

The Research ADVOCATE

NOVEMBER 2007

Bringing Research Closer to Home

2007 Garfield Award Presented to Philipson, Jena

Health economists **Tomas Philipson, PhD**, and **Anupam Jena, PhD**, received the **2007 Eugene Garfield Economic Impact of Medical and Health Research Award** on October 9. The two were



Mark McClellan, MD, PhD; Tomas Philipson, PhD; Anupam Jena, PhD; Eugene Garfield, PhD

Photo by Mike Gatty/DCEventPhotos.com

recognized for their work, "Who Benefits from New Medical Technologies?" published in the *Forum for Health Economics and Policy* in 2006.

Philipson is a professor at the **University of**

Chicago. Jena completed his PhD in

economics from the university and is a third-year medical student.

Philipson and Jena's study found that the past and future gains in survival from HIV/AIDS therapies developed from 1980-2000 are valued at nearly \$1.4 trillion. The authors also found that only 5% of the value of these drugs went to their innovators. This low rate of return, they argue, may reduce the incentive for future innovation in HIV/AIDS research.

More than 100 guests were in attendance for the award presentation at the

Continued on page 5

Your Candidates—Your Health: Presidential Primaries 2008

Invitations to participate in *Your Candidates—Your Health: Presidential Primaries 2008* were extended to all declared presidential candidates last month. The site, www.yourcandidates-yourhealth.org, is live and candidates can respond to our brief questionnaire about health and research issues.

Advocates are urged to use the site to ask candidates to participate in the

initiative by clicking each candidate's photo and sending e-mails using sample message text. The success of *Your Candidates—Your Health* depends on candidates hearing from you.

Return to the site later this month to read the candidates' responses and see



results from our public opinion poll on the same issues.

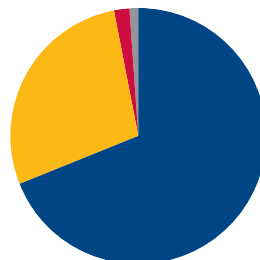
The Association of **Independent Research Institutes, GlaxoSmithKline, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, The Scripps Research Institute, United Health Foundation,**

Continued on page 6

AMERICA Speaks

How important do you think scientific research is to the U.S. economy?

Research Important to U.S. Economy



Very	69%
Somewhat	28%
Not	2%
Don't know	1%

SOURCE: BRIDGING THE SCIENCES SURVEY, 2006
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

New ON THE Web

www.researchamerica.org

The Center for American Progress has launched www.ScienceProgress.org and will begin publishing a quarterly magazine of the same name in early 2008.

The National Institutes of Health Office of Communications and Public Liaison has redesigned www.nih.gov.

Information on health issues affecting Hispanic seniors is available in Spanish from the National Institute on Aging at www.nia.nih.gov/espanol.

With the support from the National Science Foundation, the science radio show "Earth & Sky" has launched a Spanish-language version called "Cielo y Terra." www.earthsky.org.

The Research ADVOCATE



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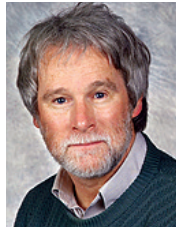
About Research!America

Research!America is the nation's largest not-for-profit public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority. Founded in 1989, Research!America is supported by our 500+ member organizations that represent the voices of more than 125 million Americans. Our public opinion polls, advocacy programs and publications reach the public and decision makers to help advance medical, health and scientific research.

Research!America
AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH

2 RESEARCH!AMERICA

Members T A K E Action



Robert F.
Gilmour Jr., PhD

Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

Established by an act of the state legislature in 1894, today the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell is one of 28 veterinary colleges and schools in the United States. The college is recognized internationally as a leader in comparative biomedical research, public health, veterinary medicine and veterinary medical education. Its mission is to advance animal and human health through education, research and public service.

The Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine is involved in two general kinds of research: research to improve animal welfare and research that is directly translatable to human medicine. The National Institutes of Health provides the majority of funding for the latter, although sometimes this research also has an immediate positive impact on animal health and well-being.

