

**From:** Elizabeth Millett <emillett@uw.edu>

**To:** Kristina Adams Waldorf adamsk@uw.edu , Michele A Basso mbasso@uw.edu , "Elizabeth A. Buffalo" <ebuffalo@uw.edu>, Dennis M Dacey <dmd@uw.edu>, Cynthia A Derdeyn cderde@uw.edu , Raimon Duran Struuck raimon@uw.edu , Greg D Horwitz <ghorwitz@uw.edu>, "Kiem, Hans-Peter" <hkiem@fredhutch.org>, Andre Lieber lieber00@uw.edu , "Sean C Murphy" murphysc@uw.edu , Megan O'Connor <meganoc@uw.edu>, Randall C KYES <rkyes@uw.edu>, Amy Orsborn aorsborn@uw.edu , Anitha Pasupathy pasupat@uw.edu , "Steve I Perlmutter" <perl@uw.edu>, Azadeh Yazdan-Shahmorad <azadehy@uw.edu>

**Cc:** Hans Peter Kiem hpkiem@uw.edu , Deborah L Fuller fullerdh@uw.edu

**Subject:** Quarterly Core Scientists Meeting Notes From 07/16/2025

**Date:** Thu, 17 Jul 2025 17:57:39 +0000

**Importance:** Normal

**Inline Images:** Outlook lbstqdqh.png

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Good Morning Everyone,

I hope you are all well!

Please find notes from yesterday's Quarterly Core Scientists Meeting below.

Please let me know if you see anything that needs correction.

I'm sending out another When2Meet for scheduling the next Quarterly Core Scientists Meeting. That When2Meet can be accessed [HERE](#)

When filling out the When2Meet, please note a strong preference for Wednesdays and Fridays. Additionally, 4-5pm may be preferable due to time zone differences. For the moment I have only provided availability for Dr. Fuller Mon/Wed/Fri. If we are not able to find an agreeable time, I will expand to lookin at Tues/Thurs based on availability of everyone else

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you!

Elizabeth Millett

Quick List of Links below

1. [FDA & NIH Workshop on Reducing Animal Testing](#)
2. [Final comment submitted by WaNPRC to NIH-FDA workshop July 14 2025.docx](#)
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSvk6iMx7Yg>
4. [Response to FDA NIH Workshop.docx](#)
5. [Activists Claim False "Victory" in New NIH Funding Policy](#)
6. [Funding Opportunity Expanded](#)
7. [Potential Names for WaNPRC in the Future.docx](#)

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## Quarterly Core Scientists Meeting

### Updates

#### *Status of AD recruitments and new core faculty recruitments*

- AD recruitment is still in process for 2 candidates who applied to original position
- Reorganization in Process
  - AD of Animal Resources focused on clinical

- AD of Operations focused on operations
- Both good candidates – solution to recruit both
  - CW for AD animal resources
  - CB for AD operations
- Required to post for 1 week due to new positions/JDs
  - It is possible to get new applicants due to reposting
    - Several more applicants did apply
    - Going through disposition process/evaluation of new candidates
- AD operations to be posted soon
  - If additional applicants in addition to CB will need to go through the same process
- Goal is end of Aug/early Sept for onboarding of ADs

***P51 renewal – overview of schedule and deadlines, scheduling an interim meeting with your NSAB advisors***

- Emails on document deadlines going out
- Working to modify schedule on what is due when
  - Adjusting timelines for scientific based sections
- New notification being developed – will be simplified
  - Toolbox/Teams to be primary resource
- All-hands scheduled 07/31
  - Anyone writing anything for P51 should be in attendance or have a proxy in attendance
- Will be incorporating themes not dusting off old application sections
  - Certain words causing delays in review – need to be aware
- Biosketches, equipment/facilities still due per previous deadline

**UW mandated financial resiliency and transformation plan**

***Developing a 6% reduction in budget for all units and departments***

- UW is mandating financial risk mitigation
- Need financial resiliency and transformation plan
- Need to continue to find ways to cut budgets across departments
- P51 specific, if receiving P51 funding will see cuts
- Core faculty may not see as many changes, but there will be trimming to budgets

