

Representing Over 130,000 Researchers

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Francis Collins, MD, PhD Director National Institutes of Health 9000 Rockville Pike Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Dear Dr. Collins,

On behalf of the FASEB Board of Directors, congratulations on a decade of extraordinary service as Director of the National Institutes of Health. As the second longest serving Director in NIH's history you have been a source of hope and inspiration for the biomedical research community.

In 2017, FASEB was pleased to honor you with the federation's Public Service Award in recognition of your many accomplishments as NIH Director including the rapid distribution of \$10 billion in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and releasing a detailed five-year NIH-wide strategic plan to capitalize on new opportunities for scientific exploration. You have been a superb advocate for NIH within two administrations and especially on Capitol Hill. There is no doubt that the \$9 billion in increased funding Congress has provided to NIH over the last four years is due to the trust, credibility, and bipartisan support you have established on Capitol Hill.

The FASEB Board continues to be impressed with your ability to clearly articulate complex scientific concepts to generate excitement about the possibilities of basic research through a variety of media formats. Your tireless public outreach brought NIH into America's living rooms on the Colbert Report, CNN, CNBC, The Charlie Rose Show, and National Public Radio. Major national newspapers and scientific journals including the Washington Post, Science magazine, and the Journal of the American Medical Association published eloquent opinion pieces you authored about the extraordinary advances in biomedical research and the critical role NIH plays in supporting investigator-initiated grants. In addition, you've harnessed the power of multiple social media platforms and blogs to share the excitement of recent findings with the public as well as communicate key policy changes with the research community. These efforts have made NIH and the research it supports more accessible to a much broader audience in the U.S. and around the world.

We commend your steady leadership in addressing critical policy issues affecting the biomedical research enterprise. Your willingness to consider stakeholder input in developing recommendations related to improving the training and diversity of the scientific workforce and

overseeing NIH's efforts to expand programs to help new and young investigators are a model for other agencies and federal officials. More recently, your efforts to address workplace culture and the negative impacts harassment has on both individuals and science demonstrate your commitment to ensuring a diverse and inclusive research community.

FASEB is grateful for your selfless service to furthering NIH's mission, and we look forward to working with you to highlight the importance of federally funded research on the lives of all Americans.

Sincerely,

Hannah V. Carey, PhD

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FASEB President