"Colleges of veterinary medicine do a wide variety of research," said **Robert F. Gilmour Jr., PhD**, associate dean for research and graduate education at the college. "Our research is applicable to animals and to humans, both in terms of direct benefits to each species and the prevention of disease transmission from animals to humans."

During the NIH budget doubling years, funding to schools of veterinary medicine increased by 112%. In FY06, the college received almost \$20 million in NIH funding.

"NIH funding is essential to what we do," Gilmour said. "That wasn't always the case. Thirty years ago, research at the college was primarily veterinary-focused, but now there's more emphasis on translation to human medicine."

The college is part of Cornell University, the federal land-grant institution of New York state and an Ivy League institution. The campus structure and resources promote multidisciplinary collaborations between the life, physical and agricultural sciences.

"The resources provided by the university afford us a spectrum of technology and expertise that's not going to be

found at a lot of places," Gilmour said. "The kinds of research we can do that involve comparative medicine are not always possible elsewhere."

"For example, many medical colleges don't have the infrastructure to support research programs that use animals larger than mice. We also bring particular expertise to the table."

A recent Research!America public opinion poll found that 76% of Americans said the use of animals in medical research is necessary for progress in medicine. Such research

can improve health for humans and for animals.

"A number of research projects at the college are good examples of the back and forth between human

and veterinary medicine," Gilmour said. "We study diseases in dogs so we can make dogs better, but the results are transferable to humans in many cases."

Advances also come about the other way, with human medicine influencing veterinary medicine.

"We are always trying to collaborate more effectively with our medical school to facilitate transfers of information," Gilmour said. "Veterinary medicine has always relied on advances in human medicine."

The college has worked successfully to build support for its work.

"While there are obviously those who are against doing research on animals, the people here are proactive about why animals are important for research," Gilmour said.

For more information, visit www.vet.cornell.edu.

'Our research is applicable to animals and to humans.'

Investing in Global Health Research

The Capital Times and *Wisconsin State Journal* mentioned Research!America's **Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research** on October 6. The article, by Anita Weier, quotes Rogers Society Ambassador **Linda Baumann, PhD, RN**: "A global perspective is critical. It is difficult to study West Nile virus by just looking at Minnesota and Wisconsin."

The October 2007 issue of *Nature* magazine also features the importance of investing in global health research. In "The Expanding Global Health Agenda: A Welcome Development," **Anthony S. Fauci, MD**, director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, describes the link between poverty and neglected tropical diseases, which have a negative impact on the global economy and, in turn, the U.S. economy.

Research!America in the News

Harper's Magazine published a letter to the editor by Research!America's Mary Woolley, in which she asked, what "opportunities have we missed by allowing politics to trump science?"

The September/October edition of *Doctor's Digest* quotes Woolley on the need for more research funding for the NIH, for our health and our economy.

U.S. Falling Behind in Science

Science reporter Jeffrey Mervis presents an argument for increasing research funding. He cites **National Science Foundation** study, which found the number of publications by U.S. scientists leveled off since the 1990s. He quotes a theory by Diana Hicks, PhD, professor and chair of the Georgia Institute of Technology's School of Public Policy, that the increase in scientific publications in some countries is directly linked to an increase in research funding. Because U.S. investment in research is leveling out, American scientists do not have the same impetus to publish.

Other countries are turning out college graduates at faster rates than the United States, especially in the sciences. This is a reversal of past trends, according to a new study from the **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development** published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. "Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators" presents data on the education systems in OECD's 30 member democracies.

Science News: What to Believe?

In "Unhealthy Science: Why Can't We Trust Much of What We Hear," *New York Times Magazine* writer Gary Taubes examines "the flip-flop rhythm of science," the seeming discrepancies between reports from observational studies and those from clinical trials, and public's confusion in interpreting research in the news.

