

THE Research

A D V O C A T E

BRINGING RESEARCH CLOSER TO HOME

Research!America, American Chemical Society Hold Capitol Hill Briefing

Research!America and the American Chemical Society, along with honorary co-hosts **Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)**, **Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)** and **Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)**, hosted a Capitol Hill briefing to discuss the importance of investing in early-career scientists and researchers whose work will maintain our nation's competitiveness and increase our economic prosperity.

The briefing was moderated by **James Gentile, PhD**, president of the Research Corporation for Science

Advancement. Panelists included **Iain Cockburn, PhD**, professor of finance and economics at the Boston University School of Management; **Marshall Shuler, PhD**, assistant professor of neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University; **Raquel Lieberman, PhD**, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry at Georgia Tech; and **Meryl Comer**, president of the Geoffrey Beene Gives Back® Alzheimer's Initiative.

As early-career scientists themselves, Lieberman and Shuler provided per-



Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)



Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)



Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)

spectives on the unique challenges they face in obtaining funding and establishing a foothold in the field. Cockburn cited public investment in research as one of the distinguishing features of the life sciences sector.

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Research!Sweden Announced, For Health and Prosperity



Mary Woolley, left, and **Anna Nilsson Vindefjärd, PhD**, at the Forska!Sverige kickoff event in Stockholm.

Forska!Sverige, a Swedish advocacy group modeled after Research!America, hasn't officially launched, but that hasn't prevented the fledgling group from thinking about the challenges it faces.

"The political interest for research is low, due to the shortsighted political reality," the organization's executive board member, **Anna Nilsson Vindefjärd, PhD**, wrote in an e-mail.

"Many politicians also seem to

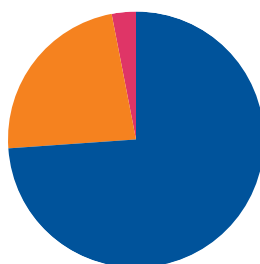
believe that the public does not prioritize research. It has gone so far that our new government has decided not to have a minister of research anymore. It is clear that Sweden needs an organization to put research back on the map and show why it is important for health and prosperity."

The group announced its kickoff

Continued on page 7

AMERICA SPEAKS

How important do you think education and training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is to U.S. competitiveness and future economic prosperity?



STEM Education Very Important to U.S. Competitiveness

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Very important | 74% |
| Somewhat important | 23% |
| Not too important | 3% |

New ON THE Web

www.researchamerica.org

The American Academy of Pediatrics now provides a one-stop shop for keeping up to date with all the news surrounding AAP's journals. Visit the page at intheloop.aap.org.

The American Medical Association has a new online tool designed to help physician practices prepare for billing and payment audits. For more information, go online to bit.ly/c04Shq.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials has a local health department search widget that you can embed onto your own website online at bit.ly/byZHQD.

Temple University is the first to offer a fully online RN-BSN program. Check out details about the program at bit.ly/c4v4JM.

THE Research ADVOCATE

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About Research!America

Research!America is the nation's largest 501(c)(3) public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority. Founded in 1989, Research!America is supported by member organizations that together 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.



Members TAKE Action



Scott Minick

Trying to get liposomes to deliver medicine to a targeted spot within the human body is a challenging task. **Scott Minick** saw this firsthand as director, president and COO of **SEQU-US Pharmaceuticals**. In his next job as a managing director for **ARCH Venture Partners**, Minick searched throughout the country at universities and small companies, looking for a technology to succeed where liposomes had come up short.

That lengthy search eventually brought him to **BIND Biosciences**, where Minick found the technology and team that he sought, and ARCH invested in the company.

The Cambridge, MA-based company's Medicinal Nanoengineering platform allows drugs to target specific sites of disease in the body without affecting other, healthy regions.

For example, Minick said, cancer

BIND Biosciences

BIND Biosciences was launched in 2007 by Harvard researchers Robert Langer, DSc, and Omid Farokhzad, MD, to license patents of their work from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard Medical School. The company specializes in medical nanotechnology.

drugs can be placed into a targeted nanoparticle and achieve high concentrations in the tumor. "That means increased efficacy and improved safety," he said.

