
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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FASEB LAUNCHES GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN FOR NIH, “SUPPORTING MEDICAL RESEARCH IN CONCEPT IS NOT ENOUGH”

Bethesda, MD – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is using the August Congressional recess to recruit scientists for a nationwide grassroots campaign in support of medical research.

“It is time to reeducate Congress and the public about the critical value of NIH,” said Leo Furcht, M.D., FASEB President. “There’s overwhelming support for medical research – everyone looks forward to the next breakthrough, the next new treatment. We just need to make the connection between lifesaving advances and funding of the National Institutes of Health.”

To kick-off the campaign, FASEB is unveiling a [customizable slide presentation](#) that scientists, department heads and deans can use locally to demonstrate NIH’s impact on human health. “The truth is that we’ve made remarkable advances in heart disease, cancer, infectious illnesses, just to name a few, and these can all be traced back to NIH funded research,” stated Carrie Wolinetz, Ph.D., FASEB Director of Communications. “We wanted to provide scientists with a tool to help them tell the stories behind medical breakthroughs: how basic research is translated; how NIH funds research in their own community; and how our quality of life has improved thanks to NIH-sponsored discoveries.”

According to Wolinetz, FASEB is working to create versions of the presentation for every state. “We would like to see researchers presenting this to community groups, neighbors, colleagues, and even their members of Congress when they’re at home in their districts.” She added that FASEB will continue to produce additional advocacy material for use by scientists, all of which will be freely available on the FASEB website.

“Nothing is more important than the health and well-being of the American people. We are all only one diagnosis away from needing the hope that NIH embodies,” Furcht continued. “It is our obligation, as a scientific community, to explain how science is done—to explain how continued improvements in human health are dependent on a sustained commitment to NIH. Supporting medical research in concept is no longer enough.”

FASEB is composed of 21 societies with more than 80,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB’s mission is to enhance the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. FASEB serves the interests of these scientists in those areas related to public policy, facilitates coalition activities among Member Societies and disseminates information on biological research through scientific conferences and publications.