

The Research

A D V O C A T E

JULY-AUGUST 2006

Bringing Research Closer to Home

Gates Foundation Grants \$1.2 Million for Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research

Research!America has received \$1.2 million from the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**. The two-year grant provides founding support for the **Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research**. The society, named for the Research!America chair emeritus and former Congressman—a renowned supporter of health research—will be comprised of scientific leaders who represent



and value of global health research will strengthen awareness of and support for research for diseases that disproportionately affect the world's poorest nations. A distinguished Advisory Council of leaders in global health research, public policy and communications will select

the full spectrum of global health research.

The society is founded on the idea that better understanding of the role

the first 25 member Ambassadors of the society this fall.

The Honorable John Edward Porter, Research!America

chair, will chair the council. Research!America members and partners will receive Ambassador nomination information in August, and nominations are due September 15.



The Honorable Paul G. Rogers

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2006 Voter Education Initiative Launched Candidates Asked Views on Medical and Health Research

For the 2006 Congressional elections, Research!America and the **Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation** are launching the first national voter education initiative to ask candidates their views on medical, health and scientific research.

All candidates for the U.S. House of

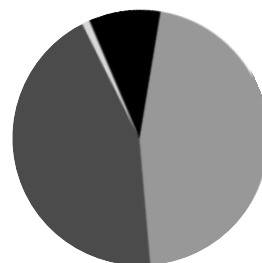
Representatives and U.S. Senate are being invited to participate in the **2006 Your Candidates—Your Health Voter Guide**. Candidates' responses will be available online in mid-September at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

Continued on page 5

AMERICA Speaks

How well informed would you say you are regarding the stance of your elected officials when it comes to their support of medical, health and scientific research?

Many Don't Know Elected Officials' Position



Very well	9%
Somewhat	46%
Not well	44%
Don't know	1%

New ON THE Web

www.researchamerica.org

Ambassadors of our new **Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research** will participate in a public outreach and advocacy program for global health research. **Ambassador nominations are due September 15.** Visit www.researchamerica.org/pgrsociety/.

With the **Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation**, we launched **Your Candidates—Your Health Voter Guide**, the first national effort to ask candidates' views on medical, health and scientific research. See results online in mid-September at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

The Research ADVOCATE



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About Research!America

Research!America is a 501(c)(3), membership-supported, public education and advocacy alliance founded in 1989. Our 500+ member institutions, organizations and businesses represent the voices of more than 125 million Americans who want research to improve health to be a higher national priority. Research!America's public opinion surveys, advocacy programs and publications reach the public and decision makers with messages that support a strong and vibrant research enterprise.

Research!America
AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH®

Members TAKE Action



**Karen L. Miller,
RN, PhD, FAAN**

For 100 years, the University of Kansas School of Nursing has been preparing students for nursing careers. And for more than a decade, the school has been led by **Karen L. Miller, RN, PhD, FAAN**. Miller serves not only as dean of the nursing school but also as senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs for the medical center and dean for the KU School of Allied Health.

Despite having been around for so long, the KU nursing school is certainly not stuck in the past. This summer it began offering an online PhD program, where students can earn their doctoral degree in nursing remotely.

"This addition to the traditional PhD program broadens the opportunities for graduate students to (be mentored by) scientists from their geographic region as well as with our faculty," Miller said. "As part of this effort we have improved online student support for research activities and hope to increase our (funding) for student research activities."

Research is a priority for the faculty and students at the school, Miller said. "Nursing research has always been 'translational' in that much of our work helps to catalyze changes in clinical care in ways that are tangible to the public."

Advocacy for nursing research funding is a big part of Miller's work, and she is often called on to testify before committees of the Kansas Legislature.

The University of Kansas School of Nursing

The University of Kansas School of Nursing is recognized nationally as one of the finest institutions of higher education in nursing in the country and is a leader in informatics and technology-based academic programs. The school, founded as the Department of Nursing in 1906, is the research and analysis center for the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators created and sponsored by the American Nurses Association.

For 100 years, the University of Kansas School of Nursing

This year the state Legislature made a long-term investment in nursing education, allocating special funds to expand the state's capacity to educate nurses for the next 10 years. The KU School of Nursing was cited in the legislation for its commitment to doctoral education and preparation of educators and researchers in nursing.

In addition to her work at KU, Miller is on the board of directors of the **Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (FNINR)**, which is planning its 2006 NightinGala, "Nursing Research: Imagine the Future." As the NINR celebrates two decades of nursing research, researchers will look at *then*—where they were 20 years ago; *now*—the

current body of research; and *imagine*—nursing research in the year 2026.