After becoming a board member at BIND, Minick was helping to search for a new chief executive; eventually, the board asked him if he was interested in the position. Minick accepted, and his new role was announced on January 11. "It was an honor to join BIND's team of highly experienced drug development scientists to bring this important new technology to patients," Minick explained.

Minick, a bench scientist by training, said that Research!America's goals align with both his and BIND's.

"I see the need to invest in innovative technologies and bringing that to help patients," he said. "Research!America's mission resonates with me."

Visit bindbio.com for more.

Research!America Adds Value

FOR OUR MEMBERS

Research!America stands on a reputation of innovative advocacy that generates results serving our mission and the interests of our members:

- *America Speaks*, our annual recap of a year's worth of polling, provides data that allows our members to supplement their advocacy with proof of public support.
- Research!America's briefings on Capitol Hill help us showcase to lawmakers and their staffs the importance of keeping funding for health research a top priority.
- To facilitate the national conversation on the intertwined topics of health, research and the economy, Research!America and our partners invited all candidates for federal office to participate in *Your Candidates—Your Health*.
- Research!America's advocacy tools help scientists become effective advocates for research funding and policy. Our polling shows that scientists collectively speak with one of the most trusted voices, in the public's view; our resources help them make their voices heard by elected officials and others.



Martha N. Hill, PhD, RN

Nursing Research in the News

Martha N. Hill, PhD, RN, dean of the **Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing** and a Research!America board member, wrote an op-ed for the *Baltimore Sun* on the increasingly global shortage of nurses. She emphasized that the world's most serious health threats, such as TB and malnutrition, require nursing research.

Prevention in Health Care Reform

Georges C. Benjamin, MD, executive director of the **American Public Health Association** and a Research!America board member, authored a *Baltimore Sun* op-ed in which he praised the Prevention and Public Health Fund provision included in the health care reform legislation. "This fund invests in proven strategies that prevent people from getting sick in the first place," he wrote.



Georges Benjamin, MD

Overbuilding Research Capacity

Bruce Alberts, PhD, editor in chief of *Science*, wrote an editorial in the magazine warning that some **National Institutes of Health** incentives designed to encourage research institutions to expand their capacities should be regulated. That will help avoid unintended consequences, such as research facilities expanding on speculation and increasingly competitive NIH grants.



Bruce Alberts, PhD

Federal Funding for Embryonic Stem Cell Research

According to Research!America's *Your Candidates—Your Health* poll, 70% of Americans support expanding federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. This finding was cited in *Nature* and the blog *Health Commentary with Dr. Mike Magee*. Research!America's Mary Woolley was also quoted by **Medill News Service**, calling on the stem cell community to tell the public, policy makers and the media that embryonic stem cell research saves lives, creates jobs and boosts the U.S. economy.

Woolley authored an article in the *2010 World Stem Cell Report* which gives a historical perspective on public opinion polling and advocacy efforts that have helped shaped federal policies for embryonic stem cell research. Woolley wrote, "informed advocates have a powerful role to play in educating policy makers and the public about the benefits, risks and responsible approaches to human embryonic stem cell research."

Research Funding in FY11 and Beyond

Research!America's *2009 U.S. Investment in Health Research* report indicates that health research spending in all sectors accounted for only 5.6% of all health spending in the U.S. in 2009. That amount represents a 0.1% increase from 2008, continuing a flattening trend for U.S. research spending that began in 2005. The report was featured in an article by **United Press International**.

John Edward Porter, Research!America's chair, and Woolley were quoted in a *USA Today Science Fair* blog article supporting the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act and the extension of the R&D tax credit. They also called for a greater investment in U.S. science research and education. In turn, Research!America's Stacie Propst, PhD, told *The News-Journal* of Wilmington, DE, that "research is the lifeblood of our economy and economic future, and we are not investing in it the way we should be."



