WELCOME TO:

Make your Voice Heard! Join FASEB’s efforts to advocate for research funding.

THE WEBINAR WILL BEGIN IN A FEW MINUTES

Please call +1.646.307.1990 and enter conference ID 682-803-508# in order to hear the audio

If you experience trouble joining the webinar, please contact Join.Me Customer Support at 1-877-251-8373 or questions@join.me
To Ask A Question….

Click on the “Chat” Icon on the toolbar

Type your question in the white box

Click on the black arrow and select @Host to submit your question
Agenda for Today’s Webinar

1. Welcome & Introductions
   1. Introduction to FASEB
   2. Why We Are Hosting This Webinar

2. New Resources from FASEB
   1. Factsheets on NIH, NSF, DOE SC, and AFRI funding in states/districts
   2. Talking points and Discussion Guides
   3. How to connect with members of Congress on Twitter

3. Take Action! How You Can Get Involved
   1. Strategies for planning a meeting with your member of Congress
   2. Tips for attending Town Hall meetings
   3. Instructions for submitting a Letter to the Editor or an Op-Ed
   4. Other tools to stay engaged

4. Q&A
What is FASEB?
What Does FASEB Do?

Our Mission…

- Advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to our member societies and collaborative advocacy

It is accomplished through …

- Policy research and development
- Advocacy on Capitol Hill
- Coalition building
- Communication and outreach
Why We Are Reaching Out to You NOW

- Funding increases have been proposed for NIH, NSF, etc. in the 2015 budget
  - However, government agencies are operating under a “continuing resolution” until December
  - Congress returns on Nov. 12 for a “lame duck” session

- Public pressure is needed to convince Congress to pass the 2015 budget
  - No 2015 budget = no funding increases for NIH and NSF

- Many members of Congress are not aware of how federal science funding benefits their district/state
  - FASEB has this information!
## Funding for Federal Science Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>FY 2014/Current Funding</th>
<th>FY 2015 House Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2015 Senate Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>$29.9 billion</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$30.4 billion (+1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td>$6.9 billion</td>
<td>$7.4 billion (+3.3%)</td>
<td>$7.2 billion (+0.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOE SC</td>
<td>$4.62 billion</td>
<td>$5.07 billion (no change)</td>
<td>$5.08 billion (+0.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>$582.6 million</td>
<td>$589 million (+0.6%)</td>
<td>$589 million (+0.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFRI</td>
<td>$275.5 million</td>
<td>$325 million (+2.8%)</td>
<td>$325 million (+2.8%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Advocacy Tools Website

Key actions you can take to become an advocate!

- Meet with your member of Congress
- Attend a local event
- Connect with a member of Congress on Twitter
- Get the word out to the public
District Factsheets

Federal Funding for Research Helps Your District and the Nation

In this district, NIH awarded $28,901,194 through 69 research grants and contracts to 3 institutions.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
NIH is the nation’s primary medical research agency. More than 80% of NIH funding is distributed through approximately 50,000 competitive grants to 325,000 researchers at 3,000 universities and other institutions throughout the U.S.

In this district, NSF awarded $32,996,381 through 111 research grants and contracts to 5 institutions.

National Science Foundation (NSF)
Through nearly 11,000 competitive grants and 2,500 graduate student fellowships awarded each year, NSF advances the frontiers of knowledge, cultivates a world-class scientific workforce, and builds the nation’s research capacity for innovation.

In this district, USDA awarded $566,500 through 2 research grants to 1 institution.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
The USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) generates knowledge in nutrition and agricultural sciences. AFRI also supports the creation of the next generation of food and agriculture scientists by funding more than 1,500 pre- and post-doctoral students annually.

In this district, DOE SC awarded $5,566,380 through 7 research grants to 1 institution.

Department of Energy Office of Science (DOE SC)
DOE SC is the nation’s largest funder of basic physical sciences research, DOE also manages ten world-class national laboratories that provide government, university, and industry scientists with access to sophisticated, cutting-edge technologies.

Find all factsheets here!

In FY 2012, 3 universities in the district received $225,612,000 in Research and Development funding from federal agencies and an additional $8,945,000 from private industry.
Talking Points & Discussion Guide

Representing Over 120,000 Researchers
301.634.7000
www.faseb.org
1650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814

Talking Points

1. Tell a personal story
   a. What is the topic of your research?
   1. If you’re federally funded, mention the agency you’re funded through.
   b. What do you or members of your field hope to accomplish?
   c. Where are the opportunities for expanding research or potential breakthroughs?

