



FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller, IV
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

The NIH has undertaken a transparent planning process involving consultation with a large number of experts and stakeholders. We received extensive valuable feedback on the NCRR Task Force's straw model, and the proposal has now been revised. The Task Force now recommends placement of the IDeA program in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). In addition to augmenting institutional biomedical capacity, IDeA programs also support investigator-initiated research projects that are designed to strengthen future applications. Most of the projects supported in this way are basic science in nature. There is much similarity in the goals of IDeA and the mission of NIGMS. In addition to its core mission to support basic biomedical research, NIGMS has developed long-standing programs focused on capacity building of institutions and career development of individuals. It is for these reasons that the Task Force determined that the placement of IDeA in NIGMS would add additional scientific synergies and support to the program.

I would like to emphasize that each of the programs at NCRR will be placed in an appropriate site, along with the program staff who have administered these programs. There have never been any plans to eliminate any programs at NCRR as a result of this proposed reorganization, especially a successful program such as IDeA. I am committed to ensuring the success of the IDeA program by transferring it to an Institute that will optimize scientific synergies.

It is my hope that this letter resolves your concerns; however, if you still would like a briefing, please let me know. An identical letter is being sent to the other signatories of your letter.

Sincerely yours,

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Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director



FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

The NIH has undertaken a transparent planning process involving consultation with a large number of experts and stakeholders. We received extensive valuable feedback on the NCRR Task Force's straw model, and the proposal has now been revised. The Task Force now recommends placement of the IDeA program in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). In addition to augmenting institutional biomedical capacity, IDeA programs also support investigator-initiated research projects that are designed to strengthen future applications. Most of the projects supported in this way are basic science in nature. There is much similarity in the goals of IDeA and the mission of NIGMS. In addition to its core mission to support basic biomedical research, NIGMS has developed long-standing programs focused on capacity building of institutions and career development of individuals. It is for these reasons that the Task Force determined that the placement of IDeA in NIGMS would add additional scientific synergies and support to the program.

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Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director



FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Ben Nelson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

The NIH has undertaken a transparent planning process involving consultation with a large number of experts and stakeholders. We received extensive valuable feedback on the NCRR Task Force's straw model, and the proposal has now been revised. The Task Force now recommends placement of the IDeA program in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). In addition to augmenting institutional biomedical capacity, IDeA programs also support investigator-initiated research projects that are designed to strengthen future applications. Most of the projects supported in this way are basic science in nature. There is much similarity in the goals of IDeA and the mission of NIGMS. In addition to its core mission to support basic biomedical research, NIGMS has developed long-standing programs focused on capacity building of institutions and career development of individuals. It is for these reasons that the Task Force determined that the placement of IDeA in NIGMS would add additional scientific synergies and support to the program.

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Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director



FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Mike Johanns
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Johanns:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

The NIH has undertaken a transparent planning process involving consultation with a large number of experts and stakeholders. We received extensive valuable feedback on the NCRR Task Force's straw model, and the proposal has now been revised. The Task Force now recommends placement of the IDeA program in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). In addition to augmenting institutional biomedical capacity, IDeA programs also support investigator-initiated research projects that are designed to strengthen future applications. Most of the projects supported in this way are basic science in nature. There is much similarity in the goals of IDeA and the mission of NIGMS. In addition to its core mission to support basic biomedical research, NIGMS has developed long-standing programs focused on capacity building of institutions and career development of individuals. It is for these reasons that the Task Force determined that the placement of IDeA in NIGMS would add additional scientific synergies and support to the program.

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FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

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National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Mark Begich
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Begich:

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FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Thad Cochran
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cochran:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

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FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Christopher Coons
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Coons:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

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FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Max Baucus
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baucus:

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Director



FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Jon Tester
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tester:

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Director



FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

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FEB 16 2011

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boozman:

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Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director



FEB 16 2011

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the National Institutes of Health's proposed reorganization to establish the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and plans for the Institutional Development Award Program (IDeA), now located within the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

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FEB 16 2011

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sanders

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Director



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The Honorable Kent Conrad
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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The Honorable Tim Johnson
United States Senate
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