The tumultuous midterm election season sets a discouraging tone in American politics.

With civility joining the endangered species list, it has become increasingly difficult to find common political ground on previously bipartisan topics like the value of investing in research as a public good. It used to be that our primary challenge was raising the visibility and urgency of research. Now the advocacy challenge also involves stressing the critical role research and innovation play in "getting the job done" — getting several important jobs done, in fact: creating jobs for individuals in the health research sector and jobs for those who work alongside that sector; the job of assuring that research and innovation are leveraged to full capacity on behalf of the patient as health reform is implemented; and the job of prioritizing research and development to drive our nation's economic productivity and global competitiveness.

Moving research up the priority ladder in a new Congress will not be easy. Along with our partners in the voter education initiative *Your Candidates—Your Health*, we have laid the foundation for strategy development by making it known, repeatedly, to every candidate for election that their positions on health and research for health matter to a broad constituency. We invite you to join us November 16 at the AAAS auditorium in Washington to participate in what I am sure will be a lively and productive discussion of the challenges ahead. More than ever before, it is critical to our success as a broad group of stakeholders that we join forces and speak with one voice.

Mary Woolley

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Health Research as Common Ground in the New Congress: A Post-Election Analysis

How will the elections impact investment in health research? What can the advocacy community expect from the 112th Congress? What strategies will ensure research remains a funding priority?

Join us November 16 for a panel that will help us survey the landscape after this year's midterm elections. The event, a part of our *Your Candidates—Your Health* voter education initiative, will be held in the auditorium at the **American Association for the Advancement of Science** in Washington, DC.

Confirmed speakers include **Alan I. Leshner, PhD**, AAAS chief executive officer; former congressman **John Edward Porter**, Research!America chair; **Stacie Propst, PhD**, Research!America vice president of science policy and outreach; **Mary Woolley**, Research!America president and CEO; and **Norman J. Ornstein, PhD**, of the **American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research**.

Admission is free, and the event begins at 10 a.m. with coffee and networking. To register, visit www.researchamerica.org/event_listing.

Tell Congress Where America Stands

Research!America's annual *America Speaks* poll data summary will be available online in November. This year's edition, Volume 11, looks back at the key findings from Research!America's public opinion polling released in 2010.

America Speaks is an excellent tool for advocacy demonstrating America's support for research to improve health. Volume 11 is sponsored by the **United Health Foundation**, which has sponsored each edition of *America Speaks* since 2001.

CPH Update

The **Campaign for Public Health Foundation** is proud to announce the winners of the Unsung Heroes of Public Health Awards.

Cecilia Rosales, MD, is the recipient of the 2010 Wavemaker Award, honoring a disease control or prevention expert for exceptional work on large-scale public health challenges. Her work has improved health among border populations in the U.S. and Mexico. **Janet Zola, MPH**, was awarded the 2010 Rock in the Pond Award, recognizing an individual for outstanding work on community-based public health efforts. Zola has been commended for her cutting-edge hepatitis B prevention efforts to improve the health of at-risk and minority populations in the San Francisco area.

A reception to honor the award winners will be held November 18 in Washington, DC. To register, visit www.cphfoundation.org/annual_awards.html.

2011 FEDERAL RESEARCH BUDGET

| Agency | President's Request | % Change from 2010 | House Appropriations Subcommittees | Senate Appropriations Committee | Research!America's Recommendation |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| National Institutes of Health | \$32.0 billion | +3.2% | \$32.0 billion | \$32.0 billion | \$35.0 billion |
| Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* | \$6.6 billion | -1.9% | \$6.8 billion | \$6.9 billion | \$8.8 billion |
| National Science Foundation | \$7.42 billion | +8.0% | \$7.42 billion | \$7.35 billion | \$7.42 billion |
| Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality | \$611 million | +53.9% | \$411 million | \$397 million | \$611 million |

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

USF Scientists Call for Stem Cell Research Ethics Consortium

Two stem cell researchers at the **University of South Florida**, a Research!America member, have proposed the creation of an independent body to aid regulatory agencies, lawmakers and policy makers in understanding stem cell issues.

