

National Academies Contract Review  
Fiscal Year 2008

Office of Science Policy Analysis  
Office of Science Policy  
Office of the Director  
National Institutes of Health

## Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	iii
I. The National Academies .....	1
II. The NIH Contract with the National Academies .....	2
III. The Contract during Fiscal Year 2008.....	4
A. Types of Task Orders.....	4
B. Task Order Origin .....	6
C. Task Order Status.....	6
D. Sponsorship.....	7
E. 2008 Cost .....	9
F. National Academies Participants .....	10
G. Deliverables and their Significance .....	12
IV. A Brief Summary of a Few Task Orders that Began in Fiscal Year 2008.....	13
A. Technical Input on Any Additional Studies to Assess Risk Associated with Operation of the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratory .....	13
B. A New Biology for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century: Ensuring that the United States Leads the Coming Biology Revolution.....	14
C. Improving Cost Projections for the Medicare Population .....	15
V. A Few Examples of Task Orders Completed in Fiscal Year 2008 .....	15
A. Confidentiality Issues Arising from the Integration of Remotely Sensed Data with Social Science Survey and Other Self-Identifying Data .....	16
B. Psychosocial Services to Cancer Patients/Families in a Community Setting .....	17
C. Reviewing the National Children’s Study Research Plan.....	18
VI. A Complete List of Task Orders Active during Fiscal Year 2008 .....	19
A. Fogarty International Center .....	20
B. National Cancer Institute .....	20
C. National Center for Research Resources .....	22
D. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.....	22
E. National Institute on Aging.....	23
F. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases .....	27
G. National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering .....	28
H. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.....	29

I. National Institute on Drug Abuse .....	31
J. National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.....	32
K. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences .....	33
L. National Institute of General Medical Sciences.....	35
M. National Institute of Mental Health .....	36
N. National Library of Medicine .....	37
O. Office of the Director .....	38
VII. Contact Information for Key NIH Staff Involved with the Contract.....	48

## Executive Summary

NIH has a standing contract with the National Academies that allows NIH Institutes, Centers, and the Office of the Director to fund Academy activities to support the NIH mission. The Office of the Director's Office of Science Policy Analysis manages this contract, serves as liaison between the Academies and the NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices interested in funding tasks, and thus steers the Academies' work and reports to better serve the NIH mission and fulfill U.S. scientific, health, and policy needs.

The contract is not a source of funds. Rather, it is an agreement that NIH will fund future Academy activities. The contract allows NIH to issue "task orders," which can be added to the existing contract without going through the more arduous process of creating a new contract for each task. This type of contract enables NIH and the Academies to address pressing policy concerns, emerging public health issues, and scientific opportunities. Since the creation of the contract in 1994, over 200 task orders have been issued.

Using the contract is a fairly straightforward process. The steps involved include the following:

- Obtain a proposal from the National Academies (proposals can be solicited by NIH, initiated by the Academies, or mandated by Congress);
- Identify an NIH staff member to oversee the activity (the "task leader");
- Conduct a technical evaluation of the proposal;
- Resolve questions about the scope, approach, deliverables, and cost of the activity;
- Prepare and sign a task order;
- Transfer funds from the funding office to the contract;
- Monitor the progress of the task;
- Receive task deliverables, such as reports or summaries of workshops.

This report provides an overview of the status of the contract in fiscal year (FY) 2008, and begins here with a few key facts about it.

### *Active Task Orders:*

During FY 2008, 62 task orders were active, meaning that they began, were ongoing, or ended. More precisely, 17 began, 32 were ongoing from the previous year or years, and 13 were completed.<sup>1</sup> 31 of the 62 task orders were initiated by NIH, while 24 of them were initiated by the Academies. Four task orders were initiated by a joint effort between NIH and HHS. Congress mandated that three of the task orders be undertaken.

---

<sup>1</sup> See Figure 4 of this report for the breakdown.

### *Cost and NIH Sponsorship:*

NIH spent \$7,855,050 on these task orders during the fiscal year. Their total cost through the end of FY 2008 was \$31,514,647.<sup>2</sup> The OD led all of the ICs in principal sponsorship and in the amount of funds allocated.<sup>3</sup> It was the principal sponsor of 22 task orders, which cost \$3,106,087 in FY 2008 and \$10,992,899 overall. NIA led the second highest number of task orders. These nine task orders cost NIA \$970,467 in FY 2008 and \$3,685,461 overall. NIA was not the second highest spending principal sponsor, though. NIEHS spent \$5,852,437 on three task orders, \$850,000 of that in FY 2008. The OD tied NCRR, NIAID, NICHD, and NINDS for the highest number of secondary sponsorships,<sup>4</sup> but spend more than the others: \$175,000 in FY 2008 and \$1,791,950 overall. NINDS was the second highest spending secondary sponsor: its five task orders cost \$746,000 overall and \$100,000 in FY 2008.

### *Academies Sponsorship:*

Like NIH, the Academies also have specific units that lead task orders. Because many of these units report to more than one of the four main institutions within the Academies (i.e., the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council), this report organizes and presents the data based on the involvement of these smaller groups instead of that of the main institutions. Of these smaller units, the Board on Health Sciences Policy was the most active in FY 2008, leading eight of the task orders. The Board on Life Sciences and the Committee on National Statistics each led six, while the Food and Nutrition Board led five.<sup>5</sup>

### *Product Delivery and No-Cost Extensions:*

A key part of any task order is the delivery date. If an Academies' study group cannot complete the task order on time, it is required to notify the contract officer, project officer, and task leader of its intention to submit a request for a "no-cost extension" (NCE). This request must occur at least 60 days prior to the scheduled end date of the task. Of the 62 task orders active during FY 2008, 18 of them were granted NCEs. The Board on Life Sciences was granted the most—three. The Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice and the Committee on National Statistics were each granted two. Interestingly, the group that led the most task orders active in FY 2008, the Board on Health Sciences Policy, did not ask for any NCEs for these task orders.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> Much of this cost was for task orders that required ongoing or core support. See Figures 1 and 2 and the preceding text for more information.

<sup>3</sup> The following offices within the OD contributed funds: the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), the Office of Disease Prevention (ODP), the Office of Extramural Research (OER), the Office of Intramural Research (OIR), the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), and the Office of Science Policy (OSP).

<sup>4</sup> See Figures 5, 6, 7, and 8.

<sup>5</sup> See Figure 9.

<sup>6</sup> See Figure 10.

Each of the preceding highlights is addressed in more detail in the body of the report. It is divided into seven main parts. Part 1 provides some general information on the history and the organization of the National Academies. Part 2 describes the features of the NIH contract with the Academies. Part 3 provides FY 2008 data on a few key aspects of the contract. Part 4 gives a brief summary of a few task orders that began in FY 2008. Part 5 then describes a few task orders that were completed in FY 2008. Part 6 provides some key facts about each of the task orders that were active in FY 2008. The final part lists the contact information for the NIH staff responsible for the contract.

# National Academies Contract Review

## Fiscal Year 2008

Since 1994, the NIH's contract with the National Academies has played an important role in the exploration of key developments in science and technology, in promoting efforts to improve human health, and in the pursuit of creating a more just and beneficial national public policy. The accomplishments and related facts of this contract during fiscal year 2008 are the subject of this report. It begins with a description of the National Academies.

### **I. The National Academies**

The National Academies are a group of private, nonprofit institutions that provide technology, science, and health policy advice to stakeholders. While private, the Academies are federally chartered under Title 36 of the United States Code.<sup>7</sup> The Academies consist of four distinct institutions: the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council.

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) was the first of the four Academies to be established. This occurred on March 3, 1863, when President Lincoln signed an "Act of Incorporation," which mandated NAS to "investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art" whenever any government organization calls upon it to do so. The NAS is capable of conducting these investigations in part because it has the help of a cadre of domestic and foreign experts in science and technology, who are elected to be members or foreign associates of the NAS in recognition of their achievements in original research. Each is affiliated with one of the six NAS classes of science: physical and mathematical sciences; biological sciences; engineering and applied sciences; biomedical sciences; behavioral and social sciences; and applied biological, agricultural, and environmental sciences.<sup>8</sup>

By 1916, the scientific and technological needs of the United States had grown substantially, and the next of the four institutions—the National Research Council (NRC)—was created. Its mission is "to improve government decision making and public policy, increase public education and understanding, and promote the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge in matters involving science, engineering, technology, and health." The NRC plays a unique role among the four institutions. It functions under the auspices of the other three, which manage the actions of the NRC through the NRC Governing Board. The NRC has six program units: the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, the Division on Earth and Life Sciences, the Division on

---

<sup>7</sup> Title 36, Chapter 1503.

<sup>8</sup> See the NAS website, [www.nasonline.org](http://www.nasonline.org), for more information.

Engineering and Physical Sciences, the Institute of Medicine Programs, the Policy and Global Affairs Division, and the Transportation Research Board.<sup>9</sup>

A few decades passed before the Academies added another institute. In 1964, though, the Academies expanded again with the creation of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE). The NAE operates under the same Act of Incorporation that established the NAS. Its mission is “to promote the technological welfare of the nation by marshaling the knowledge and insights of eminent members of the engineering profession.” It consists of twelve sections: aerospace engineering; bioengineering; chemical engineering; civil engineering; computer science and engineering; electric power/energy systems engineering; electronics engineering; industrial, manufacturing, and operational systems engineering; materials engineering; mechanical engineering; earth resources engineering; and special fields and interdisciplinary engineering. The NAE not only responds to requests from the national government, it also conducts independent studies when they are deemed important and are not addressed in other, government-sponsored projects.<sup>10</sup>

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) was the last of the four to be established. It was added as a component of the NAS in 1970. The IOM was created to address issues related to medicine, biomedical science, and health, and is organized into eight oversight boards: the Board on African Science Academy Development (joint with NRC); the Board on Children, Youth, and Families (joint with NRC); the Food and Nutrition Board; the Board on Global Health; the Board on Health Care Services; the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice; the Board on Health Sciences Policy; and the Board on Military and Veterans Health. The IOM has the unique mission to serve as “adviser to the nation to improve health.” Most of the IOM’s work is sponsored by the federal government, but some is initiated by state and local governments, foundations, and private industry. The IOM also initiates studies itself.<sup>11</sup>

## **II. The NIH Contract with the National Academies**

Contract N01-OD-4-2139, which was created in 1994, is the main mechanism for the NIH as a whole to sponsor investigations by the Academies.<sup>12</sup> The contract is set to expire in 2011, but will be renewed in a revised form. It is considered a “task order contract,” which means that when an office at NIH requests the Academies to perform a service, a new “task” is added to the contract, as opposed to a new contract being created for each new task. There is no limit to the number of task orders that may be added. The

---

<sup>9</sup> See the NRC website, <http://sites.nationalacademies.org/nrc/index.htm>, for more information.

<sup>10</sup> For more information, see the NAE website, [www.nae.edu](http://www.nae.edu).

<sup>11</sup> See [www.iom.edu](http://www.iom.edu) for more information.

<sup>12</sup> There are a few other contracts with the Academies that are not a part of this umbrella contract:

1. NCI has one for \$2,500,000 called “Support for the National Cancer Policy Forum.”
2. NLM has one for \$75,000 called “Support for the Core Research Activities and Studies of the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board.”
3. NLM has another one for \$150,000 called “Core Support for Board on Research Data and Information.”
4. OIR has one for \$58,719,226 called “NIH Resident Research Association Program.”

These contracts are not discussed in this report.



contract is technically with NAS only. This does not mean that NAS is the only institute within the National Academies that is permitted to perform services for NIH; the other three are permitted under the contract to perform services as well. This only means that the formal negotiations and paperwork go through NAS.

Task orders can originate in four different ways, either by Congressional mandate, by NIH request, by joint NIH/HHS request, or by suggestion from the Academies. Congressional mandates are the least common of the four. They are typically connected to legislation, particularly legislation that aims at exploring a controversial issue, such as a morally or financially questionable endeavor. The legislation states that an outside, objective observer must review the NIH policy or procedure under question and report the findings back to Congress in a specified amount of time. The Academies are commonly called upon to play this role. A recent example of a task order that was mandated by Congress is Task Order (TO) 207, Scientific and Humane Issues in the Use of Random-Source Dogs and Cats for Research.