"This idea (Then...Now...Imagine...) was put forward by **Mary Woolley**, president of Research!America, member of the (FNINR) board of directors and a long-time

supporter of efforts to disseminate the results of nursing research," Miller said.

Cokie Roberts, of ABC News and National Public Radio, is scheduled to speak at the NightinGala, which Miller said is expected to draw at least 1,000 guests. The gala will be in Washington, DC, on October 11.

A loyal Research!America member since 2001, the school uses Research!America statistics for presentations and advocacy efforts, Miller said. She said the Web site and e-mail advocacy alerts are particularly useful to the school. Visit www2.kumc.edu/son for more information.

Innovation Ad Cites Support for Basic Science Research

Research!America collaborated with a **National Innovation Initiative** working group on a recent ad encouraging Congress to support the American Competitiveness Initiative. The ad, which ran in the policy publications *Roll Call* and *National Journal*, cited our poll finding that 79% of Americans support federal funding for basic science research, even if it brings no immediate benefit. See this month's insert and visit www.innovateamerica.org.

NIH Releases "Research Results for the Public"

The **National Institutes of Health** has released a series of 10 fact sheets, "Research Results for the Public." The series offers valuable messages for research advocates, including medical and health advances resulting from ongoing NIH research and from doubling its budget. Visit www.nih.gov/about/researchresults-forthepublic/ to download the fact sheets or learn about NIH accomplishments and what may lie ahead thanks to NIH-funded research.

In the News: Opinions about Research

An opinion piece, "Senate Sitting on Stem Cell Act," by U.S. Reps. **Mike Castle (DE)** and **Diana DeGette (CO)** appeared recently in the *Denver Post*. Castle and DeGette received our 2006 Whitehead Award for co-authoring the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, which the House passed in May 2005. Their calls for action, and those of many advocates, seem to have worked. At press time, the Senate is expected to vote on the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, with two other stem cell research bills, before the August recess.



David Gergen

In a recent column, *U.S. News & World Report* Editor-at-Large **David Gergen** discussed "The Danger of Drift"—the risks inherent in a policymaking climate more focused on short-term gains than longer-term concerns. He cites as "gathering storms" the rising cost of health care, growing numbers of uninsured Americans, and diminishing U.S. leadership in key measures of scientific competitiveness. Gergen moderated Research!America's 2006 National Forum.

Another recent opinion piece in the *India Times* focused on conditions for industry-driven research to flourish in that country. **Henry A. McKinnell**, CEO of Pfizer, a Research!America member, writes of the need for stronger legal protections for intellectual property in order for India to become the force in biotechnology, chemistry and pharmaceutical science that it is in information technology. He writes, "Some 80 percent of the market value of Pfizer and other research-based pharmaceutical companies is represented by patents and other intellectual property. ... If the vision is an Indian pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry that is much more vibrant, compelling, and vital to global health, then change is in order."

Welcome New Members!

American Thoracic Society

Cure Alzheimer's Fund

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Foundation

University of Toledo Academic
Health Science Center

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of Medicine

Join Research!America today!
Contact Cindy McConnell
at 703-739-3577, ext. 35.



In a major advance for federal stem cell research funding, the Senate has finally passed The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.

Please thank those who supported this significant legislation. This will be a hot topic this fall, so let your elected officials know it's important to you.

With the Senate's vote and stem cell research votes coming up in several states, it's impossible to consider the summer quiet for health research advocacy. Fall will be busier still, as elections approach. Research!America, with the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, has launched a new tool to help stakeholders in research know their Congressional candidates' positions on issues relating to research and health. At last, the research community will have a resource akin to those available to other advocates. I urge you to follow the plans for our new "Voter Guide," to encourage your candidates to complete their questionnaires and to spread the word about the guide's value for interaction with candidates and at the polls in November.

We have exciting news about another program that will make the case for research—in the manner perfected by our chair emeritus, the Hon. Paul G. Rogers, aka "Mr. Health." The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has provided founding support to enable Research!America to work with a select number of Ambassadors. We will help these leaders in research extend their skill set to leadership in advocacy for research. We will begin by emphasizing the need for more research addressing developing countries' health needs. The time is right to take on this challenge, and with the Gates Foundation and Paul Rogers, we are confident of success!

Mary Wollery

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Slow-Moving Action on FY 2007 LHHS Appropriations

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (LHHS) met on June 7 and marked up a bill for FY 2007 NIH spending at \$28.3 billion — a level \$306 million below that proposed in the president's budget. Nearly every Institute received a cut in the Subcommittee's mark. The full House Appropriations Committee marked up the bill on June 13 and made no changes to the Subcommittee's mark of the bill.