Cesar V. Borlongan, PhD, and **Paul R. Sanberg, PhD, DSc**, and three other scientists authored a commentary in *Technology and Innovation: Proceedings of the National Academy of Inventors* that calls for the formation of a national board that would shape ethical policy toward stem cell research and possibly future technologies as well. Borlongan and Sanberg envision the consortium as a proactive board that would identify issues, discuss them with various communities and issue recommendations.

The University of South Florida's **Camille McWhirter, JD**, and **Caroline Fultz-Carver, PhD**, also co-authored the commentary, along with **Kevin T. FitzGerald, PhD**, of the Georgetown University Medical Center — also a Research!America member.

Collins Testifies at Senate Hearing on ESCR



Francis Collins, MD, PhD

Francis Collins, MD, PhD, director of the **National Institutes of Health**, underscored the importance of embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) at a Senate subcommittee hearing on September 16.

Collins introduced the three types of stem cells used in research — embryonic stem cells (ESC), adult stem cells and induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) — and said, “All of them are interesting; all of them are important.”

Some opponents of ESCR argue that adult stem cells can be used in place of ESC. But, as Collins explained, there are subtle differences among the cell types, and it is integral to compare adult stem cells or iPSC with ESC. If we cannot use ESC in research, we also damage the potential of adult stem cells and iPSC, Collins said.

A recent poll commissioned by Research!America showed that 70% of Americans favor expanding federal funding for ESCR. For more information about this important policy issue, visit www.researchamerica.org/stemcell_issue.

Special Thanks

To Renewing Research!America Alliance Members

| | |
|--|---|
| AAALAC International | Northwest Association for Biomedical Research |
| American Association of Public Health Dentistry | Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine |
| American Lung Association | Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine |
| The American Physiological Society | Pfizer Inc |
| Association of Independent Research Institutes | Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research |
| Boston University School of Dental Medicine | Tufts University School of Dental Medicine |
| Boston University School of Public Health | University of Florida |
| Clinical Research Forum | University of Louisville |
| The Critical Path Institute (C-PATH) | University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing |
| David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA | University of Texas |
| Georgia Research Alliance | M.D. Anderson Cancer Center |
| Harvard Medical School | Van Andel Research Institute |
| Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE-USA) | Washington University in St. Louis Center for Health Policy |
| The Medical College of Wisconsin | Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine |
| New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research | |
| Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy | |

Not yet a member? Join Research!America today at www.researchamerica.org/become_member_or_donate.

2011 RESEARCH!AMERICA

Advocacy Awards

March 15, 2011

Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium
Washington, DC

6:30 p.m. Grand Reception

7:15 p.m. Dinner and Awards Presentations

www.researchamerica.org/advocacy_awards

2011 ADVOCACY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Raymond and Beverly Sackler Award for Sustained National Leadership

J. Michael Bishop, MD, Nobel laureate and chancellor emeritus of University of California, San Francisco

Gordon and Llura Gund Leadership Award
Michael Bloomberg, New York City mayor

Paul G. Rogers Distinguished Organization Advocacy Award

Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center

Builders of Science Award

Dean Kamen, founder of DEKA Research & Development

Plan to join us earlier in the day at the Research!America Annual Meeting and 2011 National Forum at the National Press Club.

Principal Partner Thank You

Research!America extends special thanks to our principal partners:

MULTIPLE-PROGRAM SUPPORT
Howard Hughes Medical Institute

YOUR CANDIDATES-YOUR HEALTH
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Visit www.researchamerica.org/partnership_opportunities for ways to support Research!America.

Hill Briefing *Continued from page 1*

Comer offered a caregiver's perspective.

Research!America's chair, former congressman **John Edward Porter**, opened and closed the event.

Did YOU Know

The **Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)** named **Ellen Sigal, PhD**, a Research!America board member, to its board of governors.

The **Association of Academic Health Centers** named **Larry Shapiro, MD**, and **Victor Dzau, MD**, to its board. Shapiro and Dzau are both Research!America board members.