When NIH initiates a task, any of the Institutes, Centers, or the Office of the Director can submit to the Academies a “statement of work,” which, as the name suggests, describes what the NIH office would like the Academies to do and, in some instances, exactly how it should be done. Some task orders have been initiated in such a fashion, but it is in the best interest of the NIH to increase the number of statements of work, primarily because these statements will help the IC or OD office crystallize exactly what it hopes to accomplish with a task order, not to mention the fact that the statements will help the Academies better understand NIH needs. When an Academy receives a statement of work, it still sends the IC or OD office a proposal, but this proposal is based on the initial NIH statement of work.

Sometimes a proposal will be created through a joint effort between the NIH and another HHS office. Like a Congressional mandate, this mechanism is rarely used, but it is an excellent way for HHS and NIH to coordinate on subjects of mutual interest. One recent example of this is Task Order 212, Dietary Reference Intakes for Vitamin D and Calcium, which is a task order that was initiated by NIDDK and the HHS Office of the Secretary.

Another way to initiate a task order is for the Academies to submit a proposal directly to the ICs or OD office that might be interested in the proposed project. They typically describe the context out of which the idea for the task order proposal grew, how the Academies would address the issue in question, what the deliverables would be, who, on the Academies staff, would be involved in the project, how long the project would take, and how much it would cost. The benefit of an “unsolicited proposal” is that it is a prepackaged project that a busy NIH staff member can review and accept relatively quickly. The main drawback, however, is that, as a prepackaged project, an unsolicited proposal might not address the needs of the NIH as well as a proposal based on a carefully crafted statement of work.

The approval process for a proposal is the same regardless of how the proposal was initiated. The first step is for one NIH staff member to take the lead on the process. This person is designated the “task leader” and remains so throughout the task order unless he or she officially steps down. The task leader is responsible for negotiating the scope of work, conducting a cost realism analysis of the proposal, and conducting a technical evaluation of it, in accordance with contract guidelines. For projects exceeding \$500,000, the task leader must conduct a formal review, which consists of a panel of NIH staff members chosen by the task leader to assess the merits of the proposal.

If a proposal is deemed acceptable and an IC or OD office chooses to fund it, the next step of the process begins. The proposal, the cost realism analysis, and the technical evaluation are then given to the project officer. The project officer must complete a request for approval from the NIH Director’s representative called an “approval memo.” The project officer performs this function for every task order added to the contract. He or she also works with the task leader to ensure that the task leader is pleased with substance, the scope, and the cost of the task order. If difficulties arise during the performance of the task, the project officer helps facilitate interactions between NIH and the Academies’ representatives. Finally, the project officer works in conjunction with the contract officer to enforce the stipulations of the contract, such as deliverables or due dates.

If a proposal is approved by the NIH Director’s representative, the task order paperwork is then processed by the NIH contract officer, who must work with the IC or OD budget office to secure the funding necessary for the task, which can be done either incrementally or as a lump-sum. The contract officer is the legal representative for every task order that is a part of the contract. He or she has the power to grant or deny changes to the task order, including time extensions. Once a task order is approved, the contract officer is officially responsible for it.

### **III. The Contract during Fiscal Year 2008**

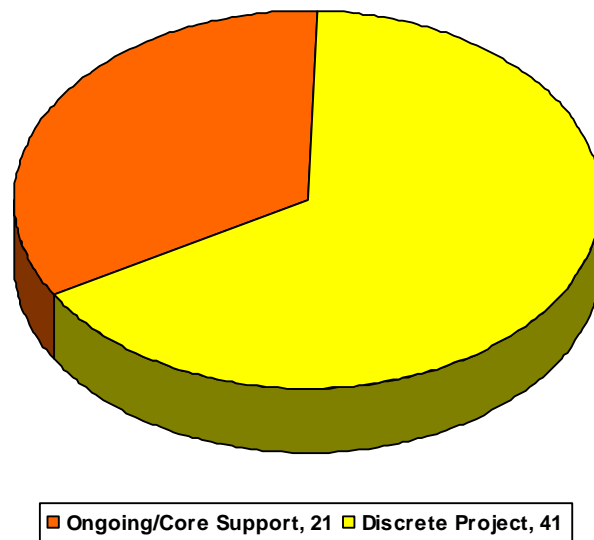
As mentioned, the process of creating a new task order has been carried out over 200 times since the establishment of the contract in 1994. This section narrows the focus of the report to those task orders that were active during fiscal year 2008. It begins by categorizing their types. It then divides them into groups based on how they were initiated. It next describes their status. Then it lists the ICs and OD offices that were sponsors of the task orders. After that, it compares how much was spent by each IC and OD office. Then it turns to the Academies side, and explains which groups within the Academies were involved in the active task orders. It ends with a brief discussion of task order deliverables and timelines, and their importance.

#### *A. Types of Task Orders*

Task orders can be divided into two main types: those that are discrete projects and those that provide ongoing or core support. The former typically focus on a specific, defined issue that they explore over a relatively short period of time, and they produce a report on

the subject toward the end of the agreed upon period of performance. A recent example of this type of task order is TO 177, Dietary Supplement Use by Military Personnel. The latter type consists of forums, roundtables, and standing committees. These groups usually receive funding over the course of a few years and explore various subjects during that time. If they produce documents, they are written and delivered during the period of performance, not solely at the end. An example of this type of task order is TO 32, Core Support for the Board on Life Sciences. 21 of the 62 task orders active in fiscal year 2008 were ongoing or core support. This is depicted in Figure 1. Figure 2 lists the Academies' groups that received funding through these 21 task orders.

**Figure 1: Task Orders by Type**



**Figure 2: Ongoing or Core Support Groups**

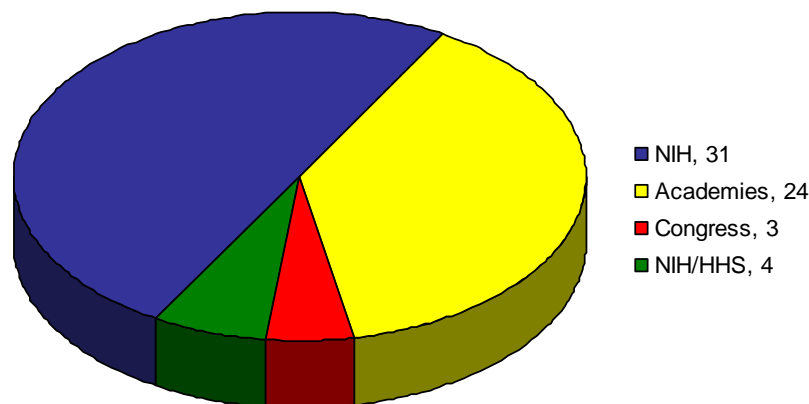
Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences	Food Forum	Roundtable on Biomedical Engineering Materials and Applications
Board on Life Sciences	Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation	Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine
Chemical Sciences Roundtable	Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events	Roundtable on Evidence-Based Medicine
Committee on Emerging Issues and Data in Environmental Contaminants	Forum on Microbial Threats	Roundtable on Health Literacy

Committee on National Statistics	Forum on Neuroscience and Nervous System Disorders	Roundtable on Translating Genomics-Based Research for Health
Committee on Population	Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable	Standing Committee on Use of Emerging Science for Environmental Health Decisions
Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy	International Affairs Committee - U.S. National Committee	US - China Roundtable on Scientific Data Cooperation

### B. Task Order Origin

As mentioned, task orders can be initiated in one of four ways. They can be solicited by the NIH using a statement of work, as in the case of TO 211, Science of Adolescence. They can be unsolicited proposals given to the NIH by the Academies, as in the case of TO 203, Roundtable on Evidence-Based Medicine. They can be mandated by Congress, as was TO 184, Reviewing the National Children’s Study Research Plan. Or, they can be co-introduced by the NIH and the Department of Health and Human Services. One example of this is TO 194, Understanding Divergent Trends in Longevity in High Income Countries. Regarding the 62 task orders active during FY 2008, 31 were introduced by NIH, 24 by the Academies, 3 by Congress, and 4 by NIH/HHS. Figure 3 depicts this breakdown.

**Figure 3: Task Order Origin**



### C. Task Order Status

In fiscal year 2008, 62 task orders were active. Of these, 17 were initiated. 32 were ongoing from the previous year or years, while 13 were completed. The longest running of the 62 is TO 25, Meetings of the Chemical Sciences Roundtable, which began in 1996. The most recently added task order was TO 215, Accelerating Research Discoveries and

Development of Orphan Products to Improve the Health of People with Rare Diseases, which began on September 29, 2008, two days before the beginning of FY 2009. Figure 4 lists the task orders that fall under each of the three categories.

**Figure 4: Task Order Status**

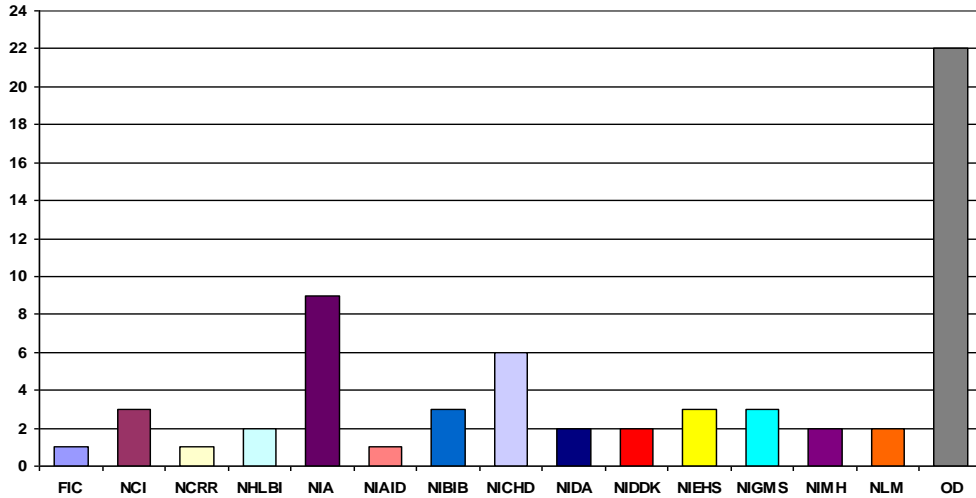
No.	Began	Ongoing	Completed
1	<b>TO 199</b> , 12/1/07 – 8/14/09	<b>TO 25</b> , 9/30/96 – 12/31/09	<b>TO 92</b> , 9/1/01 – 9/30/08
2	<b>TO 200</b> , 2/15/08 – 2/14/10	<b>TO 29</b> , 6/15/97 – 7/31/09	<b>TO 106</b> , 4/15/02 – 11/30/07
3	<b>TO 201</b> , 3/1/08 – 7/31/09	<b>TO 32</b> , 9/30/97 – 5/31/09	<b>TO 131</b> , 12/1/03 – 11/30/07
4	<b>TO 202</b> , 4/4/08 – 12/31/09	<b>TO 43</b> , 1/1/98 – 9/27/10	<b>TO 155</b> , 10/1/04 – 9/29/08
5	<b>TO 203</b> , 5/1/08 – 4/30/10	<b>TO 84</b> , 5/1/01 – 11/30/12	<b>TO 161</b> , 5/15/05 – 12/31/07
6	<b>TO 204</b> , 5/1/08 – 4/30/13	<b>TO 99</b> , 4/15/02 – 2/28/09	<b>TO 163</b> , 6/1/05 – 10/31/07
7	<b>TO 205</b> , 6/1/08 – 5/31/09	<b>TO 102</b> , 4/1/02 – 12/31/09	<b>TO 164</b> , 9/1/05 – 1/2/08
8	<b>TO 206</b> , 7/1/08 – 10/31/09	<b>TO 120</b> , 9/30/02 – 9/30/12	<b>TO 167</b> , 1/1/06 – 3/31/08
9	<b>TO 207</b> , 7/14/08 – 5/29/09	<b>TO 129</b> , 5/1/03 – 8/31/09	<b>TO 172</b> , 3/1/06 – 5/31/08
10	<b>TO 208</b> , 9/1/08 – 5/31/09	<b>TO 148</b> , 9/15/04 – 8/31/09	<b>TO 179</b> , 9/1/06 – 2/29/08
11	<b>TO 209</b> , 8/1/08 – 1/31/10	<b>TO 156</b> , 9/30/04 – 9/29/09	<b>TO 184</b> , 4/25/07 – 5/22/08
12	<b>TO 210</b> , 8/1/08 – 7/31/09	<b>TO 158</b> , 1/15/05 – 12/31/09	<b>TO 185</b> , 5/1/07 – 4/28/08
13	<b>TO 211</b> , 9/1/08 – 8/31/10	<b>TO 169</b> , 9/30/05 – 3/29/09	<b>TO 193</b> , 9/30/07 – 2/27/08
14	<b>TO 212</b> , 9/29/08 – 9/28/10	<b>TO 170</b> , 9/30/05 – 9/30/09	
15	<b>TO 213</b> , 9/18/08 – 4/18/10	<b>TO 175</b> , 7/1/06 – 1/31/10	
16	<b>TO 214</b> , 9/1/08 – 2/28/09	<b>TO 177</b> , 9/15/06 – 3/5/09	
17	<b>TO 215</b> , 9/29/08 – 3/31/11	<b>TO 178</b> , 9/15/06 – 5/14/09	
18		<b>TO 181</b> , 9/1/06 – 9/1/09	
19		<b>TO 182</b> , 10/1/06 – 4/1/09	
20		<b>TO 183</b> , 1/1/07 – 8/31/09	
21		<b>TO 186</b> , 8/1/07 – 3/31/09	
22		<b>TO 187</b> , 8/15/07 – 8/14/09	
23		<b>TO 188</b> , 9/1/07 – 2/28/10	
24		<b>TO 189</b> , 9/1/07 – 12/31/11	
25		<b>TO 190</b> , 9/1/07 – 3/31/10	
26		<b>TO 191</b> , 9/1/07 – 8/31/09	
27		<b>TO 192</b> , 9/10/07 – 7/28/09	
28		<b>TO 194</b> , 9/17/07 – 9/16/10	
29		<b>TO 195</b> , 9/10/07 – 9/9/09	
30		<b>TO 196</b> , 9/17/07 – 9/16/11	
31		<b>TO 197</b> , 9/21/07 – 9/20/09	
32		<b>TO 198</b> , 9/25/07 – 9/24/10	

