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**From:** Jarel LaPan [mailto:Jarel.LaPan@ptt.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 30, 2008 6:22 AM  
**To:** Jarel LaPan [contacts including FAIR Foundation]  
**Cc:** HHS Review Team Alta Charo, Francis Collins, Greg Simon, and Harold Varmus  
**Subject:** NIH Transition Team invites your perspective

Dear Colleague,

As members of the Obama Transition Team focused on the National Institutes of Health, our specific charge is to gather information that would be particularly important for President-Elect Obama, Secretary-designate Daschle, and the yet-to-be-named new NIH Director to know about on day one -- including both opportunities and potentially troublesome circumstances. The Transition Team does not make actual recommendations about programs, policies, or personnel, but we collect information that might help the new administration define priorities and make wise decisions.

We have already met with several of the umbrella organizations with specific interests in NIH, including FASEB, AAMC, AAU, Research! America, the National Health Council, BIO, and PhRMA. Summaries submitted by several of these groups are attached.

We apologize that the very tight time constraints of the transition process will not make it possible to schedule further face-to-face meetings. But if there are specific NIH issues that you think we should know about, and that are not captured by these summaries, we would like to hear from your organization. In that event, please submit a one- to two-page summary (send to [francis.collins@gmail.com](mailto:francis.collins@gmail.com)) by January 5, 2009.

As the Obama Transition Team is striving for maximum transparency, any materials submitted will also be posted on [www.change.gov](http://www.change.gov)

Many thanks for your interest in NIH, and Happy New Year.

Alta Charo, Francis Collins, Greg Simon, and Harold Varmus

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