2. Our “ask”
   a. A specific number
   b. Stable, sustained growth is key to a healthy research enterprise

3. Impact on your home state or district
   a. You can find information on your [home state or district]

4. Closing
   a. Repeal your “ask”
   b. Thank the person for meeting with you

Legislative Visit Best Practices

BEFORE THE VISIT:

- Determine your “ask” i.e. the purpose of the meeting (OPA staff can assist with this)
- Determine the number of Congress you’re meeting with has any [TOPICS AND COMMITTEES]
- Research the member of Congress’ positions on issues (check member’s website, Twitter)
- Gather your materials (contact us for hard copies)
  - [STATE AND DISTRICT FACTSHEET]
  - [FEDERAL RESEARCH FUNDING PAPERS]
  - Breakdown of [broken down into] in [article]

DURING THE VISIT:

- Turn off your cell phone
- Introduce all meeting attendees (name and institutional affiliation)
- Open with your “ask”
- Follow with a personal story
- If you don’t know the answer to a question the staff/member of Congress asks:
  - “I don’t know, but I will get back to you with the information.”
DID YOU KNOW?

All 100 Senators and 425/435 Representatives are active on Twitter!

*As of April 2014
Meeting with Your Members of Congress

Four Easy Steps:

1. Request a meeting in writing (use the sample letter!)
2. Practice what you will say in the meeting
3. Learn how to make a good impression!
4. Follow-up
Strategies for Planning A Meeting With Your Member of Congress

Identify WHO will attend
- **TIP:** Consider bringing a patient or research volunteer

Determine WHERE/WHEN the meeting will take place
- **TIP:** Members of Congress are often in their state/district on Monday’s and Friday’s

Make a PLAN to follow-up on the meeting request
- **TIP:** Keep records of emails/phone calls

PREPARE for the meeting
- **TIP:** Research your member of Congress’ position on research funding (check web, Twitter, Facebook)
- **TIP:** Gather materials from your institution/city/state
Attending Town Hall Meetings & Other Local Events

Key Tips

1. Look for announcements on Twitter/Facebook or in local newspapers

2. Write down 1-2 questions before the meeting; avoid any that can prompt “yes/no” answers

GOOD: “Where does funding for research fit on your list of priorities?”

BAD: “Do you support increasing funding for research?”

3. Sign-in; introduce yourself to staff

4. Sit in front
Submitting An LTE or Op-Ed

Become an Advocate
FASEB represents over 120,000 scientists and engineers through collaborative advocacy with our constituent societies. Our top priority is urging Congress to provide sustainable and predictable federal funding for science research.

It is not enough for national organizations like FASEB to advocate on behalf of science—elected officials want to hear from their own constituents! Join FASEB’s advocacy efforts to help ensure the United States continues to be a hub for innovation and scientific discovery. The resources below are specifically designed to help scientists and their colleagues request a meeting with their members of Congress, use social media to connect with elected officials, attend a town hall meeting, or submit an op-ed to a local newspaper.

Meet with your member of Congress
Attend a local event
Connect with a member of Congress on Twitter
Get the word out to the public

Writing letters-to-the-editor and opinion pieces
Letters-to-the-editor (LTE) and opinion pieces (op-eds) are widely read by elected officials, their aides, and individuals in your community. They are an excellent way to advocate for science funding and educate the public about scientific issues. Here are some tips for writing and submitting a letter or op-ed to your local newspaper(s).

How To Submit An LTE/Op-Ed
- If you are writing an LTE, pay attention to the issues covered by the paper. Your letter may have a greater chance of being printed if it is in response to a recent editorial, op-ed, or front page story.
- Respond to an article within 2-3 days of its publication.
- Find the directions posted on the publisher’s website about how to submit a LTE or op-ed.
- Observe the requested word limit, guidelines, and rules listed on the website. If no word limit is given, keep it short – 250 words or less for LTEs and 750 words and less for op-eds.
- Follow up with a polite phone inquiry if your article doesn’t appear within 4-5 days to ensure it was received and considered.
- If your letter is not published, do not consider your efforts a failure. Many factors play a role into whether an LTE or op-ed is published. Writing a LTE or op-ed is a great way to build relationships with local media editors. Perhaps, the editors will remember your efforts and publish your next submission.
Other Tools to Stay Engaged

Download the FASEB mobile app (Apple Store/Google Play)

Sign-up to receive FASEB E-Action Alerts: http://www.capwiz.com/faseb/mlm/signup/

Subscribe to the bi-weekly OPA Washington Update http://washingtonupdate.faseb.org

Follow us on twitter @FASEBopa

Become a fan of our Facebook page
To Ask A Question.....

Click on the “Chat” Icon on the toolbar

Type your question in the white box

Click on the black arrow and select @Host to submit your question
Conclusion

For more information or to submit additional questions, contact:

FASEB Office of Public Affairs

http://opa.faseb.org

or

opa@faseb.org

@FASEBopa