#### *D. Sponsorship*

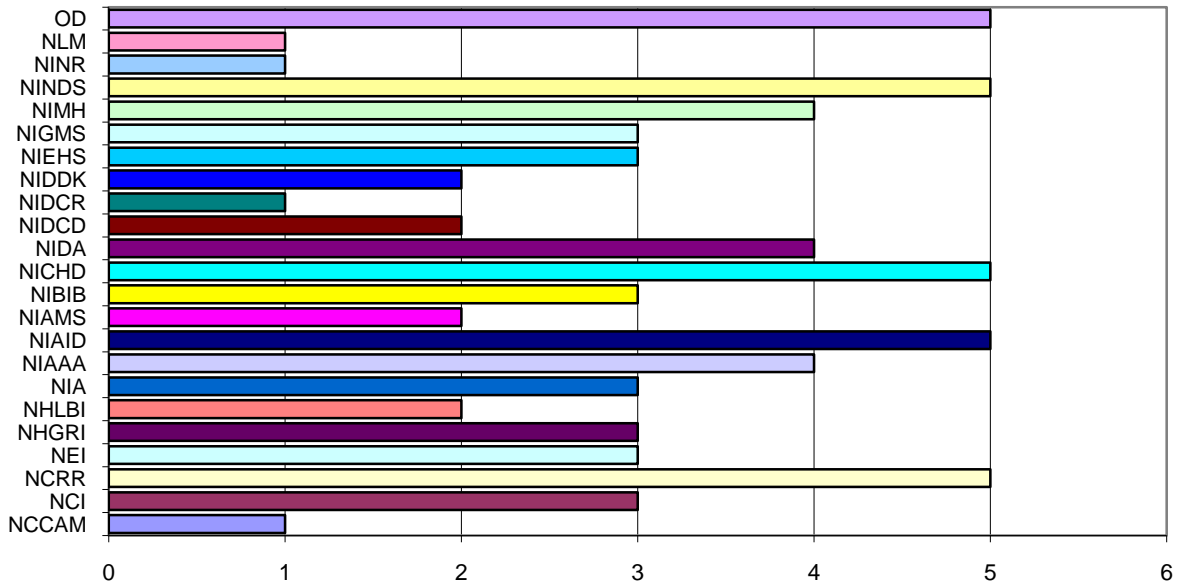
Each of the 27 ICs and the OD can be either a principal sponsor or a secondary sponsor of a task order. The principal sponsor leads the TO and is responsible for monitoring it, while the secondary sponsor typically only contributes funds. There is no limit to the number of secondary sponsors for a task. In FY 2008, NIH secondary sponsorship of an

individual task order varied from zero, at the lowest, to 17, at the highest. TO 161, Recognition and Alleviation of Distress in Laboratory Animals, had the most secondary sponsors out of the task orders active that year. Figure 5 shows the breakdown of NIH principal sponsors, while Figure 6 does the same for secondary sponsors.<sup>13</sup>

**Figure 5: Number of Task Orders by Principal Sponsor**



**Figure 6: Number of Task Orders by Secondary Sponsor**



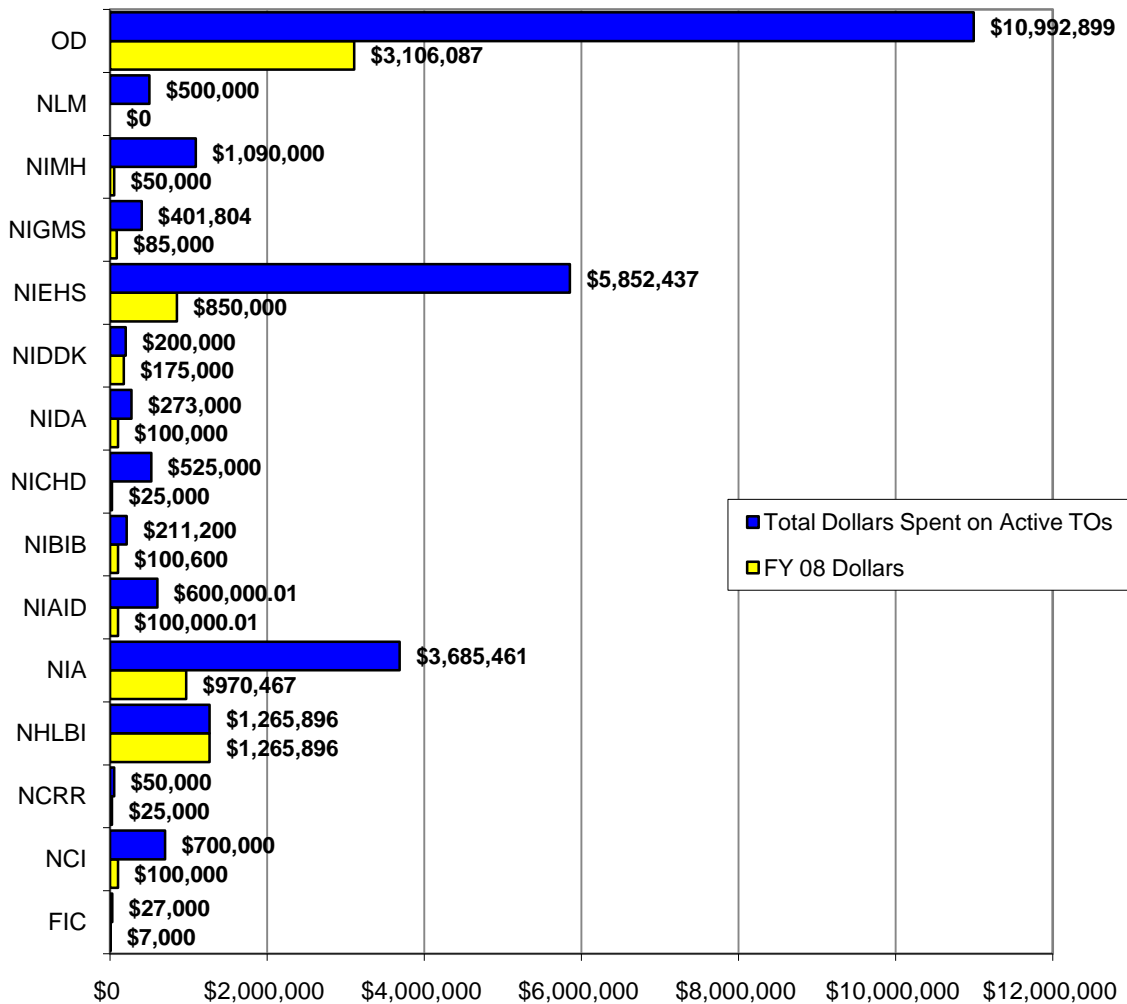
<sup>13</sup> As these figures show, the Office of the Director was the most frequent principal sponsor and tied for the most frequent secondary sponsor in FY 08. Within the OD, the following offices contributed funds: the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), the Office of Disease Prevention (ODP), the Office of Extramural Research (OER), the Office of Intramural Research (OIR), the Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH), and the Office of Science Policy (OSP).

Other departments and agencies in the federal government, state governments, non-profit organizations, and private groups also may sponsor an Academies project that the NIH is funding, but these organizations provide their own financial support and are not a part of the NIH task order. Because of this, the complete list of funders is not always provided to NIH prior to the initiation of a task order.

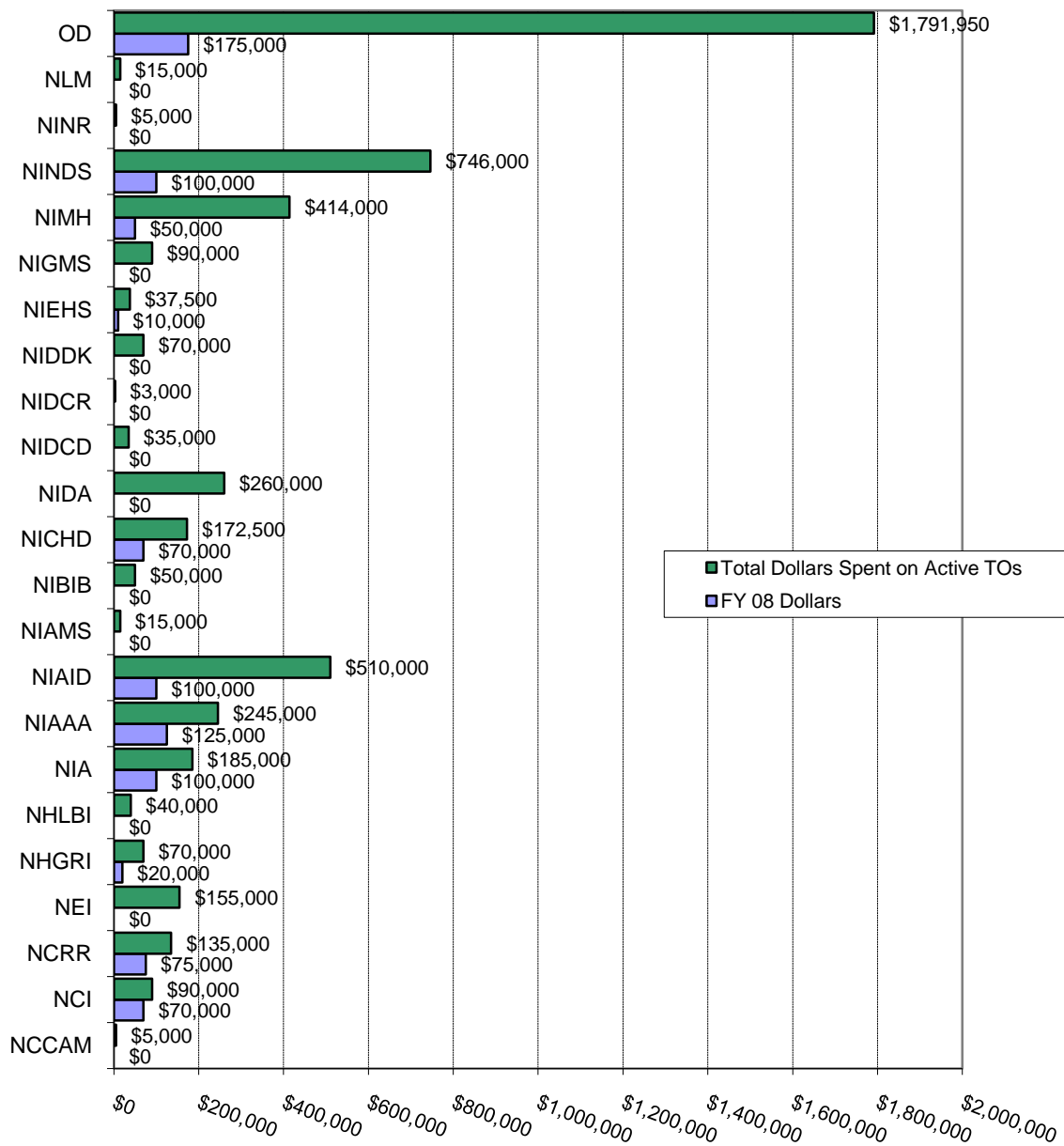
*E. 2008 Cost*

In fiscal year 2008, NIH spent \$7,855,050 on Academies projects. The overall cost of these task orders is \$31,514,647. Figure 7 provides a breakdown by principal sponsor, while Figure 8 does the same for secondary sponsors.