Health News Coverage Discussed

Nancy Glass, PhD, MPH, RN, of The Johns Hopkins University Center for Global Health and a Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research Ambassador; **Barry Kramer, MD, MPH**, of the National Institutes of Health's Office of Medical Applications of Research; **Bill Leinweber**, Research!America executive vice president; and Merrill Goozner, GoozNews.com blogger, talked to members of the **Society of Professional Journalists** on October 5 about addressing policy issues in news coverage.



Twelve months from now, Americans will elect a new president. The nature of the endless campaign season will have assured the presi-

dent-elect is seeped in exposure to every conceivable interest subgroup from "Internet marrieds" and "newly released ex-cons" to "stained glass ceiling breakers" and "archery moms" (see Mark J. Penn's *Microtrends*). How many of Penn's 75 identifiable subgroups have the importance of research for health and economic prosperity high on (or even on) their "top issues" list? None that I could find. Of even more concern is that few in the research stakeholder community (that means you!) are being heard from during this campaign.

This is why Research!America and our partners have launched *Your Candidates—Your Health: Presidential Primaries* to help more of us get involved. Use www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org to let presidential candidates know how important it is to answer questions about health and research. Then support those who share your views. Visit every Tuesday this month, and every Tuesday ask five more people to get involved. If we expect to redirect the ominous trends of the last few years, we must identify and support leaders who will not just change the status quo but take change to the scale our future health and economic prosperity demand.

Other important things you can do for research: on November 16, join us, Dr. Elias Zerhouni, The Hon. Billy Tauzin and others in a discussion about realizing the promise of medical research, and November 19, thank those who are making better health a reality every day, by participating in **Public Health Thank You Day**.

Mary Woolley

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Senate Passes FY08 LHHS Bill

The Senate began consideration of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill in mid-October and passed the bill with a vote of 75-19 on October 23.

While many Senators have spoken out in strong support of the NIH, no amendment to increase NIH appropriation was offered. Even L-HHS-Ed Subcommittee Chair **Sen. Tom Harkin (IA)**, a leading champion for NIH, warned against offering such amendments, as it would “jeopardize us.” But the Senate bill does provide a greater increase for the NIH, and it is important that the Congress support that larger number.

The White House sent Congress a Statement of Administration Policy stating **President Bush** will veto the bill if it includes funding greater than his proposed budget. The statement singles out inclusion of stem cell research language and says “in combination with other FY08 appropriations bills the Senate bill includes an irresponsible and excessive level of spending and includes other objectionable provisions.” Other than the stem cell language, none of the president’s objections relate to NIH or its programs.

Rather than complicate appropriations differences with the White House by setting up another confrontation on

stem cell research, Harkin and **Sen. Arlen Specter (PA)** announced that, in the spirit of compromise, the stem cell language would be deleted from the Senate bill. But the White House and Congress are still far apart on the L-HHS-Ed spending level, and it will take extensive negotiations before the bill is complete.

The **Campaign for Public Health** was also deeply involved in the Senate debate on the bill. CPH works closely with a broad coalition that includes more than 800 national health organizations, universities, labor groups, education partners and others interested in supporting the legislation. Specifically, CPH has taken on the primary task of developing the coalition’s media blitz in support of the bill and lobbying in favor of final passage. The Senate bill contained a 6.2% increase for the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s** budget—a stark departure from the cut proposed by the Bush administration in its 2007 budget request to Congress.

The **Campaign for Medical Research** and **The Ad Hoc Group on Medical Research** sent letters, signed by nearly 550 organizations, to every member of Congress, asking them to support the Senate version of the L-HHS-Ed bill, which provides a 2.8% increase in **National Institutes of Health** funding for FY08. Thanks to the many Research!America members who signed on.

