About Lewis-Burke

• Founded in 1992; located in Washington, DC
• In 2018, twenty-eight policy experts with range of expertise/backgrounds allow multi-layered issue teams with deep expertise in agencies and scientific/higher education areas
• Support federal relations activities to develop and implement federal strategies to pursue, shape, and create new sources of funding to increase and diversify research portfolio
• Able to engage on multiple levels:
  - Individual faculty (including early career faculty)
  - Teams of faculty
  - Associate Deans for Research
  - Deans and Center Directors
  - University leadership and campus-wide priorities/activities

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National Institutes of Health (NIH)

• $3 billion increase in FY 2018, bringing the agency to $37.1 billion in total funding
  – Congress thoroughly rejected Administration’s attempts to cap F&A costs on NIH grants
• Current areas of trans-NIH emphasis:
  – Opioids, addiction, neurobiology of pain and pain management ($500 million in 2018)
  – Alzheimer’s Disease ($1.8 billion investment in FY 2018)
  – BRAIN Initiative ($400 million in FY 2018)
  – Precision Medicine—the All of Us Program ($290 million in FY 2018)
  – Cancer ($300 million in FY 2018)
  – Biomedical Data Science Strategic Plan
• Award trends—agency focused on “research productivity and efficiencies”
  – Pulling back on Program Project grants (P awards)
  – Collaborative funding mechanisms enhance program officers’ input on project (U awards)
  – Next Generation Researchers Initiative: enhanced support mechanisms for early and mid-career investigators
    • $100 million dedicated fund within OD proposed for FY 2019
  – Seeking to reduce PI salary support on grants

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Neuroscience

BRAIN Initiative

• NIH: only agency actively continuing this Obama Administration Initiative towards 2025
  – $1.5 billion over 10 years (21st Century Cures)
  – FY 2018: $390 million, inclusive of Cures funding
  – Approved concept clearances for FY 2018 include Development of Next-Gen Human Brain Imaging Tools; Next-Gen Devices for Recording and Modulation in Human Central Nervous System; Biology and Biophysics of Neural Stimulation
  – Support for BRAIN proposals that target nociceptive and pain circuits
  – NINDS/NIMH launching effort to assess BRAIN Initiative progress, a set of assessment questions and metrics being developed to assess BRAIN Initiative progress towards its stated goals.

• NSF: formal NSF plan for BRAIN ended in 2017; continue to pursue programmatic objectives in neuroscience; identified the human-technology frontier as one of “Ten Big Ideas” for priority investment in the future

• DOE: collaborations with NIH to leverage DOE high-performance computing, nano-fabrication, and modeling

• DARPA: Biological Technologies Office (BTO) continues to support through BAAs, but no new programs at this time

Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) and aging

– $1.8 billion in FY 2018
– Priorities: precision medicine approaches to AD; predictive drug development; biomarkers; clinical trials; expand SBIR/STTR portfolio; support for caregivers

Neurodegeneration

– Priorities: biomarkers; Lewy Body Dementia; vascular dementias; proteomics and protein folding/trafficking (NINDS)
Opioids and Pain

Congressional activities:
- FY 2018 Omnibus: ~$3 billion total in opioid response funding across HHS, DOJ, USDA
- Both House and Senate Prioritizing opioids and Considering new legislation:
  - Pending legislation could expand NIH authority to use “other transactional authority” for public health emergency research (not traditional peer review process)
  - Wants to move quickly on passage

NIH:
- $500 million split evenly for NIDA/NINDS in the FY 2018 omnibus
- HEAL Initiative: $1 billion trans-NIH focusing on preventing addiction, neurobiology of pain and pain management, and improving treatments for opioid use disorder
  - Understand the transition from acute to chronic pain (longitudinal studies)
  - Identify causes of opioid use disorder
  - Develop more medication-assisted treatments for opioid addiction and overdose reversal
  - Identify non-opioid treatments for pain
Opioids and Pain

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Federal agency activities:
• NIH
  – $500 million split evenly for NIDA/NINDS in the FY 2018 omnibus
  – HEAL Initiative: $1 billion trans-NIH focusing on preventing addiction, neurobiology of pain and pain management, and improving treatments for opioid use disorder
• USDA
  – Rural Development: Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant
    – Currently open
    – Financial assistance to encourage and improve telemedicine and distance learning services
    – Priority points given to projects focused on opioid prevention, treatment and recovery
• HRSA
  – Rural Communities Opioid Response Initiative: $100 million in FY 2018 focused on meeting the specific needs of rural communities facing the opioid crisis.
    • 75 planning grants at about $200,000 each in FY 2018
    • 50 implementation grants in FY 2018
  – New funding for mental and behavioral health professions to address opioid epidemic
• SAMHSA:
  – Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) grants: Formula funding to states, based on the severity of the epidemic in each state
• DOJ
  – Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP):
    – Provides funding for community-based solutions to the opioid epidemic, data-driven and technological responses to opioid misuse, and treatment alternatives to incarceration.
    – National Institutes of Justice (NIJ) Research Solicitations