**Figure 7: Expenditures by Principal Sponsors**



**Figure 8: Expenditures by Secondary Sponsors**



*F. National Academies Participants*

There are many groups within the National Academies that have conducted panels or researched topics for the NIH. Here, the focus is on the groups that were involved with the 62 task orders active during fiscal year 2008. This information is presented Figure 9.



**Figure 9: Academies Subunits that Led Task Orders in FY 2008**

National Academies Subunit	Task Order	Total
Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences	120	1
Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology	25, 200	2
Board on Children, Youth, and Families	181, 185, 208, 211	4
Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology	106	1
Board on Global Health	129, 191, 206	3
Board on Health Care Services	167	1
Board on Health Sciences Policy	158, 164, 175, 186, 189, 198, 201, 215	8
Board on Higher Education and Workforce	170, 187	2
Board on International Scientific Organizations	183	1
Board on Life Sciences	32, 84, 172, 202, 204, 209	6
Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Application	190	1
Board on Physics and Astronomy	178	1
Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice	43, 148	2
Board on Science Education	199	1
Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy	99	1
Center for Education	179	1
Committee on the Human Dimensions of Global Change	131	1
Committee on National Statistics	156, 169, 184, 195, 197, 213	6
Committee on Population	92, 155, 194	3
Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy	102	1
Committee on Science, Technology, and Law	163	1
Committee on Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine	214	1
Computer Science and Telecommunications Board	182	1
Food and Nutrition Board	177, 192, 193, 196, 212	5
Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable	29	1
Institute for Laboratory Animal Research	161, 188, 205, 207	4
National Materials Advisory Board	210	1
Roundtable on Evidence-Based Medicine	203	1

### *G. Deliverables and their Significance*

Deliverables are what the NIH receives in return for funding a National Academies project. The deliverable that most task leaders are interested in is the one that is the force driving the creation of the task order in the first place, namely, the final product. Typically, this is a report that reflects the findings of the Academies' study group. Sometimes, though, there is not a final product, at least one like a report. As mentioned, a few task orders provide "core support" to a working group so that the group will discuss topics of interest to the NIH. An example of this kind of task order is TO 196, Partial Support of the Food Forum.

For those task orders that produce either a final report or an ongoing series of reports, a summary of salient results must be provided with the report itself. This deliverable is referenced in the contract and in each task order.<sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, this deliverable has been commonly overlooked by both the Academies and the NIH, so much so that NIH does not have reliable figures on how many summaries have been received over the years. Beginning in fiscal year 2009, this requirement will be strictly enforced.

Another important deliverable is the quarterly report. Every task order, regardless of the type of final product produced, is required to provide a quarterly report on the progress of the project. This helps the NIH task leader, project officer, contract officer, and even the NIH Director know what has been accomplished to date. The Academies also must provide a quarterly financial report, which explains how NIH funds are being spent. These reports are a main mechanism for holding the National Academies accountable for the federal dollars they are given.

If an Academies' study group cannot complete the task order on time, it is required to notify the contract officer, project officer, and task leader of its intention to submit a request for a "no-cost extension" (NCE) at least 60 days prior to the scheduled end date of the task. The contract officer has the sole power to grant or to decline the request.<sup>15</sup> This is a legal requirement that should not be disregarded. Technically, NIH can terminate the task order for default if the Academies do not provide all of the deliverables to NIH by the last day of the task order and an NCE has not been granted.

If the NIH contract officer decides to grant an NCE, the officer can request "consideration," or something in return for the time lost by the delay. This request has not been practiced with this contract, though. Nevertheless, NCEs should be avoided, if possible, to minimize loss of time to NIH. Figure 10 lists those who have been granted an NCE and how many times. The Figure is limited to task orders active in fiscal year 2008.

---

<sup>14</sup> Contract N01-OD-4-2139, Article C.2.

<sup>15</sup> Contract N01-OD-4-2139, Article H.3.

**Figure 10: No-Cost Extensions of Task Orders Active in FY 2008**

National Academies Subunit	Task Order	Total
Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology	25	1
Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology	106	1
Board on Health Care Services	167	1
Board on Life Sciences	32, 84, 172	3
Board on Physics and Astronomy	178	1
Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice	43, 148	2
Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy	99	1
Committee on the Human Dimensions of Global Change	131	1
Committee on National Statistics	169, 184	2
Committee on Population	155	1
Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy	102	1
Committee on Science, Technology, and Law	163	1
Food and Nutrition Board	177	1
Institute for Laboratory Animal Research	161	1

#### **IV. A Brief Summary of a Few Task Orders that Began in Fiscal Year 2008**

Of the 17 task orders that began in fiscal year 2008, three will be described here in order to highlight the variety among those that started during the year. These task orders are TO 202, Technical Input on Any Additional Studies to Assess Risk Associated with Operation of the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratory, Boston University; TO 209, A New Biology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Ensuring that the United States Leads the Coming Biology Revolution; and TO 213, Improving Cost Projections for the Medicare Population.

##### *A. Technical Input on Any Additional Studies to Assess Risk Associated with Operation of the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratory, Boston University (TO 202)<sup>16</sup>*

In 2003, NIH awarded the Boston University Medical Center \$128 million to construct a maximum containment laboratory for biological pathogen research. The National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratory (NEIDL) is a part of the NIAID's efforts to create the necessary infrastructure to conduct biodefense and emerging infectious disease research. The facility will include a biosafety level 4 lab—the highest level of safety precautions—and will house pathogens such as Ebola, plague, and Marburg, among

<sup>16</sup> Much of the material in this section is taken from the Academies proposal number 08-DELS-110-01, dated March 31, 2008.

others. The research conducted in this lab hopefully will lead to new or improved ways of preventing, diagnosing, and treating viral and bacterial diseases.

Some members of the local community where the NEIDL will be located have raised concerns about having such deadly pathogens in their neighborhood. Lawsuits were subsequently filed to stop the NEIDL from being built. In response, NIH prepared a risk assessment and site suitability report that supplemented its previous assessments of risk. The state of Massachusetts commissioned the NRC to provide technical input on that assessment. Released in November 2007, the NRC Committee's report was critical of the NIH assessment. In particular, it raised concerns about risk communication, scenario development, agent selection, modeling methodology, and consideration of environmental justice issues.

In March of 2008, the NIH created a Blue Ribbon Panel of outside experts to advise it on how to respond to concerns about the risks associated with the NEIDL. The Panel and the NIH have asked the NRC Committee that evaluated its earlier risk assessment to provide input as NIH responds to the public comments and judicial requests regarding the NEIDL and considers the scope of another supplementary risk assessment, if warranted. The NRC Committee will prepare a brief letter report summarizing its views on the scope and methodological approaches to be taken to improve any additional risk assessment studies the NIH might prepare and will discuss these views with the NIH Blue Ribbon Panel. This task order is being sponsored by the Office of Biotechnological Activities in the OD for \$274,390. It began on April 4, 2008, and is scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2009.

*B. A New Biology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Ensuring that the United States Leads the Coming Biology Revolution (TO 209)<sup>17</sup>*

Tremendous challenges face the United States and the world today. From environmental degradation to devastating chronic diseases, much depends on biological research and the knowledge and the interventions it produces. Traditionally, sub-disciplines within biology have each addressed different pieces of such issues. This can be seen both in academia and in the government. The time is ripe, though, to take advantage of the synergies between the different areas of biological research and look to "big science" type projects (similar in scale to the human genome project but broader in scope) that will require the biology community as a whole to work together and set shared priorities for research.

This task order, which is being sponsored by the Office of Science Policy Analysis of the OD, was created to address this issue. The Board of Life Sciences of the National Academies is overseeing the investigation. It has convened a committee to examine the current state of biological research in the United States and recommend how best to capitalize on recent technological and scientific advances that have allowed biologists to integrate biological research findings, collect and interpret vastly increased amounts of

---

<sup>17</sup> The material presented here on this task order comes from the Academies proposal number 08-DELS-195-01, which was submitted to NIH on June 18, 2008.

data, and predict the behavior of complex biological systems. Over the course of a year and a half, beginning on August 1, 2008, the committee is scheduled to meet five times to discuss the topic. At the end of that time, the committee will produce a report on its findings. This task order is expected to cost \$410,000.

### *C. Improving Cost Projections for the Medicare Population (TO 213)<sup>18</sup>*

Costing \$402 billion in 2006, Medicare is a tremendously expensive national program that is expected to become even more expensive in the upcoming years. An important part of knowing just how much Medicare will cost in the future is having accurate cost modeling programs. If available, these models also can be used to calculate the costs of health care policy alternatives, with the hope of discovering how best to address the Medicare cost problem.

Beginning on September 18, 2008, the Committee on National Statistics tackled this issue. The Committee's first responsibility was to appoint a group of experts who would then conduct a public workshop to identify research that might improve cost-projection models, and to address factors that drive health care spending more generally. The workshop participants have been assigned to consider a few related issues to complete this task, such as the trends in mortality and morbidity and how these trends affect projections of health care costs, medical technology as a driver of costs, and methods for comparing different models. By having the panel discuss and explore these issues and identify research that needs to be conducted, the workshop organizers hope to arrive at a clearer understanding of the advantages and the limitations of the main approaches to health care cost projections.

Once completed, the working group is to produce a summary of the workshop discussions. This summary is scheduled to be completed by April 18, 2010. NIA, the sole sponsor of this task order, is financing the study, which is expected to cost \$165,000.

## **V. A Few Examples of Task Orders Completed in Fiscal Year 2008**

Of the 62 task orders that were active during FY 2008, 14 were completed during the year. Like the preceding part, three task orders will be described in some detail here, not only to continue to demonstrate the variety of possible tasks but also to highlight the conclusions of three important recent studies. They are TO 131, Confidentiality Issues Arising from the Integration of Remotely Sensed Data with Social Science Survey and Other Self-Identifying Data; TO 167, Psychosocial Services to Cancer Patients/Families in a Community Setting; and TO 184, Reviewing the National Children's Study Research Plan.

---

<sup>18</sup> This section was based on the Academies proposal number 08-DBASSE-295-01. It was sent to NIH on August 1, 2008.

A. *Confidentiality Issues Arising from the Integration of Remotely Sensed Data with Social Science Survey and Other Self-Identifying Data (TO 131)*

This task order began on December 1, 2003, and ended on November 30, 2007. NICHD sponsored it for \$125,000. The Health Resources and Services Administration, of the Department of Health and Human Services, co-sponsored the task order. They contracted the Committee on the Human Dimensions of Global Change of the Academies to create a panel that would explore the implications of “when remotely sensed data are linked to social data in a geographic information system (GIS) in a spatially explicit way.”<sup>19</sup> Using the precise imagery produced by satellites, scientists can study important social questions from a geographical perspective. For example, remotely sensed data could be used to help social scientists explore the spatial dimensions of how families in the developing world spend their time securing the food they need to survive.<sup>20</sup> However, there are difficult tradeoffs regarding data quality and data sharing, on the one hand, and the confidentiality of participants, on the other. The panel explored these related empirical and ethical issues.

The product of the panel’s endeavor is the National Academies report *Putting People on the Map: Protecting Confidentiality with Linked Social-Spatial Data*. While noting the great benefits that might come from this burgeoning field, the report concludes that breaches of confidentiality remain a major issue, and it provides eight recommendations for how to address it. Brief summaries of these recommendations are as follows.

1. Those who sponsor the collection and analysis of social-spatial data should invest in research that explores procedures for disseminating the data in ways that protect confidentiality.
2. There should be increased efforts to educate researchers in the ethical use of spatial data.
3. Ethics training should accompany all methodological training in the use of spatial data.
4. Those organizations that successfully protect participant data should reach out to other groups that are less conversant in research with human participant protection issues to increase attention to them.
5. Primary researchers should design their studies in ways that not only take into account the disclosure risks and the obligation to share data but also protect participant confidentiality in the primary and the secondary use of the data.
6. Institutional Review Boards and their sponsors should have the expertise needed to make well-informed decisions regarding social-spatial data issues.
7. Data enclaves should be developed in order to provide broader access to high-quality data while preserving confidentiality.
8. Data stewards should create licensing agreements to increase access to social-spatial datasets that include confidential information.<sup>21</sup>

---

<sup>19</sup> National Academies proposal number 03-DBASSE-161-01, p. 2. Submitted to NIH on July 9, 2003.

