

## Minutes

**National Library of Medicine  
Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC)  
October 27-28, 2022  
Minutes of Meeting**

The ninety-seventh meeting of the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) (roster under ATTACHMENT A) of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) convened virtually at 10:00 AM on October 27, 2022. Dr. Kelly Sandberg served as Chair of the Committee and presided over the meeting. In accordance with P.L. 92-463 and the determination of the Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH), the meeting was announced in the [Federal Register](#). In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 552b(c)(9)(B), Title 5, U.S.C., Pub. L. 92-463, the meeting was closed to the public for the review and discussion of journals as potential titles to be indexed by the NLM. The meeting was open to the public from 10-11:20 AM on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. The open session was videocast and can be accessed from the NIH Videocasting website (<http://videocast.nih.gov/>).

For the Record<sup>1</sup>

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Norma Alcantar  
Dr. Praveen Arany  
Dr. Angela Arenas-Gamboa  
Dr. Pamela Bagley  
Dr. Erik Black  
Dr. Steven DiBartola  
Dr. Jonathan Eldredge  
Dr. Sharon Greenblum  
Dr. Kelly Sandberg  
Dr. Nutan Sharma  
Dr. Marina Sokolsky-Papkov  
Dr. Julie Ann Sosa  
Dr. Henry Young

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Dr. Armand Antommara  
Dr. Erika Newman

### **NLM STAFF PRESENT**

Ms. Dianne Babski  
Ms. Mya Ballin  
Mr. Philip Banh  
Ms. Rebecca Black  
Ms. Mary Ann Collins

Ms. Carlette Dennis  
Dr. Kathel Dunn  
Ms. Judith Eannarino  
Ms. Kristina Elliott  
Ms. Leah Everitt  
Dr. Anna Fine  
Dr. Michael Huerta  
Mr. Chris Kelly  
Dr. Iulia Kristanciuk  
Ms. Vita Loyevsky  
Ms. Jennifer Marill  
Ms. Christina Robinson  
Mr. Jerry Sheehan  
Ms. Julie Silverman  
Ms. Ellen Thieme  
Dr. Lauren Topper  
Ms. Annemieke van der Sluijs  
Ms. Kelly West  
Ms. Amanda J. Wilson  
Mr. Bill Wischmann  
Ms. Erin Zellers

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<sup>1</sup> It is noted that members absent themselves from the meeting when the Committee is discussing journal titles in which a conflict of interest might occur.

## **I. Call to Order**

Dr. Kelly Sandberg called the meeting to order at 10:00AM, Thursday, October 27, 2022, and welcomed the members and NLM staff.

## **II. Administrative Matters**

### **A. Introductions:**

Dr. Kelly Sandberg led introductions of the LSTRC members. Dr. Lauren Topper led introductions of NLM staff members.

### **B. Consideration of the minutes from the June 2022 meeting:** The minutes were approved as written.

### **C. Conflict of Interest Forms:** Conflict of Interest forms were distributed to LSTRC members prior to the meeting, and were completed before members participated.

### **D. Dates of future meetings:**

- Winter 2023: February 23-24, 2023 (Confirmed)
- Summer 2023: June 22-23, 2023 (Confirmed)
- Fall 2023: October 26-27 (Proposed)

### **E. Other matters:**

- The upcoming Winter 2023 meeting was confirmed as virtual.

## **III. Director's Update**

Dr. Michael Huerta, PhD, Acting Deputy Director for Operations and Innovation, National Library of Medicine gave the Director's Update at 10 AM on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> as part of the open portion of the meeting.

Dr. Huerta listed the new nominees for the NLM Board of Regents, as well as several new NLM staff appointments, new hires, and promotions. Dr. Huerta welcomed the NLM Associate Fellows who attended the meeting as observers.

Dr. Huerta announced that Mr. Jerry Sheehan was appointed the Deputy Director for Policy and External Affairs. NLM helps to shape policy and regulations on topics such as scientific communication, clinical data, and open science. Some key policy topics right now include NIH data management and sharing plan policy, genomic data sharing, and expanded access to research results.

Dr. Huerta noted that NLM is focusing on putting in a very strong leadership structure. Dr. Stephen Sherry was recently selected to be the Director, National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) and NLM Associate Director for Scientific Data Resources (ADSDR). NLM is actively searching for a Scientific Director and is planning a search for other key leadership positions.