***Report to Provost by first week in August***

- Financial Resiliency and Transformation plan
- Identify high funding vulnerabilities
  - High risk grants etc.
  - Based on probability of renewal/being held up
- Reviewing all grants for potential risk factors
- Coming up with transformation plan
  - Scenario: 40% cut to NIH
    - Will result in cuts to WaNPRC and all grants/applications/renewals
- Determining what percentage of funding portfolio is high risk
  - How do we deal with risk based on scenario of funding cuts
    - Possibly reduce footprint space
    - Identify new funding streams
    - Fundraising campaigns
    - Higher focus on private sector projects
- Draft of Transformation plan will be developed by leadership
  - To be reviewed by Core Faculty
  - Due first week of August
    - Goal is Friday 07/25 sent to Core faculty for review
- All units within UW being asked to complete this

**WaNPRC and NIH's new priorities**

### ***Follow up on FDA/NIH meeting on reducing animals for research***

- Webinar took place earlier this week
  - [FDA & NIH Workshop on Reducing Animal Testing](#)
  - Concerning due to rhetoric used
    - Not just reducing but replacing animals all together
  - No Vet/Scientist in the room during meeting
  - Opportunity to provide comments
    - [Final comment submitted by WaNPRC to NIH-FDA workshop July 14 2025.docx](#)
- Concerns about statement that NIH would not fund applications using only animal research
  - STI followed up clarified not on grant basis
  - NOFOs will no longer be animal only, expanding to require NAMs
- Podcast between Nicole K and Jay B
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSvk6iMx7Yg>

### ***Public relations and political engagement***

- NPRCs have discussed the need to increase public engagement on the importance of using animals in research
- Animal Research under attack
  - We need to do more to reach out and educate the public
- Op-eds are being put together
- NPRCs looking to engage political lobbyists to help support efforts
- Veterinarians have responded
  - [Response to FDA NIH Workshop docx](#)
- Many groups are working together to brainstorm getting more coverage
  - We have to speak for and defend research
  - Science won't speak for itself in this environment
- Efforts are both at the individual organizational level, but also a coordination of broader national efforts to respond to NIH/FDA stances
  - A focus on NAMs without animal research is an extreme risk to human health
- [Activists Claim False "Victory" in New NIH Funding Policy](#)
  - Encourage you to write your own OPeds
  - FF can help (ffield6@uw.edu)
- Likely to see additional repercussions of funding/support being pulled
- All NPRCs meeting with Aids Office
  - **15 min talk Aug 4**
  - DF reaching out to investigators involved NHP Aids/HIV research
  - **Please send ideas to include in presentation**
- Another meeting upcoming to develop strategic plan on increasing visibility to animal research

### ***P51 renewal –NAMs theme, rationale and strategy***

- Can't dust off old renewals
  - Need to meet new focus of NIH
- WaNPRC has always used alternative methods (NAMs) to complement animal studies
  - Need to highlight that we have been using NAMs within all sections of P51
- **Include 1 specific aim, what you've done and ideas moving forward (AI, in vivo, etc.)**
- Review process for all grants
  - Initial scientific peer review
  - Council – may or may not include Program officers/scientists
  - DOGE/HHS must meet Administration's priorities
- Need to include strategies that align with administration
- NAMs definition
  - DF definition is anything that meets 3Rs
  - Trying to get clarify as some comments indicate ONLY human-based systems
    - Not NHPs
  - Working on trying to broaden definitions
- 07/31 All-Hands P51 meeting

- Presentation on what NAMs we are already doing
- Better define schedule/resources
- VET/PI directors award expanded to include NAMs (without Vet collaboration)
  - [Funding Opportunity Expanded](#)

***NPRCs are changing our names: discussion on why and a timeline to do it***

- NPRCs have been talking about changing our names for several months
  - At Program Officer's suggestion
  - To remove the word Primate from the Center's name
- All directors agree that this is important
  - May help with increasing ability to fundraise
- Requesting input on a name
  - Campaign to provide feedback
- Need to make name change sooner rather than later
  - Goal is next Directors' Meeting/Aids Meeting (Sept/Oct)
- All 7 centers hoping to keep same "coalition" name, rather than 7 different names
- Ideas so far [Potential Names for WaNPRC in the Future.docx](#)
  - Translational may be a good idea to include
- Name should focus on both NIH alignment and fundraising opportunities
- We can change Center name at any point
  - As soon as all centers agree on acronym/name
  - Will likely make changes together
- Will take a vote once narrowed down to 2-3 best ideas

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Elizabeth Millett  
 Executive Assistant for Administration and Operations  
 Phone: (206) 543-0909  
 Washington National Primate Research Center (WaNPRC)  
 University of Washington  
 Box 357330  
 1705 NE Pacific Street  
 Seattle, WA 98195  
 Pronouns (she/her)



**WANPRC**  
 Washington National  
 Primate Research Center  
 UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

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