<sup>20</sup> *Putting People on the Map: Protecting Confidentiality with Linked Social-Spatial Data*, p. 1.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 3-5.

Until technical solutions become available, the competing needs of high quality data, access to those data, and confidentiality for those involved must be addressed through such institutional mechanisms. Without these, either data access or participant confidentiality is at risk.

*B. Psychosocial Services to Cancer Patients/Families in a Community Setting (TO 167)*

Cancer treatments rightly tend to focus on fighting the cancer itself, but there is increasingly more interest in also tackling the associated psychological and social issues that patients commonly face, such as depression, lack of information regarding disease management, and disruptions in work, school, and family life. These issues can cause tremendous suffering and can, in fact, adversely impact how patients respond to their cancer treatments, and thus threaten their return to health.<sup>22</sup> A range of services have been created to address these problems, but they are not currently available to many cancer patients. NCI and the OD's Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research allocated \$991,950 to sponsor an investigation of this issue from January 1, 2006, to March 31, 2008. The IOM Board on Health Care Services conducted the investigation, which included an analysis of the capacity of the mental health and oncology provider system to deliver such care, and the resources needed to deliver the care nationwide. The Board also discussed available training programs for professionals providing psychosocial and mental health services as well as the challenges of existing barriers to the access of this kind of care.

The Board's study culminated in a report entitled *Cancer Care for the Whole Patient: Meeting Psychosocial Health Needs*. It recommends ten actions that health care providers who are involved with cancer treatments should undertake to ensure that cancer patients' related psychological and social needs are met. These recommendations are summarized here.

1. All those using standards for the quality of cancer care should use the following standard: "All cancer care should ensure the provision of appropriate psychosocial health services by facilitating effective communication between patients and care providers; identifying each patient's psychological health needs; designing and implementing a plan that links the patient with needed psychosocial services, coordinates biomedical and psychosocial care, [and] engages and supports patients in managing their illness and health; and systematically following up on, reevaluating, and adjusting plans."
2. All cancer care providers should make sure that every patient's care meets the standard for psychosocial care.
3. Patient advocacy groups should educate patients and their loved ones to expect the kind of care that meets the standard for psychosocial care.
4. The federal government should conduct studies on different approaches to the efficient provision of psychosocial health care in accordance with the standard.

---

<sup>22</sup> *Cancer Care for the Whole Patient: Meeting Psychosocial Health Needs*, p. 1.

5. Group purchasers of health care plans should support the interventions necessary to deliver effective psychosocial health services.
6. The federal government should fund research on the creation of performance measures for psychosocial cancer care.
7. Educational accrediting organizations, professional societies, the federal government, and organizations providing research funding should support the creation of and/or help create workforce competencies related to psychosocial care.
8. NIH and AHRQ should create a standardized nomenclature to facilitate research on and measurement of psychosocial interventions.
9. Organizations involved with oncology care research should fund the development of tools and strategies for use in the clinical setting to ensure that cancer patients are receiving the psychosocial care that meets the quality standard described in Recommendation 1.
10. NCI should monitor progress toward better delivery of psychosocial services in cancer care and report its findings.<sup>23</sup>

By implementing these or similar changes, much of the associated suffering cancer patients experience could be significantly reduced. Without them, cancer treatment more than likely will remain incomplete.

### *C. Reviewing the National Children's Study Research Plan (TO 184)*

NICHD sponsored this Congressionally mandated study by the Committee on National Statistics (NRC), the Board on Children, Youth, and Families (IOM, NRC), and the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practices (IOM) for \$350,000. These groups appointed a panel of experts to review the scientific rigor of the research plan for the National Children's Study.

The National Children's Study began after NICHD and a few other federal agencies were directed by Congress, through the Children's Health Act of 2000, to organize and conduct an investigation of the impact of certain environmental influences on the health and development of children. The study consists of following the development of 100,000 children from before birth until they turn 21 to hopefully better understand how genes and the environment interact to affect a child's health and development. "Environment" is defined broadly, and includes such factors as what the child eats, the daily care the child receives, the quality of the air and water the child is exposed to, and how often the child sees a medical practitioner. The ultimate goal is to learn how to improve child health.<sup>24</sup>

The Academies panel focused on the extent to which the National Children's Study is being carried out with the methods, measures, and collection of data and specimens that are necessary to maximize the scientific yield of it. The project took a little more than a year—from April 25, 2007, to May 22, 2008—for the panel to conduct its review and to

---

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., pp. 9-16.

<sup>24</sup> See the National Children's Study website, [www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov](http://www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov).



produce a report on its findings, which is entitled *The National Children's Study Research Plan: A Review*. The report concludes that if "the NCS is conducted as proposed, the database derived from the study should be valuable for investigating hypotheses described in the research plan as well as additional hypotheses that will evolve. Nevertheless, there are important weaknesses and shortcomings in the research plan that diminish the study's expected value below what it might be."<sup>25</sup> Some of these weaknesses include the absence of an adequate pilot phase; insufficient attention to racial, ethnic, and other disparities; and failure to plan adequately for disclosure of risk to participants.<sup>26</sup> The panel makes 33 recommendations in 23 areas on how the study could be improved. These recommendations are too many to list here, but a few will be given so that the reader has a sense of the kind of recommendations made. They state that the NCS should do the following:

1. Focus on finding ways to bolster the ability of the study to contribute to the understanding of health disparities among children in different racial and ethnic groups.
2. Seek resources and create methods to obtain more frequent data on study participants.
3. Develop a clearer rationale for its hypotheses about what might increase asthma incidence.
4. Consider adopting a broader approach in its study of childhood obesity that incorporates social and psychological factors as well as biogenetic ones.
5. Adopt a clear mechanism by which genetic association studies are validated before results are published.
6. Add measures of access to and quality of services, such as education and medical care, as potential mediators of health and development outcomes.
7. Engage communities in study implementation, data analysis, and data interpretation activities that go beyond recruitment.

These recommendations notwithstanding, the Academies panel is "eager for [the study] to succeed."<sup>27</sup>

## **VI. A Complete List of Task Orders Active during Fiscal Year 2008**

From these highlights, the report now turns to the complete list of the 62 task orders active in FY 2008 and provides a cursory overview of them. They are organized by principal sponsor. Each task order description provides the complete title, a brief summary of the task, the principal sponsor, NIH secondary sponsors, the task leader, the period of performance, the estimated multi-year cost, and the task origin.<sup>28</sup>

---

<sup>25</sup> National Academies Press website, [www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu).

<sup>26</sup> *The National Children's Study Research Plan: A Review*, pp. 3-6.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7.

<sup>28</sup> Much of this information is taken from the Academies' proposals.

A. *Fogarty International Center*

1. Task Order 191, Transforming the Case for American Commitment to Global Health: A Sequel to the 1997 IOM Report *America's Vital Interest in Global Health*

Summary: The Board on Global Health will convene a consensus committee to examine the case for why multiple elements of American society should invest in global health, what areas need the most attention, and how best to accomplish this objective. The committee will produce a report that addresses the case for a deeper commitment to global health and associated aspects of human development by Americans. The report will communicate specific conclusions and recommendations that will pertain to not only the government in general and individuals of variable economic means, but also the public health and scientific research communities, the multinational commercial sector, the diplomatic and national security communities, the media, new and established foundations, a range of elements from the university community, and non-governmental organizations.

Principal Sponsor: FIC

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NCCAM, NCI, NCRR, NEI, NHGRI, NHLBI, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIEHS, NIMH, NINDS

Task Leader: Karen Hofman

Period of Performance: 9/1/2007 - 8/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$250,000

Task Origin: National Academies

B. *National Cancer Institute*

1. Task Order 148, Roundtable on Health Literacy

Summary: The Board on Neuroscience and Behavioral Health will establish the Roundtable. Its purpose will be to foster dialogue and discussion in the hope of advancing the field of health literacy and improving the translation of research findings to health care, education, and policy. The Roundtable will strive to enhance mutual understanding of health literacy among the health community and the general public, and to provide a mechanism that fosters collaboration among stakeholders.

Principal Sponsor: NCI

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Sabra Woolley

Period of Performance: 9/15/2004 - 8/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$500,000  
Task Origin: NIH

2. Task Order 158, Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation

Summary: The Forum will provide a convening mechanism for academic, industrial, consumer, and federal research stakeholders to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest in a neutral setting regarding drug discovery, development, and translation. The Forum will focus on four priority themes: scientific challenges that require a coordinated response, public communication and engagement in clinical research, the role of the public and private sector in drug discovery and development, and alternatives to current business models. The Forum will address the entire drug discovery, development, and translation to clinical practice pipeline. It will strive to improve this system and provide a mechanism to foster collaboration among stakeholders.

Principal Sponsor: NCI  
NIH Secondary Sponsors: NCCR, NIAID, NIMH, NINDS, OD  
Task Leader: Kelly Fennington  
Period of Performance: 1/15/2005 - 12/31/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,675,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

3. Task Order 167, Psychosocial Services to Cancer Patients/Families in a Community Setting

Summary: The Board on Health Care Services will address the delivery of psychosocial services to cancer patients and their families in community settings. The study will produce a report that includes an analysis of the capacity of the current mental health and oncology provider system to deliver such care, and the resources needed to deliver the care nationwide. It also will discuss available training programs for professionals providing psychosocial and mental health services and existing barriers to access to such care. The report will include an action plan on how to overcome the barriers.

Principal Sponsor: NCI  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: OD  
Task Leader: Julia Rowland  
Period of Performance: 1/1/2006 - 3/31/2008  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$991,950  
Task Origin: National Academies

*C. National Center for Research Resources*

1. Task Order 190, Overcoming the Technical and Policy Constraints that Limit Large-Scale Data Integration

Summary: The Board on Mathematical Sciences and their Applications will appoint a committee that will conduct a study to compare the goals, approaches, accomplishments, and barriers to progress in data integration across the federal government. The committee will focus on large datasets, which cannot be easily transferred or searched with routine tools. The committee will organize two workshops on the topic and will produce a report based on the workshops.

Principal Sponsor: NCRR

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NIBIB, NIGMS, NLM

Task Leader: Michael Marron

Period of Performance: 9/1/2007 - 3/31/2010

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$100,000

Task Origin: National Academies

*D. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute*

1. Task Order 203, Roundtable on Evidence-Based Medicine

Summary: The Roundtable will help transform the way evidence on clinical effectiveness is generated and used to improve health and health care. Roundtable members have set the goal that by the year 2020 ninety percent of clinical decisions will be supported by accurate, timely, and up-to-date clinical information, and will reflect the best available evidence. The Roundtable will host meetings and commission papers on a variety of subjects related to this goal.

Principal Sponsor: NHLBI

NIH Secondary Sponsor: NCRR

Task Leader: Sheila Pohl

Period of Performance: 5/1/2008 - 4/30/2010

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$75,000

Task Origin: National Academies

2. Task Order 206, Preventing the Global Epidemic of Cardiovascular Disease: Meeting the Challenges in Developing Countries

Summary: The Board on Global Health will convene an ad hoc committee to study the evolving global epidemic of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and offer conclusions and recommendations pertinent to its control to a range of public and private sector entities involved

with global health. It is expected that the report of this definitive, didactic, and scientific study will present, to the extent that evidence permits, sound arguments and reasoning for increasing investment in global cardiovascular health promotion and CVD prevention and control. The report should serve to help initiate global dialogue, align global forces, draw public attention, and lead to concerted global and international actions.

Principal Sponsor: NHLBI

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Zhi-Jie Zheng

Period of Performance: 7/1/2008 - 10/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,215,896

Task Origin: NIH

#### *E. National Institute on Aging*

##### 1. Task Order 92, Core Support for the National Academy of Sciences' Committee on Population

Summary: This contract task order will support dialogue between the Committee on Population, key aging researchers, and NIA staff, and will foster the development of new research topics that are of interest to NIA. Activities will include selecting areas for study, developing panels or workshops, selecting participants, reviewing study activities and reports, and disseminating results. The Committee will develop a portfolio of projects and activities over the next five years in consultation with the NIA and the aging research community.

