



# ACTS ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

# Connection

January 2016 No. 1



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### Featured in this Issue

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### About Us

The ACTS mission is to advance research and education in clinical and translational science to improve human health. For more information, visit [actscience.org](http://actscience.org)

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### Follow Us





**Clinical Research Forum (CRF)** has extended the deadline to submit Top 10 nominations until January 18th. Submissions should be for research published in 2015. Get your institution and clinical investigators recognized by sharing the awards nomination application. The Top 10 Clinical Research Award is a great opportunity for clinical investigators to be honored for their valuable work and contributions in clinical research.

The Top 10 awardees will be invited to a press conference in April 2016 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC where awardees will showcase their research with members of the press and advocacy organizations. This is a great way to highlight the great work being done at your institution, and showcase the value of clinical research and its impact on the future of clinical care.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance. To learn more about the award and to review past awardees, [please visit the CRF website](#).

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### **NIMH Seeks New Director**

The National Institutes of Health is conducting an extensive search for individuals who are exceptionally well qualified to fill the position of Director, National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH). The individual appointed to this extremely important position will have a unique opportunity in providing leadership and direction to the Institute in its efforts to advance the pace of brain science and fuel the transformation of mental health care. The NIMH Director is the advisor to the NIH Director and Institute and Center (IC) Directors on the development of NIH-wide policy issues related to mental health and related research training. The Director also serves as principal liaison with other agencies of the DHHS and the Federal Government and is the lead representative of the Institute to professional societies and the advocacy community.

On behalf of the Search Committee, we ask that you consider identifying individuals who you think would be outstanding candidates. Please note that applications must be received by **Monday, February 8, 2016**.

To learn more, please [click here](#)

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### **Advocacy News from the Hill: Congress Passes Omnibus Package**

Congress finished 2015 strong by passing an omnibus appropriations package, which included the twelve annual spending bills, before adjourning for the remainder of the year. Through the comprehensive funding measure, legislators continued to prioritize spending for medical research and patient care programs. Federal clinical and translational research activities in particular saw meaningful funding increases through the omnibus package. To see the key spending levels provided by the FY 2016 package, [please click here to learn more](#).

### **ACTS Submits Common Rule Response**

On behalf of ACTS members, an official joint response from ACTS and CR Forum was submitted to Jerry Menikoff, M.D., J.D., at the Office of Human Research. We invite you to review the submitted letter. [ACTS CRF Joint Response](#)

A response was also submitted by the AAMC and can be reviewed here: [AAMC Response](#)

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### **Grants and Grant News**

**Notice of Extension of the Response Date for NOT-TR-16-002 "Request for Information (RFI): Soliciting Input for the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences**

**(NCATS) Strategic Planning Process"**

Notice Number: [NOT-TR-16-005](#)

Release Date: January 11, 2016

Related Announcements: NOT-TR-16-002

Purpose: This Notice extends the response date for NOT-TR-16-002 "Request for Information (RFI): Soliciting Input for the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Strategic Planning Process." Current Response Date: January 8, 2016; New Response Date: February 8, 2016

**Notice Clarifying SBIR Direct-to-Phase II Eligibility Criteria**

Notice Number: [NOT-OD-16-052](#)

Release Date: January 12, 2016

Related Announcements: PAR-14-088

Purpose: This Notice is to clarify the types of applications which can be submitted to the National Institutes of Health Small Business Innovation Research (NIH SBIR) Direct-to-Phase II pilot funding opportunity announcement PAR-14-088. The NIH Direct-to-Phase II program will accept Phase II submissions regardless of the funding source for the Phase I-like proof of principle work on which the proposed Phase II research is based.

**Education and Health: New Frontiers (R03)**

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number: [PAR-16-079](#)

Posted Date: January 12, 2016

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Purpose: The goal of this funding opportunity announcement is to support research that will further elucidate the pathways involved in the relationship between education and health outcomes and in doing so to carefully identify the specific aspects and qualities of education that are responsible for this relationship and what the mediating factors are that affect the nature of the causal relationship.