Action by the full House on the LHHS Appropriations Bill has stalled indefinitely in response to the Appropriations Committee's adoption of an amendment to the bill, proposed by **Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (MD)**, that would increase the minimum wage. With the support of seven Republicans, the minimum wage increase was approved on a 32-27 vote. House leadership pulled the LHHS bill from the calendar the day following the adoption of the minimum wage amendment.

There are other concerns about House action on the LHHS Appropriations Bill: moderate Republicans might not support the bill because of cuts in other health, education and training programs, and conservative Republicans might oppose it because it adds \$4 billion to offset cuts proposed by the president, including

\$1 billion in earmarks. Thus, the LHHS bill will likely not reach the House floor for debate and final passage before the November election.

At press time, Senate action on its LHHS Appropriations Bill was scheduled to begin July 18, when the LHHS Subcommittee will mark up the bill. Full Committee action was scheduled for July 20, but it is unlikely that the bill will receive full Senate consideration prior to the November election.

495 Organizations Sign Letter to Appropriators

Earlier this year, Hoyer asked CDC Director **Julie Gerberding, MD, MPH** to inform the House LHHS Appropriations subcommittee what level of funding the CDC would need.

Gerberding responded that the CDC would need an additional \$850 million to fulfill its public health responsibilities. On May 23, the **Campaign for Public Health** sent a letter signed by 495 organizations to each member of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. The letter asked that appropriators carefully consider Gerberding's professional judgment budget. See the letter at www.fundcdc.org.



Julie Gerberding, MD, MPH

2007 FEDERAL RESEARCH BUDGET

Agency	President's Request	% Change over 2006	House Request
National Institutes of Health	\$28.6 billion	No change	
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	\$5.8 billion*	-4.6%	
National Science Foundation	\$6 billion	+7.9%	\$6 billion
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	\$319 million	No change	

* Reflects the CDC core program budget. The total CDC budget proposed for FY 2007 is \$8 billion, including the non-discretionary Vaccines for Children program. For more information on the CDC budget, please visit www.fundcdc.org.

Some States Step Up on Stem Cell Research

Legislation in support of embryonic stem cell research is pending in several states. **Wisconsin, New Jersey, California, Connecticut, Ohio** and **Illinois** have been the forerunners in funding, committing more than \$3.8 billion since 2005. Funding may materialize in **Massachusetts**, where the leadership has hinted it may soon be considered. Meanwhile, privately funded research continues to advance in the state at **Harvard University**. In June, the university announced approval of a multi-million dollar project to derive embryonic stem cells via therapeutic cloning, an effort recently resumed at the **University of California at San Francisco**.

Recent legislation failed to pass in **Texas**, where conflict over the use of embryos squashed a bill that would have funded a new stem cell research center. The **Florida** Legislature is considering bills to fund embryonic stem cell research, and a petition exists to put a related pro-research amendment on the 2008 ballot. Still, **Gov. Jeb Bush** and some state legislators continue to firmly oppose this research. Citizens in **Missouri** successfully petitioned to have a public vote on the Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative to prevent another attempt by state legislators to ban some types of stem cell research altogether. This voter referendum measure to allow any stem cell research permitted by federal law will be on the November 2006 ballot. In **Michigan**, a bill that would reverse the state's especially restrictive policy on funding and procedural aspects of embryonic research has been pending for more than a year.

The **National Conference of State Legislatures** provides the latest information on state-level legislation related to stem cell research at www.ncsl.org.

2006 Voter Education Initiative

Continued from page 1

Fourteen years of Research!America opinion polling on issues related to medical, health and scientific research have shown that Americans place a high value on leadership and investment in research. However, only 9% say they are well informed about their elected officials' positions on these issues.

"This unique voter education initiative will serve two purposes," said **The Honorable John Edward Porter**, chair of Research!America and former Illinois Congressman. "It will educate the voting public—and particularly the 125 million Americans represented by Research!America's members—about their candidates' positions on medical, health and scientific research, and it will emphasize to Congressional candidates how much voters care about research."

Neen Hunt, EdD, president of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, said the foundation is pleased to sup-



Neen Hunt, EdD

port and partner with this initiative. "The **2006 Your Candidates—Your Health Voter Guide** fits strategically with our goal to foster the prevention and treatment of disease and disability through public education and research advocacy," she said. "We look forward to promoting the results of this unique voter education initiative with the expectation that this information will be invaluable to the voting public."

Research!America and the Lasker Foundation will commission a national public opinion poll this summer that features questions similar to those being asked of the candidates. Research!America will engage its network of media partners in promoting the online voter guide this fall. It will feature an easy-to-use, interactive format, allowing voters to find and view their candidates' responses by state and congressional district.

