

For ESIs

- **Research Supplements to Promote Diversity (PA-21-071)**
- **Katz Early Stage Investigator R01 (PAR-21-038, 039)**

Diversity and Early Career Researchers

NIA-Specific Programs

For PhD Students

- R36 Aging Research Dissertation Awards to Increase Diversity (PAR-19-394)

For ESIs

- Butler Williams Scholars Program
- GEMSSTAR Medical Transition to Aging Research (RFA-AG-22-027)
- K76 Beeson Emerging Leaders Award in Aging (RFA-AG-21-020, 021)

For AD/ADRD

- Diversity in Translational Research for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias F31 (PAR-21-218), F32 (PAR-21-217), K99/R00 (PAR-21-220)
- Small Research Grants for the Next Generation of Clinical Researchers in AD/ADRD (PAS-19-391, 392, 393)

NIH/NIA Initiatives & Announcements

NIH's Commitment to Ending Structural Racism



- NIH is committed to instituting new ways to support diversity, equity, and inclusion, and identifying and dismantling any policies and practices that may harm our workforce and our science.
- NIH established the **UNITE** initiative to address structural racism in biomedical research with the goal of ending racial inequity.
- Primary goals of the initiative are:
 - U** Understanding stakeholder experiences through listening and learning
 - N** New research on health disparities, minority health, and health equities
 - I** Improving the NIH culture and structure for equity, inclusion and excellence
 - T** Transparency, communication, and accountability with our internal and external stakeholders
 - E** Extramural research ecosystem: changing policy, culture and structure to promote workforce diversity

NIA Participation:

Melissa Espinoza- I Committee

Dr. Michele Evans- N Committee

Dr. Patricia Jones- E Committee

nih.gov/ending-structural-racism

NIH Common Fund: Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities

- The Common Fund’s initiative in health disparities research complements NIH [UNITE](#) and other efforts throughout NIH to end racial inequities.
- Supports unusually innovative research projects that could have a major impact in developing, disseminating, or implementing innovative and effective interventions that prevent, reduce, or eliminate health disparities and health inequities.
- **Notice of Intent to Re-issue RFA-RM-21-022**
 - The purpose of this Notice is to indicate the intent to re-issue [RFA-RM-21-022](#) “Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity at Minority Serving Institutions (U01 Clinical Trial Allowed).
 - NIA Representatives: Patricia Jones; Lis Nielsen



Common Fund Lead/Point of Contact:

Dr. Cheryl A. Boyce

NIH Scientific Workforce Diversity Office

Diversity Catalysts

- NIH Diversity Catalyst have in-depth knowledge of their IC and a deep commitment to diversity/inclusion, convene thought and experiences on scientific workforce diversity and then transform that thought into action.
- Provide rapid and effective input to Scientific Workforce Diversity (SWD) at early stages of diversity/inclusion strategy development
- Provide assistance in tailoring diversity/inclusion initiatives to specific IC cultures
- Facilitate implementation and evaluation of evidence-based diversity/inclusion strategies within and across ICs
- OSP Director, Extramural Diversity Catalyst

NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL)



NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL)

- CEAL Teams provide trustworthy, science-based information through active community engagement and outreach to the people hardest-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, with the goal of building long-lasting partnerships as well as improving diversity and inclusion in our research response to COVID-19.
- NIH IC representatives work with NHLBI and NIMHD to facilitate CEAL's NIH-wide community engagement efforts focused on addressing the major impacts of COVID-19 on specific communities.
- OSP Director, Represents NIA on Inclusive Participation Working Group

Other Ways to Connect with the National Institute on Aging



Subscribe and see our recent post on [research workforce diversity](#).

Recent Examples of NIA Blogs Addressing Timely Topics

Unyielding commitments to research workforce diversity

September 29, 2021

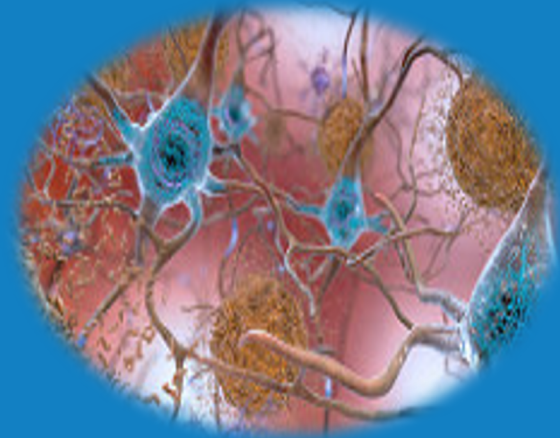
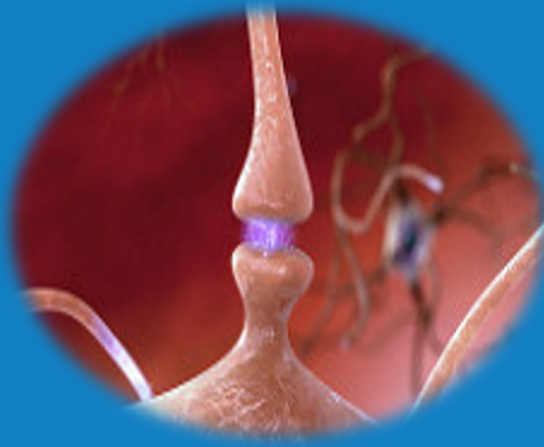
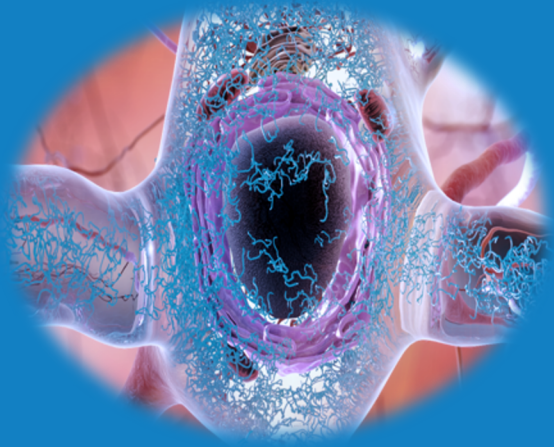
Forging a new path: Aging researchers' role in ending structural racism and discrimination

April 21, 2021

#ResearchDiversity Day Twitter Chat



Join us on Oct 21, 2021, at
1-2PM ET
[@Alzheimers_NIH](#)



NIA

The Leader in Aging Research