Continued on page 5

2008 FEDERAL RESEARCH BUDGET

Agency	2007 Funding Resolution	President’s Request	% Change from 2007	House	Senate
National Institutes of Health*	\$28.8 billion	\$28.3 billion	-1.7%	\$29.5 billion	\$29.7 billion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**	\$6.2 billion	\$6.0 billion	-3.5%	\$6.4 billion	\$6.6 billion
National Science Foundation	\$5.9 billion	\$6.4 billion	+8.7%	\$6.5 billion	\$6.6 billion
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	\$319 million	\$330 million	+3.4%	\$329 million	\$330 million

* Does not include money for the Global HIV/AIDS Fund, which is appropriated to NIH but not available for research.

** Reflects the CDC core program budget. For more information on the CDC budget, please visit www.FundCDC.org.

Bridging the Sciences for Diabetes Discoveries

Many technologies used by people with diabetes to manage their condition are the result of chemistry, physics, computer science, engineering and life sciences researchers working together. The interdisciplinary nature of the research required to make diabetes discoveries is covered in the second report in Research!America's **Bridging the Sciences** series (see insert).



Phil Southerland

The report focuses on ways people with diabetes manage their blood glucose levels and features **Phil Southerland**, who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes when he was 7 months old.

Southerland and seven other cyclists with type 1 diabetes competed in Race Across America as **Team Type 1**. Each team member used a continuous glucose monitoring system. In 2006, they shattered the corporate team record by more than a day and then beat their own record in 2007.

Southerland is hopeful that additional advances in research will keep improving the lives of people with diabetes. Continued investment and collaboration are necessary to address the growing diabetes epidemic in the U.S.

Appropriations Deliberations

Continued from page 4

Visit www.researchamerica.org for the latest updates and information on how you can speak out for research!

CMR Briefing

CMR and the **Biotechnology Industry Organization** cosponsored a briefing for Hill staff. **Francis Collins, MD, PhD**, of NIH, was the keynote speaker, and **Greg Lucier**, CEO of Invitrogen and CMR board member, moderated. Also participating were **Daniel Perry**, Alliance for Aging Research executive director, and **Phylecia Wilson**, a cancer survivor and 25-year volunteer for the American Cancer Society. The briefing drew nearly 50 staffers.

Public Health Study Group

CPH helped organize two additional briefings of the **Congressional Study Group on Public Health** in September. This congressional member organization also worked with CPH to organize a meeting with several partners. The study group outlined nearly a dozen future briefing topics. The next, focused on injury issues, is scheduled for November.

FDA Reauthorized

President Bush signed the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 on September 27. The law renews device and drug user fees for five years and toughens product safety programs.

"It strengthens safety rules for the wave of new miracle drugs coming on the market that Americans count on to protect their health," **Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA)** said in a statement.

Generic biologics, drugs derived from living organisms, were excluded from the current legislation, though **Reps. Frank Pallone (NJ)** and **Henry Waxman (CA)** remain optimistic for progress on the issue in the coming year.

Welcome New Members!

Greater Oklahoma City
Chamber of Commerce

The Hamner Institutes
for Health Research

New York Academy of Medicine

Simmons College

University of Notre Dame

University of Puerto Rico
School of Medicine

*Not yet a member? Join
Research!America today!*

2007 Garfield Award

Continued from page 1

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

The Honorable John Edward

Porter, Research!America's board chair, spoke of the importance of the award. "We must be able to tell the economic side of the story. The return on investment—the economic value of research—is important to businesses, local economies and our nation."

Eugene Garfield, PhD, the award's benefactor, and **Mark McClellan, MD, PhD**, chair of the award selection committee, presented the award.

Garfield is president and founding editor of *The Scientist* and creator of the Science Citation Index.

McClellan, former **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid** administrator and former **Food and Drug Administration** commissioner, described the work of past Garfield Award winners.

"As you have heard from some of the other Garfield Award winners' studies, the best way to incentivize more work to improve health is to put value behind it," McClellan said.

Download an audio file of McClellan's remarks at www.researchamerica.org.

Research!America's 12th Annual Advocacy Awards Gala

March 18, 2008

Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium
Washington, DC

Corporate Host: **Pfizer Inc**

Media Sponsor: **PARADE** magazine

Grand Reception: 6:30 p.m.
Sponsored by **GlaxoSmithKline**

Dinner and Awards Presentation:
7:15 p.m.