American Society for Microbiology: Federal Funding Recommendations

The **American Society for Microbiology (ASM)**, a Research!America member, has completed a thorough review of the President's FY 2007 budget requests for government agencies that provide biomedical and life sciences research. The resulting report includes recommendations for funding for the **National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Food and Drug Administration, National Science Foundation** and others—and calls for increases above most of the President's proposals.

For the NIH, 18 of its 19 Institute budgets are reduced in the President's proposal, and the CDC's core programs would be cut for the second year in a row—4% below FY 2006 levels, which were 4% below the previous year. Bush recommended an increase for the FDA of 8%, which ASM recommends increasing further. ASM supports the President's budget request to increase funding for NSF.

ASM is the largest single life science society, composed of more than 42,000 scientists and health professionals. Visit www.asm.org.

Major Donor Thank You

The Research!America Board of Directors and staff extend special thanks to our major donors to programs mentioned in this issue of *The Research Advocate*:

**American Lung Association
of Virginia**

The Eugene Garfield Foundation

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation
Roche**

Did YOU Know

Research!America board member **William R. Brinkley, PhD**, was named the 2006 Australian Society for Medical Research Medalist. Brinkley, a professor and dean of the **Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine**, travelled to Australia's capital cities to accept the award and give a televised address during ASMR Medical Research Week in June.

The **National Science Foundation** has released a new report, *Federal Funds for Research and Development: Fiscal Years 2003-05*, categorizing and detailing the R&D spending of 30 federal agencies as well as the federal obligations for R&D at universities. The report is available through the NSF's Web site, www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf06313/.

The **International Longevity Center's** 2005 Annual Report highlights the publication of its issue brief *Investing in Medical Research: Why We Must Embrace the "Audacity of Hope,"* authored by Research!America President **Mary Woolley**. The report "Shortevity: A Life Too Short," focuses on the phenomenon of the differences in life expectancies in rich and poor societies. Visit www.ilcusa.org.

Australia Delivers Historic Research Budget

After three years of consistent advocacy that began within the research community and reached Australia's most powerful political figures, including the prime minister, the Australian federal government has fully delivered on **Research Australia's** campaign for a historic new investment in health and medical research.

The budget, delivered in May, heeded Research Australia's call for an additional \$670 million, the largest-ever increase in spending on health research in Australia. The country's **National Health and Medical Research Council**, which currently spends just over \$430 million annually, will have an additional \$500 million for research over the next four years. In addition, \$170 million will go to new research fellowships, \$163 million for capital projects and \$50 million to the **John Curtin School of Medical Research**.

Research Australia's leadership has provided a major boost to research that will generate major social and economic benefits for Australians.

Research Australia

An alliance for discoveries in health

Paul G. Rogers Society *Continued from page 1*

The Ambassadors will be highly respected 'citizen-scientists.' With Research!America leadership, they will regularly engage opinion leaders and decision makers, the media and public about the need for the U.S. to increase support for global health research.

"We are honored to initiate the Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Paul Rogers is the quintessential research advocate, and I can't think of anyone more fitting for whom this Society should be named," Porter said. "The society's Ambassadors will carry on his tradition and build on the model of advocacy he has created."

Mary Woolley, Research!America's president, said, "Our public opinion research shows most Americans think the U.S. spends too little on research to improve health around the world."

Rogers is a former U.S. Congressman from Florida (1955-79). He served as chair of the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment (1971-79) before joining the Washington, DC, law firm **Hogan & Hartson**. Known as "Mr. Health," Rogers sponsored or played a major role in enacting major health legislation, including the National Cancer Act of 1971 and 1977 and the Medicare-Medicaid Anti-Fraud and Abuse Amendments. In 2001, Congress named the main plaza at the National Institutes of Health in his honor.

At Hogan & Hartson, Rogers represents health and environmental clients. He is a member of the **Institute of Medicine** and lectures widely on health issues and policy. He serves on many national committees and has received numerous awards, including the "Mary Lasker Award for Public Service Leadership."

AMERICA Speaks

How much of a priority do you think it is for the U.S. government to spend money around the world in each of the following areas? (% saying top priority)

ATTITUDES: GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH
HARRIS INTERACTIVE FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA, 2004

Global Health Research is a Top Priority





Eugene Garfield, PhD

Research!America's Garfield Award Nominations Due July 31

Nominations for the 2006 Eugene Garfield Economic Impact of Medical and Health Research Award will be accepted through July 31.

board member, is president and founding editor of *The Scientist*, and creator of the Science Citation Index—a tool used by scientists across many disciplines.