Principal Sponsor: NIA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: John Haaga

Period of Performance: 9/1/2001 - 9/30/2008

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$689,465

Task Origin: NIH

##### 2. Task Order 120, Partial Support for the Core Activities of the NRC Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences

Summary: The Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences was established in 1997 to promote the contribution of these sciences to national policy. Partial sponsorship of the core activities of the Board will make it possible for the Board to provide its services to the NIA. These services include the following: a planning meeting each year that will gather together a small number of experts in whatever area NIA chooses to provide a brain-storming session on program planning, policy analysis, or other topics of concern to

NIA; a second planning meeting shared with the NRC Committee on Population; access to the Board at each of its meetings to discuss issues of interest to NIA; identification as a Board sponsor in all products of the Board, even though other sponsors may have had the primary funding responsibilities; continued supervision of both short term and long term studies when needed; the ability to seek the advice of the Committee on Human Factors; and copies of every report produced under the aegis of the Board and agendas for all meetings.

Principal Sponsor: NIA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: John Haaga

Period of Performance: 9/30/2002 - 9/30/2012

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$975,000

Task Origin: NIH

3. Task Order 155, Workshop on Advances in Collecting and Utilizing Biological Indicators and Genetic Information in the Study of Aging

Summary: In February 2000, the Committee on Population organized a workshop to examine the potential costs and benefits of collecting biological indicators in household surveys, which resulted in the publication *Cells and Surveys: Should Biological Measures Be Included in Social Science Research?* The purpose of this follow-up meeting will be to review some of the changes that have taken place in the past few years in this rapidly developing field, to update important findings and perspectives, to discuss the methodological challenges of an integrative approach to the study of the health of aging populations that incorporates both biological and social science elements, and to discuss how to safeguard individuals from the misuse of data. Twelve papers will be commissioned and presented at the workshop. Following a period of review and revision, these papers will be published in a volume by the National Academies Press.

Principal Sponsor: NIA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: John Haaga

Period of Performance: 10/1/2004 - 9/29/2008

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$302,000

Task Origin: NIH

4. Task Order 156, Partial Support for the Core Activities of the Committee on National Statistics

Summary: The Committee on National Statistics will assist the NIA in convening a one-time meeting of experts to help NIA think

through design options for another round of the National Long-Term Care Survey in the context of ongoing data collection and research on aging and disability supported by NIA and other federal agencies. Subsequent interactions, if any, between the experts and the NIA will be handled solely by NIA without further involvement of the Committee. No report or proceedings will be produced as a result of the meeting.

Principal Sponsor: NIA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: John Phillips

Period of Performance: 9/30/2004 - 9/29/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$500,000

Task Origin: NIH, HHS

5. Task Order 169, Research Program on the Design of National Health Accounts

Summary: The Committee on National Statistics will convene a panel to study and make recommendations about how to design national health accounts for the United States. A health account would contain statistical data relating the population's health status to a variety of factors—including, but not limited to, medical care—that affect that status. The panel will hold meetings and a workshop, oversee commissioned research, and produce a final report. The final report will summarize the workshop, the panel's findings, and offer recommendations on how to proceed with construction of health accounts.

Principal Sponsor: NIA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: John Haaga

Period of Performance: 9/30/2005 - 3/29/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$450,000

Task Origin: NIH

6. Task Order 194, Understanding Divergent Trends in Longevity in High Income Countries

Summary: The Committee on Population will convene a panel of experts to study trends and prepare a report that answers the following three questions. First, what accounts for the different trends in mortality at older ages that have been observed in OECD countries? Second, what can we learn about modifiable risk factors from countries where the mortality of the most elderly has been pushed back the most rapidly in the last quarter century? Third, what are the likely implications of these trends for the future trajectory of mortality at advanced ages in the United States?

Principal Sponsor: NIA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: John Haaga  
Period of Performance: 9/17/2007 - 9/16/2010  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$605,892  
Task Origin: NIH, HHS

7. Task Order 195, New Survey Measures of Cognitive and Functional Disability Going Beyond ADLs and IADLs

Summary: The Committee on National Statistics, in collaboration with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the Committee on Population, will appoint a steering committee to design and conduct a public workshop on the potential of using time-use data and other methodological advances to improve the measurement of physical and cognitive limitations in population surveys of older adults. The product will be a workshop summary with commissioned papers.

Principal Sponsor: NIA  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: John Haaga  
Period of Performance: 9/10/2007 - 9/9/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$253,000  
Task Origin: NIH

8. Task Order 197, Collecting, Assessing, and Protecting Microdata from Multipurpose Population Survey with Genetic and Other Biological Measures

Summary: The Committee on National Statistics, in collaboration with the Committee on Population, will appoint a panel that will explore issues of informed consent, confidentiality protection, data archiving, and data access for multipurpose population surveys that collect genetic and other biological specimens, in addition to other less-invasive data (e.g., behavioral, socioeconomic demographics, and physical measures). The panel will design and conduct a workshop. It will prepare a report based on the workshop that will include recommendations for best practices, procedures, and guidance for funding agencies, institutional review boards, and researchers. It also will make recommendations on promising practices and methods that require further research and development in order to promote the benefits from biological measures in multipurpose population surveys while respecting participants and protecting the confidentiality of their data.

Principal Sponsor: NIA  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: John Haaga  
Period of Performance: 9/21/2007 - 9/20/2009



Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$375,000  
Task Origin: NIH

9. Task Order 213, Improving Cost Projections for the Medicare Population

Summary: The Committee on National Statistics will appoint a committee of experts to organize and conduct a public workshop to identify research that can improve models for projecting health care costs for the population aged 65 and older (the Medicare population in the U.S.) and, more broadly, address factors that drive health care spending. The hope is to promote well-specified models and analyses exploring the cost implications of health care policy alternatives to drive better public and private sector policy planning. The workshop will consider the uses and limitations of alternative approaches and suggest priorities for behavioral and economic research that could support improved projection models. The committee will produce a summary of the workshop discussions for dissemination.

Principal Sponsor: NIA  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: John Phillips  
Period of Performance: 9/18/2008 - 4/18/2010  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$165,000  
Task Origin: NIH

*F. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases*

1. Task Order 129, Forum on Microbial Threats

Summary: The Forum will bring together key individuals from a broad range of disciplines and organizations to discuss critical issues in understanding and managing emerging infections in the United States. The scientific purview of the Forum is broad, ranging from basic biomedical research to public health policy concerns. The Forum will try to illuminate issues, not to resolve them; as such, it will not directly provide advice or recommendations on specific issues or policies pending before any government agency. It will, however, publish summaries of its workshops.

Principal Sponsor: NIAID  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Susan Daniels  
Period of Performance: 5/1/2003 - 8/31/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$600,000.01  
Task Origin: NIH

*G. National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering*

1. Task Order 178, Forefronts of Science at the Interface of Physical and Life Science

Summary: The Board on Physics and Astronomy, Board on Life Sciences, and Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology will convene a committee to develop a conceptual framework for the scientific forefronts at the interface between the physical and life sciences and conduct an assessment of this area. The committee also will identify and prioritize the most promising research opportunities at this interface, will articulate the potential benefits to society, and will recommend strategies for realizing them. Finally, the committee will explore ways to enable and enhance effective interdisciplinary collaboration, which will bring together the life and physical sciences to address the most compelling opportunities. The committee will produce a report based on its findings.

Principal Sponsor: NIBIB

NIH Secondary Sponsor: NIGMS

Task Leader: William Heetderks

Period of Performance: 9/15/2006 - 5/14/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$70,000

Task Origin: National Academies

2. Task Order 183, US - China Roundtable on Scientific Data Cooperation

Summary: The Roundtable will function under the auspices of the Board of International Scientific Organization. It will provide a unique bilateral forum for government, academic, and private-sector stakeholders in the United States and China to discuss and address scientific data practices and policies. It also will serve as a catalyst and coordinating body for bilateral cooperation on scientific data practices and policies at the Academy and at the national level in each country, with appropriate recognition and representation of other thematically related bilateral and international activities.

Principal Sponsor: NIBIB

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Belinda Seto

Period of Performance: 1/1/2007 - 8/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$226,800

Task Origin: National Academies

3. Task Order 210, Roundtable on Biomedical Engineering Materials and Applications

Summary: The Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences' National Materials Advisory Board will provide a forum for identifying opportunities to apply engineering principles to create medically useful materials and devices and to improve the clinical performance of these materials and devices. The forum members will discuss strategies for overcoming the regulatory, legal, technical, and cultural obstacles that impede the transition of new materials and devices into clinical application. Topics for Roundtable meeting agendas will be identified by the membership. Some general areas of potential emphasis are improving the science base for policy and regulatory decision making, enhancing health professional education (e.g., getting scientific information about health effects of environmental exposures to health care practitioners), and examining the federal research and development agenda in bioengineered materials and devices.

Principal Sponsor: NIBIB

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Donna Pearman

Period of Performance: 8/1/2008 - 7/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$25,000

Task Origin: National Academies

*H. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development*

1. Task Order 131, Confidentiality Issues Arising from the Integration of Remotely Sensed Data with Social Science Survey and Other Self-Identifying Data

Summary: High-resolution remote sensing technology used in conjunction with surveys and other social science research creates significant scientific opportunities. However, there are difficult tradeoffs regarding data quality, data sharing, and confidentiality. The Committee on the Human Dimensions of Global Change will convene a panel to address the scientific, data management, legal, cost/benefit, and confidentiality issues regarding dissemination of such data and suggest appropriate models for addressing the issues raised. The panel will produce a report that includes background papers and a summary of workshop ideas.

Principal Sponsor: NICHD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Rebecca Clark

Period of Performance: 12/1/2003 - 11/30/2007

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$125,000

Task Origin: NIH, HHS

2. Task Order 164, Disability in America: A New Look

Summary: Building on the 1991 IOM report *Disability in America*, the Board on Health Sciences Policy will review progress and developments since its publication. The Board will identify continuing gaps in disability science and propose steps to strengthen the evidence base for public and private actions to reduce the impact of disability and related conditions on individuals and society in the United States. The Board will produce a report on its findings.

Principal Sponsor: NICHD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Michael Weinrich

Period of Performance: 9/1/2005 - 1/2/2008

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$100,000

Task Origin: National Academies

3. Task Order 184, Reviewing the National Children's Study Research Plan

Summary: The Committee on National Statistics, the Board on Children, Youth, and Families, and the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practices will appoint a panel of experts to review the scientific rigor of the research plan for the National Children's Study and the extent to which it is being carried out with methods, measures, and the collection of data and specimens to maximize the scientific yield of the study. The panel will produce a report that describes its assessment and give recommendations.

Principal Sponsor: NICHD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: OD

Task Leader: Peter Scheidt

Period of Performance: 4/25/2007 - 7/31/2008

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$350,000

Task Origin: Congressional Mandate

4. Task Order 185, Seminar on Adolescent Brain Development and Reward Behaviors

Summary: The Board on Children, Youth, and Families will hold a one-day seminar of experts to examine biological and behavioral interactions capable of influencing the perceptions and development of reward behaviors associated with addictive behaviors, including substance abuse and eating disorders. The expert panel will identify key elements that may comprise a future research agenda as well as federal agency research interests in these areas.

Principal Sponsor: NICHD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Lynne Haverkos  
Period of Performance: 5/1/2007 - 4/28/2008  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$25,000  
Task Origin: NIH

5. Task Order 192, Reexamination of IOM Pregnancy Weight Guidelines

Summary: The Food and Nutrition Board and the Board on Children, Youth, and Families will undertake a study that will review and update the 1990 IOM guidelines for weight gain during pregnancy and recommend ways to encourage their adoption using mechanisms such as consumer education, strategies to assist practitioners, and public health strategies. The committee will meet five times and produce a report on its findings.

Principal Sponsor: NICHD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: NIDDK  
Task Leader: Catherine Spong  
Period of Performance: 9/10/2007 - 7/28/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$315,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

6. Task Order 208, Research on Risky Families, Developmental Transitions, and Health Disparities: An Expert Meeting

Summary: The Board on Children, Youth, and Families will organize a one day expert meeting on findings from behavioral, social, and biological studies that describe the impact of family environments on the emotional regulation and social competence of young children, exploring what is known about the relationship of these processes to biological pathways associated with the onset of adverse health disorders as well as the promotion of healthy development. Highlights of the discussion will be summarized in a prospectus for future project activity on this topic within Board.

Principal Sponsor: NICHD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Lisa Freund  
Period of Performance: 9/1/2008 - 5/31/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$25,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

*I. National Institute on Drug Abuse*

1. Task Order 84, International Affairs Committee - U. S. National Committee

Summary: The International Affairs Committee - U.S. National Committee was formed as a collaborative effort between the NRC and the

Society for Neuroscience. Its mission is to increase understanding of the nervous system in health and disease by facilitating dissemination of knowledge to the world's neuroscientists, promoting neuroscience research or professional activities across international borders, and enhancing public awareness of neuroscience worldwide. To advance this mission, the Committee has chosen to focus on supporting the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO), assisting with the development of IBRO's equipment transfer initiative, creating its own internet-based information and education resources, and developing outreach workshops or lecture series. This task order will provide support for Committee initiatives, such as education programs and workshops.

