**CGA NEWS**

(2-22-13)

To:       CGA

From:   A۰P۰L۰U Congressional and Governmental Affairs Staff

                     Location of Next Week’s CGA Meeting Changed

                     CGA Encouraged to Invite Hill Staff to Attend Briefing on University Budgeting

                     Administration Issues New Proposed Policy on Life Science Dual Use Research of Concern

                     Public Access to Research Results Legislation Introduced in House and Senate

                     Registration Still Open for National Humanities Advocacy Day

                     AAAS Seeking Signatures for “Speak Up for Science” Petition

                      Administration Issues New Proposed Policy on Life Science Dual Use Research of Concern

 Yesterday, the White House Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) released for public review and comment a proposed policy covering life sciences research that may qualify as dual use research of concern (DURC).  The proposed policy, “United States Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern,” is posted on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [Science Safety Security (S3) website](http://www.phe.gov/s3/dualuse/Pages/default.aspx%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)  and open for comment for next 60 days through April 23, 2013.   As the CGA may recall, the Administration initiated an internal [policy](http://oba.od.nih.gov/oba/biosecurity/pdf/united_states_government_policy_for_oversight_of_durc_final_version_032812.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) in March 2012 that requires agencies to review research, both proposed and current proposals, to identify those that qualify as DURC and ensure that acceptable risk-reducing mitigation plans are in place.

                      Public Access to Research Results Legislation Introduced in House and Senate

 Last week, Representatives Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Mike Doyle (D-PA), and Kevin Yoder (R-KS) introduced legislation to increase the accessibility of publicly funded research results. Their bill, the [Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR)](http://lofgren.house.gov/images/stories/pdf/2013%2002%2014%20doyle%20lofgren%20yoder%20fastr%20final.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) (H.R. 708), would require federal agencies with annual extramural research budgets of $100 million or more to provide the public with online access to manuscripts stemming from federally-funded research. The bill requires such access be provided no later than six months after publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

 FASTR is a renamed and reintroduced FRPPA (Federal Research Public Access Act), a bill introduced early in 2012, also by Rep. Doyle. A۰P۰L۰U and the Association of American Universities (AAU) sent a letter to Doyle and John Cornyn (R-TX) in the Senate in February 2012 expressing support for the principles contained in the bill while highlighting concerns about specific provisions.

 It appears that the joint letter did encourage the addition of language to address the issue of having common deposition procedures across agencies—see Sec. 4(a)(2)—which had been one of the concerns. Another helpful change is the addition of language to address reuse of electronic manuscripts—Sec. 4(b)(5)—which, the associations believe, is a good objective but the language will require closer review.

 AAU and A۰P۰L۰U previously expressed concern with the six-month embargo period (the associations had encouraged a 12-month period instead), which has not been addressed in the current bill.

 A companion Senate bill, S. 350, was introduced by Cornyn and Ron Wyden (D-OR).

 CGA members with questions about this bill and A۰P۰L۰U’s response are asked to contact Jim Woodell at jwoodell@aplu.org or (202) 478-6044.