L.D. Britt, MD, of **Eastern Virginia Medical School**, was installed as the 91st president of the **American College of Surgeons**. EVMS and ACS are both Research!America members.

Academic Leaders Installed at Several Institutions

Lynn R. Goldman, MD, was appointed dean of **The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services**. Goldman joined SPHHS from the **Johns Hopkins University**, where she was a professor of environmental health sciences at the **Bloomberg School of Public Health**.

J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD, was named executive vice president of the health system and dean of the School of Medicine for the **University of Pennsylvania**. Jameson will join Penn from **Northwestern University**, where he is vice president for medical affairs and the Lewis Landsberg Dean of the **Feinberg School of Medicine**. He will assume his new role on July 1, 2011.

Ray L. Watts, MD, was selected as senior vice president for medicine and dean of the School of Medicine at the **University of Alabama at Birmingham**.

Terri Weaver, PhD, was named dean of the **University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing**. Weaver joined UIC from the **University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing**, where she was the chair of biobehavioral and health sciences.

The George Washington University SPHHS, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, UAB School of Medicine, UIC College of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania Schools of Medicine and Nursing are all Research!America members.

Rising Above the Gathering Storm, Revisited

The **National Academies** released a new report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm, Revisited*. Like the 2005 report — titled *Rising Above the Gathering Storm, Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future* — the new report calls for a stronger U.S. commitment to basic research and science education. It says the U.S. has shown little sign of improvement in K-12 math and science education since the release of the first *Gathering Storm* report. It warns that U.S. competitiveness in science and technology will decrease once the stimulus funds are exhausted unless research receives sustained funding. The report urges the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act, also set to expire soon.

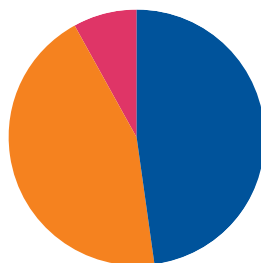
Advancing Regulatory Science for Public Health

The **Food and Drug Administration** released a report outlining its plans to advance regulatory science through its new Regulatory Science Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to improve the way food and medical products are assessed before they become available to consumers, thereby advancing public health in the U.S. The report proposes seven ways to accomplish this goal: by accelerating the

delivery of new medical treatments to patients; improving pediatric and child health; increasing protection against emerging infectious diseases and terrorism; enhancing safety and health through informatics; increasing protection of the U.S. food supply; modernizing safety testing; and improving tobacco regulation. The FDA will build additional partnerships with academia, industry and government as part of the initiative. The agency plans to use \$25 million from **President Barack Obama's** proposed FY11 FDA budget to implement the new initiative.

AMERICA SPEAKS

Some people say the FDA needs to fund university-based experts to help improve the approval process for pharmaceuticals and other medical products. How important do you think it is for the U.S. Congress to support this funding?



Important for Congress to Support Funding for Improving FDA Approval

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Very important | 48% |
| Somewhat important | 44% |
| Not important | 8% |

SOURCE: RESEARCH ENTERPRISE POLL, FEBRUARY 2010, CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

Hotez Speaks at Hearing on Neglected Tropical Diseases

Sabin Vaccine Institute President **Peter Hotez, MD, PhD**, testified at a **Food and Drug Administration** hearing to discuss ways to advance and develop medical products used in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, which plague the world's poorest developing countries. In his testimony, Hotez advised the agency to use its unique regulatory and public health role to help product development partnerships navigate the barriers which delay distribution of treatments to affected populations.

The Sabin Vaccine Institute is a Research!America member, and Hotez is a Paul G. Rogers Society Ambassador.

Biden Discusses ARRA Impact on Research

Vice President **Joe Biden** and Office of Science and Technology Policy Director **John P. Holdren, PhD**, hosted a roundtable with university presidents to discuss how funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act helped universities advance science and create jobs.

"This administration has made these investments," Biden said. "because we believe that our new economic future will grow from ideas that are incubating at universities across the country."