Principal Sponsor: NIDA

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NIMH, NINDS

Task Leader: Michael Huerta

Period of Performance: 5/1/2001 - 11/30/2012

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$738,000

Task Origin: NIH

## 2. Task Order 211, Science of Adolescence: Two Workshops

Summary: The Board on Children, Youth, and Families will organize an ad hoc committee to review the science of adolescence within a life course perspective and highlight the implications of this research for preventing risky behavior. They will hold two one-day public workshops, two one-day committee meetings, and commission a set of papers to evaluate the science base and consider how research on changes in biological, psychological, and social contextual (e.g., family and peer) processes that occur during adolescence may inform the design of better health interventions to address problem behaviors that emerge during adolescence. These include sexual conduct (e.g., teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections) and substance abuse. They also will brief HHS officials on the highlights from the workshop.

Principal Sponsor: NIDA

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Kevin Conway

Period of Performance: 9/1/2008 - 8/31/2010

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$100,000

Task Origin: NIH

## J. *National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases*

### 1. Task Order 196, Partial Support of the Food Forum

Summary: The Food Forum will bring together science and technology leaders from the food industry, government officials from the U.S. and Canada, consumer groups, and academics to discuss issues of food science, food safety, nutrition, and the regulations that relate to them. The Forum members will not issue guidelines, but can commission reports and make recommendations to the IOM for further studies.

Principal Sponsor: NIDDK

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Van Hubbard

Period of Performance: 9/17/2007 - 9/16/2011

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$100,000

Task Origin: National Academies

## 2. Task Order 212, Dietary Reference Intakes for Vitamin D and Calcium

Summary: The Food and Nutrition Board will convene an ad hoc expert committee to undertake a study to assess current relevant data and update as appropriate the Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs) for vitamin D and calcium as they relate to both adequate and excess intakes. The committee will consider a broad array of possible indicators of vitamin D and calcium status, including both chronic and non-chronic disease indicators. The study will review literature and the state of the science, use established risk assessment approaches, and will identify research needs. The product of this study will be a consensus report, including an executive summary.

Principal Sponsor: NIDDK

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NCI, NIA, OD

Task Leader: Pamela Starke-Reed

Period of Performance: 9/29/2008 - 9/28/2010

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$550,000

Task Origin: NIH, HHS

## K. *National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences*

### 1. Task Order 43, Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine

Summary: The Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine was established to provide a mechanism for parties interested in environmental health from the academic, industrial, and federal research perspectives to meet and discuss sensitive and difficult issues of mutual interest in a neutral setting. The purpose is to foster dialogue and discussion among sectors and institutions,

and to illuminate issues, not resolve them. This task order will fund Roundtable initiatives, including workshops.

Principal Sponsor: NIEHS

NIH Secondary Sponsor: NICHD

Task Leader: Sally Tinkle

Period of Performance: 1/1/1998 - 9/27/2010

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$3,452,437

Task Origin: NIH

2. Task Order 106, Committee on Emerging Issues and Data in Environmental Contaminants

Summary: The Committee will provide a forum for discussion and a mechanism for planning potential studies that address emerging evidence and issues in environmental toxicology, risk assessment, exposure assessment, toxicogenomics, and related fields. The primary focus for the Committee during the first several years will be toxicogenomics and how the evolution of this new science will affect the field of toxicology, risk assessment, and the process of regulating environmental contaminants (as well as pharmaceuticals). The Committee will publish a newsletter that describes its activities and will produce summary reports of significant meetings.

Principal Sponsor: NIEHS

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Christopher Portier

Period of Performance: 4/15/2002 - 11/30/2007

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$2,500,000

Task Origin: NIH

3. Task Order 204, Standing Committee on Use of Emerging Science for Environmental Health Decisions

Summary: Under the direction of the Division on Earth and Life Studies, the Standing Committee will provide a public venue for communication among government, industry, environmental groups, and the academic community about scientific advances in methods and approaches that can be used in the identification, quantification, and control of environmental impacts on human health. The Committee will build on recent National Research Council reports on toxicity testing and toxicogenomics, and will explore new developments in toxicology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, and related fields. It will do so by convening public meetings of invited experts to speak about key scientific issues relevant to the use of emerging scientific information, knowledge, and approaches in regulation, disease prevention,



education and personal choice, and clinical intervention and management of diseases caused and/or modified by environmental factors. The Standing Committee itself will not issue reports.

Principal Sponsor: NIEHS

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Chris Portier

Period of Performance: 5/1/2008 - 4/30/2013

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$2,675,900

Task Origin: NIH

*L. National Institute of General Medical Sciences*

1. Task Order 25, Meetings of the Chemical Sciences Roundtable

Summary: The Chemical Sciences Roundtable was established in 1996 by the National Research Council and its Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology. The Roundtable brings together leaders in chemical science and technology in a neutral and apolitical environment, and provides a science-oriented forum for stakeholders to discuss issues related to the chemical sciences affecting government, industry, and universities. This is a vehicle for exchanges that may lead to follow-up actions by participants and their organizations. The Roundtable will meet three times a year and hold two workshops per year, for which proceedings may be published, but recommendations will not be made.

Principal Sponsor: NIGMS

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Michael Rogers

Period of Performance: 9/30/1996 - 12/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$362,500

Task Origin: NIH

2. Task Order 172, Encouraging Underrepresented Minorities to Pursue Biomedical Research Careers: Designing Researchable Questions and Approaches

Summary: The Board on Life Sciences will hold two workshops on encouraging underrepresented minorities to pursue biomedical research careers. The first workshop will explore strategies that could be used to evaluate the success of intervention programs designed to encourage underrepresented groups. Workshop participants will evaluate the current state of knowledge, identify gaps, and suggest avenues for future research efforts. The second workshop will draw on expertise from outside the biomedical and behavioral sciences who will discuss the issues in greater depth. Summary reports of each workshop will be produced.

Principal Sponsor: NIGMS

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Adolphus Toliver  
Period of Performance: 3/01/2006 - 5/31/2008  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$164,304  
Task Origin: National Academies

3. Task Order 200, Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Disposal of Chemicals Update

Summary: The Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology will update the manual *Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Disposal of Chemicals*. A committee of 15 experts from a broad array of fields and lab settings will be convened to review the previous version of the manual in light of developments in the field since it was issued. The committee will revise it, creating new sections as necessary.

Principal Sponsor: NIGMS  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Michael Rogers  
Period of Performance: 2/15/2008 - 2/14/2010  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$100,000  
Task Origin: NIH

*M. National Institute of Mental Health*

1. Task Order 175, Forum on Neuroscience and Nervous System Disorders

Summary: The Forum will identify and discuss emerging scientific and policy issues related to basic neuroscience and nervous system disorders, as well as effective clinical interventions and policy options. The Forum will sponsor workshops as an additional mechanism for informing forum meetings and discussions. The Forum may also commission papers. It will strive to enhance understanding of research and clinical issues associated with the nervous system among the scientific community and the general public, and provide a mechanism to foster partnerships among stakeholders.

Principal Sponsor: NIMH  
NIH Secondary Sponsors: NEI, NIA, NIAAA, NICHD, NIDA, NIEHS, NINDS  
Task Leader: Michael Huerta  
Period of Performance: 7/1/2006 - 1/31/2010  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$937,500  
Task Origin: National Academies

2. Task Order 181, Prevention of Mental Disorders and Substance Abuse Among Children, Youth, and Young Adults: Research Advances and Promising Interventions

Summary: The Board on Children, Youth, and Families and the Division on Health Care Services will form a committee that will organize a study to examine the relevant research base, highlight areas of progress as well as significant challenges, review federal prevention and promotion efforts, recommend areas of emphasis for future federal policies and programs of research, and provide an up-to-date research review of the special mental health and substance abuse conditions of children, youth, and young adults. The project will result in a set of background papers, a project website, a summary report, and a dissemination report that can inform key government and non-government actors about evidence-based strategies to foster prevention and promotion for children, youth, and young adults, especially those at risk for mental health disorders.

Principal Sponsor: NIMH

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NIDA, OD

Task Leader: Robert Heinssen

Period of Performance: 9/1/2006 - 9/1/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,175,000

Task Origin: NIH

*N. National Library of Medicine*

1. Task Order 182, Engaging the Computer Science Research Community in Health Care Informatics

Summary: The Computer Science and Telecommunications Board will conduct a two-phase study to examine information technology (IT) challenges in realizing the emerging vision of patient-centered and evidence-based health care using electronic health records and other IT. It will produce reports at the end of each of the phases. Both reports are intended to identify technical solutions to advance health care IT, to expose the IT and computer science research communities to important technical problems, and to provide a foundation for other studies related to health care informatics.

Principal Sponsor: NLM

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NCR, NIBIB, NIGMS

Task Leader: Milton Corn

Period of Performance: 10/1/2006 - 8/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$440,000

Task Origin: NIH

2. Task Order 198, Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events

Summary: The Forum will convene two to three times per year, will sponsor public meetings, and will commission papers, as necessary, to address cross-cutting issues of importance to the organizations involved in the nation's preparation for and response to catastrophic events. Critical areas of focus for the forum include the following: how citizens and the public process and respond to threat information, how to achieve a holistic response to events, mechanisms for communicating with disadvantaged populations, and how to respond to health effects.

Principal Sponsor: NLM

NIH Secondary Sponsor: NIAID

Task Leader: Jerry Sheehan

Period of Performance: 9/25/2007 - 9/24/2010

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$300,000

Task Origin: National Academies

*O. Office of the Director*

1. Task Order 29, Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable

Summary: The Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable (GUIRR) originated in 1984 to provide a unique forum for dialogue among top government, university, and industry leaders of the national science and technology enterprise. The purpose is to facilitate personal working relationships and exchange of ideas regarding issues, problems, and promising opportunities that face those charged with developing and deploying science and technology resources. Core support for GUIRR will contribute to the following projects: the movement of science and technology industries in foreign settings, corporate research and development investment, intellectual property agreements, deemed exports, scientific and training issues associated with homeland security, collaboration between universities and federal laboratories, and the science and engineering workforce.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Walter Schaffer

Period of Performance: 6/15/1997 - 7/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,898,302

Task Origin: NIH

2. Task Order 32, Core Support for the Board on Life Sciences

Summary: The Board on Life Sciences is a part of the NRC that addresses issues in the biological sciences and their impact on society. Its work encompasses all of the life sciences, from molecular genetics to biodiversity. Since 1984, it has received contracts and grants to conduct discrete studies and has received only a small amount of core support to assist in the management of the Board, in the oversight of its committees, in the organization of special workshops, and in the development of new ideas for studies. NIH funds will be used to help invigorate the activities of the Board at a time when rapid advances in biology are occupying an increasingly important role, both in science and in public policy. Such activities will include holding a yearly workshop for sponsors, Board members, and other experts to identify and discuss emerging issues in selected areas.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Lynn Hudson

Period of Performance: 9/30/1997 - 5/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$665,000

Task Origin: NIH

3. Task Order 99, Capitalizing on Science, Technology, and Information: An Assessment of the Small Business Innovation Research Program

Summary: The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program is one of the largest government-industry partnerships in the United States. At approximately \$1.2 billion annually, it will continue to expand with increases in federal funding for research. This study will review the NIH program by focusing on the quality of the research projects being conducted under the SBIR program, the commercialization of the research, and the program's contribution to accomplishing the NIH mission. To the extent possible, the evaluation will include estimates of the benefits, both economic and non-economic, achieved by the SBIR program. The assessment also will include broader policy issues associated with public-private collaborations for technology development and government support for high technology innovation, including benchmarking of foreign programs to encourage small business development. Where appropriate, the study will address operational improvements to the program.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Jo Anne Goodnight

Period of Performance: 4/15/2002 - 02/28/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,640,528  
Task Origin: Congressional Mandate

4. Task Order 102, Emerging Policy Issues Panel Discussions

Summary: The Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (COSEPUP) undertakes major, independent studies of national issues in U.S. science and technology policy. In recent years, for example, it has conducted prominent studies on the National Science Foundation's Science and Technology Centers, graduate education in science and engineering, policy goals for science and technology, and recruitment and retention of Presidential appointees. This task order will fund two panel discussions at each of the COSEPUP quarterly 2-day meetings. The exact topics are determined shortly before the meetings to enable COSEPUP to address emerging topics.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Lynn Hudson