The fifth annual Garfield Award, which carries an honorarium of \$5,000, will be presented at a special reception October 10, 2006, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

To be considered, a work must have been published or accepted for publication (or filed, in the case of a thesis) between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2005. To encourage the growth of the field, nomination of individuals early in their career are encouraged. Self-nominations are welcome. Further information can be found at our Web site, under Outreach.

The award, first presented in 2002, serves to recognize those whose work illustrates the economic benefits derived from medical and health research. Previous recipients are **Kevin M. Murphy, PhD**, and **Robert H. Topel, PhD**, in 2005; **Sherry A. M. Glied, PhD**, in 2004; **David Cutler, PhD**, in 2003; and **David Meltzer, MD, PhD**, in 2002.

Eugene Garfield, PhD, the award benefactor and a Research!America

Did You Know?

Continued from page 6

Harris Hollin, founder of the **Conquer Fragile X Foundation** in Palm Beach, FL, was appointed by President Bush to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. Hollin's foundation, a Research!America member, supports research on Fragile X, the primary genetic cause of mental retardation. For information, visit www.conquerfragilex.org.

On June 8, Research!America's **Shannon Dzubin** discussed advocacy for public health at the **Patient Advocacy Leadership Conference** in Crystal City, Virginia. The event was sponsored by the **American Lung Association of Virginia**.

IBM Corporation, in conjunction with Research!America member **Scripps Research Institute**, will construct a computer model to help public health professionals worldwide plan for a pandemic flu outbreak by providing a comprehensive, updateable system capable of predicting of virus mutations. This marks the beginning of the "Global Pandemic Initiative," a joint effort of IBM and 20 public health organizations, such as the **World Health Organization** and the **CDC**. IBM Life Sciences Division is a Research!America member.

CDC/AHRQ Study Shows Gaps in Prevention

More than half of Americans who need preventive health services continue to go without them, according to a report by **Partnership for Prevention**, published in the July issue of the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Partnership for Prevention is a Research!America member.

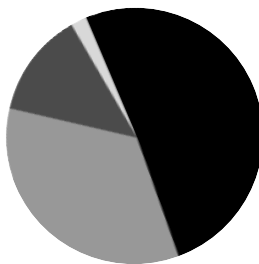
The study, "Priorities for America's Health: Capitalizing on Life-Saving, Cost-Effective Preventive Services," was sponsored by the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** and the **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**. It ranks 25 recommended preventive services based on lives saved or improved and cost-effectiveness.

"Currently, about 95% of health care dollars in the United States are spent on treating diseases, with relatively little attention paid to preventing diseases, which should be a national priority," **David Satcher, MD, PhD**, said in a news release. Satcher, a former U.S. Surgeon General, was chair of the **National Commission on Prevention Priorities**, which oversaw the report.

The report is available at www.ajpm-online.net.

Americans See Value in Preventing Disease

Which do you think is more valuable, research on how to prevent disease, or research on how to cure and treat disease?



Research on preventing disease	51%
Research on curing and treating disease	34%
Both/equally important	13%
No opinion/ don't know	2%

TAKING OUR PULSE: THE PARADE/RESEARCH!AMERICA HEALTH POLL
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY, 2006

ComingUp

July 31—Nominations are due for our **Eugene Garfield Economic Impact of Medical and Health Research Award**. For details visit our Web site or e-mail GarfieldAward@researchamerica.org.

Mid-September—**The 2006 Your Candidates—Your Health Voter Guide**, developed by *Research!America* and the **Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation**, will be online at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

September 15—Nominations for the 2006 **Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research Ambassadors** are due. Look for more information in early August.

September 19—*Research!America*, in partnership with **Roche**, will host "Personalized Medicine: From Promise to Practice," a forum in Washington, DC, featuring keynote speaker **Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD**, director of the **National Human Genome Research Institute**. Watch for details via e-mail and on our Web site.

Advocacy & Action

Senate Passes the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (H.R. 810)

In an historic bi-partisan victory, the Senate passed H.R. 810, 63-37, on July 18. Under a compromise brokered by **Majority Leader Bill Frist (TN)**, H.R. 810 was considered simultaneously with the Alternative Pluripotent Stem Cell Therapies Enhancement Act (S. 2754) and the Fetus Farming Prohibition Act (S. 3504).

Senate stem cell research champions and advocates have been awaiting this important vote since the House of Representatives approved the bill with bi-partisan support in May 2005. At press time, the bill was being sent to the White House.

Please take a moment to thank your Senators who voted in favor of the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act. Visit www.researchamerica.org/advocacy to send a thank you letter today.

Visit
US ON THE WEB www.researchamerica.org

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