For more information, visit
[www.researchamerica.org/
outreach/awards.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/outreach/awards.html)

Did YOU Know

Nina V. Fedoroff, PhD, a geneticist and molecular biologist at Pennsylvania State University, was named science and technology adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State.

The **National Institutes of Health** has launched an extensive Web-based collection of genetic and clinical information. Funded by the **National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute**, the dataset includes the Framingham Heart Study. See www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/framingham/index.html.

Harvey V. Fineberg, MD, PhD, Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research advisory council member, has been appointed to a second term as president of the **Institute of Medicine**. Research!America's **The Honorable John Edward Porter**, chair, and **Darrell G. Kirch, MD**, board member, were elected new IOM members.

The **Milken Institute** recently published *An Unhealthy America: The Economic Impact of Chronic Disease*. See www.chronicdiseaseimpact.com.

Arthur H. Rubenstein, MD, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine dean, received the 2007 Academic Health Centers Leadership Award from the **Clinical Research Forum**.

Your Candidates—Your Health

Continued from page 1

University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine and **Vanderbilt University Medical Center** have recently joined as partners.

Other partners are **AdvaMed**, **American Association for Dental Research**, **American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**, **American Heart Association**, **American Medical Group Association**, **American Public Health Association**, **Association of American Medical Colleges**,

Association of Schools of Public Health, **Bristol-Myers Squibb**, **Emory University**, **FasterCures**, **Kidney Cancer Association**, **Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute**, **National Alliance for Hispanic Health**, **ONE Campaign**, **Society for Neuroscience**, **University of Michigan**, **University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine** and **Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine**.

To become a *Your Candidates—Your Health* partner, call Bill Leinweber at 703-739-2577, ext. 11.

Aspen Health Forum 2007

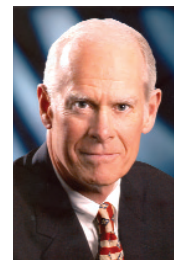
Research!America's **The Honorable John Porter**, chair, and **Mary Woolley**, president, participated in **The Aspen Health Forum** October 3-6.

Porter was a panelist for "Getting What We Pay For: The Impact of Declining Public Investment in Medical Science Research."

Research!America board member **Mark McClellan, MD, PhD**, was a panelist for "Which Came First—The Target or the Drug?" which Woolley moderated.

Woolley was a panelist for "Great Expectations: American Attitudes toward Personal Responsibility and Medicine," and she spoke at the global scientific investment lunch and plenary session.

While in Aspen, Woolley also spoke to the **Aspen Rotary Club** about public expectations for better health and the role of business and community leaders. For more, see www.aspeninstitute.org.



The Honorable John Porter

Principal Partner Thank You

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GlaxoSmithKline

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

PARADE magazine

Pfizer Inc

The Scripps Research Institute

United Health Foundation

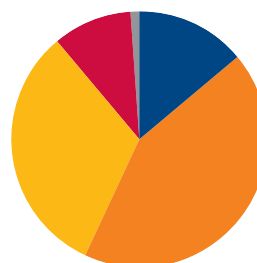
University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

AMERICA Speaks

How well informed would you say you are regarding the stance of your elected officials on health care issues?

Are Americans Informed?



Very well	14%
Somewhat well	43%
Not too well	32%
Not at all	10%
Don't know	1%

SOURCE: YOUR CONGRESS—YOUR HEALTH SURVEY, 2007
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

Two Public Health Heroes, from Research to Practice

Public health heroes **Junfeng Zhang, PhD**, School of Public Health at The University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, and **Michael Caldwell, MD**, commissioner of health, Dutchess County, NY, both work to improve indoor air quality: Zhang from the research aspect and Caldwell from the delivery of evidence-based health services.

“The field of public health depends on science,” Caldwell said. “Public health practitioners use scientific data as a basis to educate Americans and to inform the development of legislation that protects the health of Americans.”