Period of Performance: 4/1/2002 - 12/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$526,462

Task Origin: NIH

5. Task Order 161, Recognition and Alleviation of Distress in Laboratory Animals

Summary: The Institute for Laboratory Animal Research will develop a report on mechanisms of stress and distress and methods for recognizing and alleviating distress in animals models used in biomedical research. The report will update those portions of the 1992 report *Recognition and Alleviation of Pain and Distress in Laboratory Animals*. The report will review the current scientific literature, placing emphasis on the scientific understanding of causes and functions of stress and distress, on determining when stress becomes distress, and on identifying principles for recognition and alleviation of distress. Recommendations will be based on the most current scientific data where such data are available. The committee also will identify gaps in the scientific literature where additional research data are needed.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsors: NCCR, NEI, NHGRI, NHLBI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NIBIB, NICHD, NIDA, NIDCD, NIDDK, NIEHS, NIMH, NINR, OD

Task Leader: Patricia Brown

Period of Performance: 5/15/2005 - 12/31/2007

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$375,000

Task Origin: NIH

6. Task Order 163, Regional Meetings on the Science/Security Facing the Government-University Partnership

Summary: The Science, Technology, and Law Program will establish a committee to organize a series of discussions on university campuses regarding recently implemented and strengthened federal policies aimed at maintaining a strong research partnership in an era of heightened security concerns. The committee will conduct meetings on the subject and will publish a report that is intended to identify the main issues the government and academia are struggling with as new policies are implemented to secure the nation.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: NIAID

Task Leader: Mary Groesch

Period of Performance: 6/1/2005 - 10/31/2007

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$175,000

Task Origin: National Academies

7. Task Order 170, An Assessment of Research-Doctorate Programs

Summary: The Board on Higher Education and Workforce will assign a committee to conduct a study that is intended to provide universities, students, employers, funding organizations, and the general public with a statistical portrait of doctoral programs in 57 fields of study, 42 of which are fields in science, engineering, technology, and mathematics. This study will enable programs at different universities to benchmark themselves against other similar programs, will provide useful data for funding organizations, and permit students to identify programs that fit their interests along a variety of dimensions. The committee will produce a database of the information collected and a report consisting of commissioned essays that analyze the data presented in the database. The papers will be discussed at a conference to be held on the subject.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Jennifer Sutton

Period of Performance: 9/30/2005 - 9/30/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$549,950

Task Origin: National Academies

8. Task Order 177, Dietary Supplement Use by Military Personnel

Summary: The Food and Nutrition Board plans to analyze patterns of dietary supplement use among military personnel, identify supplements and patterns of use that may be of benefit and/or warrant concern, evaluate whether an existing safety evaluation framework is applicable in a military setting, and develop a model to monitor adverse effects that might be associated with dietary supplements. The Board will produce a report on its findings once the study is completed.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Rebecca Costello

Period of Performance: 9/15/2006 - 3/5/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$196,441

Task Origin: National Academies

9. Task Order 179, Workshop on Research Evidence Related to Future Skill Demands

Summary: The Center for Education will convene a workshop that will be designed to provide a solid evidentiary base for the Center's multi-year agenda on education for 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, including a research agenda of critical questions that must be addressed in order to ensure that education meets the demands of the changing economy. To build this evidentiary base, the Center will provide three deliverables: the workshop itself, a series of background papers, and a published summary report of the workshop.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Cassandra Isom

Period of Performance: 9/1/2006 - 2/29/2008

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$250,000

Task Origin: NIH

10. Task Order 186, Health Research and the Privacy of Health Information: The HIPAA Privacy Rule

Summary: The Board on Health Sciences Policy will convene a committee that will study the impact of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule on the conduct of biomedical research. The committee will review evidence on the present balance between protecting privacy of health information and advancing health and health care through biomedical research. The committee will prepare a report, which will include recommendations for regulatory and policy changes.



Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Marianna Bledsoe  
Period of Performance: 8/1/2007 - 3/31/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$400,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

11. Task Order 187, National Needs for Biomedical, Behavioral, and Clinical Research Personnel

Summary: The Board on Higher Education and Workforce will establish a study committee that will address the current and future directions of the National Research Service Award (NRSA) program. The committee's charge will be fourfold: first, to estimate the current and future demand for researchers in the biomedical, behavioral, and clinical disciplinary fields; second, to estimate the current and future supply of researchers available from the NRSA and other federal and non-federal research training and career development programs; third, to make recommendations about the appropriate size of the NRSA program; and fourth, to assess the nature and quality of current research training and career development programs.

Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Jennifer Sutton  
Period of Performance: 8/15/2007 - 8/14/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,275,000  
Task Origin: Congressional Mandate

12. Task Order 188, Update of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

Summary: The Institute for Laboratory Animal Research will convene a committee that will be charged with updating the 1996 version of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* to reflect new scientific information related to the issues already covered in it and to add discussion and guidance on new topics of laboratory animal care. Specifically, the committee will review the scientific literature published since the release of the 1996 version and determine whether that version concurs with current scientific evidence. The committee also will review the literature on new technologies related to laboratory animal care and use and determine where new guidance is necessary to ensure the best scientific outcomes and optimal animal welfare.

Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Margaret Snyder

Period of Performance: 9/1/2007 - 2/28/2010  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$500,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

13. Task Order 189, Roundtable on Translating Genomics-Based Research for Health

Summary: Priorities and areas of emphasis for the Roundtable will include the following: issues related to the translation of genomics into medicine and public health; issues related to the evolving requirements for the health professional community, and the need to be able to understand and responsibly apply genomics to medicine and public health; and ethical, legal, and social issues, such as the potential for misuse of genetic information, the medical implications for family members, and the rights of an individual, family, or community to control the use and dissemination of genetic information. The Roundtable will not provide advice or recommendations on any specific issue or policy pending before any government agency, but it will produce summary reports of its conferences.

Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsors: NCI, NHGRI, NICHD  
Task Leader: Sarah Carr  
Period of Performance: 9/1/2007 - 12/31/2011  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$260,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

14. Task Order 193, Evidence Framework for Identifying and Validating Biomarkers of Effect for Nutrient Substances - A Planning Meeting

Summary: The Food and Nutrition Board will hold a 1.5 day meeting to outline key questions that need to be answered to further efforts to identify and validate biomarkers for nutritional toxicity or deficiency. The Board then will produce a report of what is known and what needs to be known to establish a framework for advancing the fields. The Board will coordinate with the WHO to determine future steps.

Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Paul Coates  
Period of Performance: 9/30/2007 - 2/27/2008  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$64,188  
Task Origin: National Academies

15. Task Order 199, Exploring the Intersection of Science Education and the Development of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

Summary: The Board on Science Education will hold a 1.5 day workshop where participants will consider how science education is important, not just for teaching science, but for teaching skills and abilities thought to be essential in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace. The Board will create a website to disseminate information and will produce a summary report.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Cassandra Isom

Period of Performance: 12/1/2007 - 8/14/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$320,000

Task Origin: NIH

16. Task Order 201, Conflicts of Interest in Medical Research, Education, and Practice

Summary: The Board on Health Sciences Policy will establish a committee and hold public and private meetings and workshops. The committee will draft a report that will include recommendations on how to manage conflict of interest, as well as recommendations on methods to disseminate, promote, implement, and evaluate conflict of interest principles and policies.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Walter Schaffer

Period of Performance: 3/1/2008 - 7/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$500,000

Task Origin: NIH

17. Task Order 202, Technical Input on Any Additional Studies to Assess Risk Associated with Operation of the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratory, Boston University

Summary: The Board on Life Sciences will reconvene the Committee on Technical Input on the NIH's Draft Supplementary Risk Assessments and Site Suitability Analyses for the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL), Boston University, to provide input on the scope and design of any additional studies that may be needed to assess risk associated with the location and operation of the NEIDL. The Committee will prepare a brief letter report summarizing its views on the scope and methodological approaches to be taken to improve any additional

risk assessment studies NIH prepares and will discuss these views with the NIH Blue Ribbon Panel.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Kelly Fennington

Period of Performance: 4/4/2008 - 12/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$274,390

Task Origin: NIH

18. Task Order 205, International Conference: Animal Research in a Global Environment

Summary: The Institute for Laboratory Animal Research will plan and host a meeting on conducting animal research internationally. The meeting will focus on differences in regulations and guidelines from country to country, the issues public and private research entities face in dealing with those differences, and ways that pain and distress of animals can be minimized. A summary report of the meeting will be provided.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Patricia Brown

Period of Performance: 6/1/2008 - 5/31/2009

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$50,000

Task Origin: NIH

19. Task Order 207, Scientific and Humane Issues in the Use of Random-Source Dogs and Cats for Research

Summary: The Institute for Laboratory Animal Research will form an expert committee to address the use of Class B dogs and cats in research funded by the NIH. Specifically, the committee will perform the following three tasks. First, it will determine the important biomedical research questions and common research topics in contemporary NIH-funded research where Class B dogs and cats are desirable/necessary as well as the frequency of these various research topics (i.e., number of grants where the potential exists or the source of the animal is identified as coming from a Class B source). Second, it will describe the specific characteristics, such as physiological, anatomical, or genetic, of the animals that make them particularly well-suited for the types of research described under the first task. Third, it will make recommendations, if necessary, for new or revised scientific parameters to guide their use, if these Class B dogs and cats are deemed to be necessary for research.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Margaret Snyder  
Period of Performance: 7/14/2008 - 5/29/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$237,682  
Task Origin: NIH

20. Task Order 209, A New Biology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Ensuring that the United States Leads the Coming Biology Revolution

Summary: The Board of Life Sciences will convene a committee to examine the current state of biological research in the United States and recommend how best to capitalize on recent technological and scientific advances that have allowed biologists to integrate biological research findings, collect and interpret vastly increased amounts of data, and predict the behavior of complex biological systems.

Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Lynn Hudson  
Period of Performance: 8/1/2008 - 1/31/2010  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$410,000  
Task Origin: NIH

21. Task Order 214, From Doctorate to Dean or Director: Sustaining Women through Critical Transition Points in Science, Engineering, and Medicine - A Workshop

Summary: The Committee on Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine (CWSEW) will host a workshop on sustaining women through critical career transition points, and will use NIH support to broaden attendance and dissemination of findings. The workshop will include panel discussions on the following issues: 1) an exploration of how the upcoming CWSEW report on gender differences in tenure and tenure-track positions in science and engineering will elucidate critical transition points in academia; 2) proven strategies for helping women transition in industrial and governmental careers; 3) how the changing nature of science, engineering, and medicine—specifically the growth in interdisciplinary fields—impacts career progression now and in the future; and 4) the effects of critical transition points on women's career choices.

Principal Sponsor: OD  
NIH Secondary Sponsor: None  
Task Leader: Joyce Rudick  
Period of Performance: 9/1/2008 - 2/28/2009  
Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$50,000  
Task Origin: National Academies

22. Task Order 215, Accelerating Research Discoveries and Development of Orphan Products to Improve the Health of People with Rare Diseases

Summary: The Institute of Medicine will convene an ad hoc committee of experts to conduct an independent assessment of the current strategies and incentives for the development of therapies for rare diseases and to make recommendations to improve these strategies and incentives and shorten the timeline for development of new treatments and cures.

Principal Sponsor: OD

NIH Secondary Sponsor: None

Task Leader: Steve Groft

Period of Performance: 9/29/2008 - 3/31/2011

Estimated Multi-Year Cost: \$1,399,378

Task Origin: National Academies

**VII. Contact Information for Key NIH Staff Involved with the Contract**

Lynn D. Hudson, Ph.D., Director  
Office of Science Policy Analysis  
Office of Science Policy  
Office of the Director  
Building 1, Room 218  
Bethesda, MD 20892-0166  
301-496-0786  
hudsonl1@od.nih.gov

Susan K. Apter, Contract Specialist  
Office of Acquisitions  
Office of Logistics and Acquisition Operations  
Office of the Director  
Building 6011, Room 537C  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7663  
301-402-9671  
apters@mail.nih.gov

Samuel J. Crowe, Ph.D., Project Officer  
Office of Science Policy Analysis  
Office of Science Policy  
Office of the Director  
Building 1, Room 218  
Bethesda, MD 20892-0166  
301-402-7465  
samuel.crowe@nih.gov

Jennifer L. Wertz, Data Manager  
Office of Science Policy Analysis  
Office of Science Policy  
Office of the Director  
Building 1, Room 218  
Bethesda, MD 20892-0166  
301-594-7741  
wertzj@mail.nih.gov