AACN Report Outlines Future of Nursing Research



Jackie Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN

The **American Association of Colleges of Nursing**, a Research!America member, and a 12-person panel produced a report that looks at the future of academic programs that award doctoral programs in nursing research.

The panel, chaired by **Jackie Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN**, dean of the **University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing** — also a Research!America member — recommended that academic institutions determine whether a PhD program or a doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degree is best for each institution's particular circumstance.

Research!Sweden

Continued from page 1

September 23 in an event for the founding members that featured Research!America President and CEO Mary Woolley. Beyond that, Vindefjärd said, Forska!Sverige has done little in the way of self-promotion until the organization is fully registered. Among those that know, the group has been well-received, Vindefjärd said.

Forska!Sverige has a board at this point, with Vindefjärd as the board's executive member. Once funding is in place, she is likely to take the role of executive director and staff will be recruited in order for the organization to become operational.

GLOBAL HEALTH

R&D
ADVOCACY

GHR&D Advocacy Coming to a State Near You

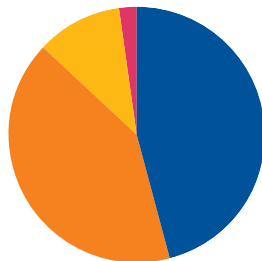
We find ourselves in unprecedented times. Globalization has eliminated the distance barrier; global is local. And Research!America is on board.

Our national investment in global health research and development is an investment in our own health, economy and security. Research!America is taking this message home, focusing on policy makers and constituents in select states. Beginning with Illinois, we are working with businesses, researchers and key players in that state's global health research industry to showcase not only the lives saved here and abroad but also the economic value generated at home from our investment in global health R&D. We are engaging Illinoisans and key officials in a collaborative discussion at a salon dinner. Results from statewide polls about public attitudes on the U.S. investment in global health R&D will be released in coordination with the dinners, along with new publications illustrating the health and economic impact of this investment for the selected states or regions, and what various federal agencies conducting global health R&D are doing to improve America's health.

AMERICA SPEAKS

Many governments have set a goal to spend 3% of GDP on research and development, and some, including Japan and Korea, have already exceeded this goal. How important do you think it is for the U.S. to achieve this goal?

SOURCE: YOUR CANDIDATES-YOUR HEALTH POLL, AUGUST 2010, CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA



Americans Believe U.S. Should Keep Pace on Research Investment

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Very important | 46% |
| Somewhat important | 41% |
| Not too important | 11% |
| Not at all important | 2% |

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Coming UP

November 6-10, 2010 — **APHA's Annual Meeting & Exposition**. Denver. www.apha.org/meetings.

November 8-10, 2010 — **mHealth Summit**. Washington, DC. <http://mhealthsummit.org/>.

November 16 2010 — **Research!America's Finding Ground for Research to Improve Health: A Post-Election Analysis**. Washington, DC. www.researchamerica.org/event_detail/id:104.

December 2, 2010 — **Research!America's Garfield Economic Impact Award**. Washington, DC. www.researchamerica.org/economicimpact_award.

December 6, 2010 — **Deadline for AMA Foundation's 2011 Seed Research Grants**. <http://bit.ly/cdoBqK>.

December 6-8, 2010 — **PRIM&R Advancing Ethical Research Conference**. San Diego, CA. www.primr.org/Conferences.aspx?id=7717.

December 14-15, 2010 — **Partnering for Cures Conference**. New York. www.partneringforcures.org/.



Advocacy & Action

Take action now! Urge your representative and senators to **pass the Stem Cell Research Advancement Act** (H.R. 4808 in the House and S. 3766 in the Senate) this year. The U.S. must continue to invest in embryonic stem cell research, and a legislative solution is necessary to ensure that federal funding for this important research is no longer vulnerable to political or ideological challenge.

Call on Congress to pass a bill in 2010 that explicitly authorizes the NIH to fund hESC research.

Write to your delegation in support of embryonic stem cell research now! Visit <http://capwiz.com/ram/home>.

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