Zhang, who calls himself a practice-oriented researcher, has first-hand knowledge about how research translates into effective public health policies. His research on ozone emissions has helped place regulations on indoor air filters in California.

Research!America invites you to join us in celebrating these and other public health heroes on Monday, November 19—**Public Health Thank You Day**. Visit www.publichealththankyouday.org for ways to say thank you.

Board Member, Honorary Director Recognized

Tadataka “Tachi” Yamada, MD, president of the global health program at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Research!America board member, recently received the title honorary Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire. He was honored for his work at **GlaxoSmithKline**.

Just after **Michael E. DeBakey, MD**’s 99th birthday, Congress passed and the president signed a measure honoring DeBakey’s pioneering work in cardiovascular surgery. The **Congressional Gold Medal**, the highest civilian honor in the United States, will be presented to the Baylor College of Medicine chancellor emeritus and Research!America honorary director this winter.



Tadataka Yamada, MD



Michael E. DeBakey, MD

Silver Book Launched

The National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research, in partnership with the Alliance for Aging Research, launched *The Silver Book: Vision Loss*, a collection of data about the incidence and economic burden of aging eye disease.

Daniel Perry, Alliance for Aging Research executive director, and **James Jorkasky**, NAEVR executive director, provided opening remarks at the September 25 event. Visit www.silverbook.org/visionloss.

Did You Know?

Continued from page 6

The **National Center for Research Resources** announced the expansion of the **Clinical and Translational Science Award** consortium, which enables researchers to get new treatments to patients more quickly and efficiently. See www.ctsaweb.org.

The **United States Cochrane Center** and **The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health** have launched a free online course, “Understanding Evidence-Based Health Care: A Foundation for Action.” See www.cochrane.us.

The **Agency for Health Care Research and Quality**’s annual conference was September 27-28. The conference presented AHRQ’s latest research findings and featured presentations by public and private sector health care leaders. See www.ahrq.gov.

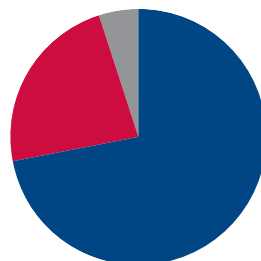
Research!America President **Mary Woolley** spoke recently to the eight 2007-08 **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows**. See www.healthpolicyfellows.org. Woolley also spoke to a **George Washington University** public health advocacy class on October 1 and at the **Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural and Minority Medicine**’s inaugural meeting September 26.

AMERICA Speaks

Do you favor or oppose increasing federal funding for state and local health departments across the country that are expected to prepare for and respond to threats to our health?

SOURCE: YOUR CONGRESS-YOUR HEALTH SURVEY, 2007
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

State and Local Health Department Funding



Favor	72%
Oppose	23%
Don't know	5%

ComingUp

November 12-13, 2007—**Burrill Personalized Medicine Meeting**. San Francisco. www.personalizedmedicine-meeting.com

November 16, 2007—**Transforming Health: Fulfilling the Promise of Research**, presented by the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America and Research!America. Washington, DC.

November 19, 2007—**Third annual Public Health Thank You Day** to recognize our nation's public health heroes. www.publichealththankyouday.org.

December 2-4, 2007—**PRIM&R 2007 Conference: Human Research Protection Programs in an Evolving Research Landscape**. Boston.

March 18, 2008—**Research!America's 2008 Annual Meeting, National Forum and Advocacy Awards Gala**. Washington, DC.

Advocacy & Action

Make Health a Priority in the Primaries Contact the Candidates

Visit www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org to let the presidential candidates know you want to see what they think about health and research.



The success of **Your Candidates–Your Health** is dependent on the presidential candidates hearing from you and

your colleagues that you want them to participate.

By clicking on each candidate's photo on the site, you will find contact information and sample message text to encourage candidates to complete the brief **Your Candidates–Your Health** questionnaire. Tell candidates you expect to see their responses soon on www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.



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www.researchamerica.org

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