Dr. Huerta spoke about advancing NLM's commitment to DEI and NLM's Racial and Ethnic Equity Plan (REEP), and gave an update on NLM's strategic plan implementation. The strategic plan runs from 2017-2027 and consists of three pillars. He explained that the plan was conceived following lots of stakeholder input in 2016-2017. Since 2017, about 200 implementation activities have been mapped to the strategic plan goals. However, there have also been significant changes in NLM missions space, so Dr. Huerta discussed keeping the strategic plan evergreen by approaches such as a Board of Regents facilitated session and generating feedback from the public. Following these sessions, a handful of topics have emerged that were taken forward to the NLM leadership team. NLM is currently identifying bold new implementation activities around artificial intelligence and algorithms, findability and discoverability, and trustworthiness of NLM resources.

Dr. Huerta also covered updates to several NLM resources, such as GenBank releasing new genome sequences from recent viral outbreaks of Polio virus and Monkeypox, the new ClinVar graphical display, and the modernization of ClinicalTrials.gov.

## **IV. Invited Presentations**

Following Dr. Huerta's update, there were two consecutive invited presentations, beginning at 10:30 AM on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, as part of the open portion of the meeting.

First, Jerry Sheehan, Deputy Director for Policy and External Affairs, National Library of Medicine presented to the committee on the Public Access Response to the [OSTP Memo](#). Mr. Sheehan gave an overview of the OSTP memo and how NLM is working across NIH to update its plan in response to the memo. NLM is looking at the degree to which it needs to change its processes and the way that it operates resources such as PubMed Central (PMC) (NLM's current platform for public access). NLM is also looking at data sharing requirements in the memo, such as how data should be available at the time of publication. Another area of interest is persistent identifiers, which will be an important element of NLM's plan. NLM is looking at digital object identifiers around contracts and grants, author identifiers, and identifiers for other research objects, such as PMCID. Mr. Sheehan noted NLM is building a solid basis for moving forward with its policies and plan. An important future step will be opening the plan up for public feedback.

Second, Christina Robinson, Product Owner for Beta ClinicalTrials.gov, addressed the committee regarding Progress on ClinicalTrials.gov Modernization. Ms. Robinson has been leading the team doing the hard work modernizing ClinicalTrials.gov, which started in the second half of 2019. Some goals of the modernization include improving the user experience, particularly for patients, as well as upgrading the technical infrastructure. ClinicalTrials.gov will also continue supporting the existing legal, regularly, policy framework.

Ms. Robinson gave an outline of the timeline for this process. The first year was spent largely on engagement of stakeholders, as well as the NLM Board of Regents.

The second year was devoted to developing the first versions of the product.

Ms. Robinson noted that this process is current in its third year, which is being spent on implementation of the developed products and continuing to improve the released products and add new features/improve functionality.

Years four and five will also be spent on continuous improvement and refinement of the products. A progress report is available on the ClinicalTrials.gov website.

Ms. Robinson noted that ClinicalTrials.gov is undergoing a phased switch to the new website, by leaving the old version up, but including a banner noting there is a new version. This is meant to give users a chance to familiarize themselves with the new version before removing the old and ease users into the transition. The last step will be removing the old version of the website and replacing it with the new. Ms. Robinson gave a demo of the beta website and discussed NLM's outreach and communications efforts regarding the transition.

#### **V. Other Matters**

A public comment was submitted by Ms. Janine McCarthy, the Science Policy Program Manager with the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. The written comment was shared with all committee members.

#### **VI. Examination and Review of Titles**

A total of 52 titles were reviewed at the meeting. The review of titles began on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 10:45 AM and continued until 12:30 PM. The committee resumed the review of titles in the afternoon at 1:30 PM and continued until 4:00 PM. The review of titles resumed after the open portion on Friday, October 28, 2022 at 11:30 AM and continued until 12:30 PM. The committee resumed review of journals at 1:30 PM and concluded at 3:50 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

#### **VII. Certification**

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes and attachments are accurate and complete.

Dianne Babski  
Scientific Review Administrator

Kelly Sandberg  
Chairperson