2012 HIGHLIGHTS

» CONVENE TWO MAJOR REGIONAL CONFERENCES for both the IRB and IACUC committees to ensure that administrators and researchers are prepared to address the most current regulatory and bioethics issues.

» ORGANIZE MONTHLY COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS about ethical dilemmas in medical research, covering topics such as the justification for animal research, understanding tradeoffs when returning research results to participants, and how/if research should be conducted with children.

» PUBLISH FINDINGS AND ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS to support excellence in science. “Fostering Critical Thinking, Reasoning, and Argumentation Skills through Bioethics Education,” in Public Library of Science (PLOS) ONE (May 2012) has been viewed more than 3,000 times.

» CELEBRATE THE 12TH ANNUAL STUDENT BIO EXPO by showcasing work from 361 students representing 28 Washington high schools. Students were connected with mentors and judges from 59 institutions in our local scientific community.

» FACILITATE NETWORKING AND COMMUNITY BUILDING among immunology researchers by organizing the first Northwest Summit on Immunological Models in Non-Human Primates, an invitation-only conference on new technologies and translational insights with non-human primate models.

» COORDINATE A SPECIAL SCREENING OF THE FILM, “RARE,” in collaboration with the Seattle Science Festival and Pacific Science Center’s 50th anniversary. The film highlights the challenges of living with a rare genetic disorder, and the need for research and clinical trial participation.

» ENGAGE 156 SCIENTISTS AND STAFF FROM MEMBER INSTITUTIONS and provided 17 site visits for teachers and students participating in NWABR’s NIH-funded cure summer programs.

» RECRUIT MORE THAN 280 SCIENTISTS FROM 22 INSTITUTIONS at the 6th annual Life Sciences Research Weekend to present interactive programs for children and adults—making science accessible and scientists inspiring!

» EXTEND THE REACH OF NWABR’S NSF-FUNDED BIOINFORMATICS PROGRAM through additional summer workshops for teachers and students, submission of research findings for publication, and a new workshop partnership with Shoreline Community College.

» INTRODUCE MORE THAN 200 MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS to the process of drug and medical device development through NWABR’s annual “Biomedical Breakthroughs and My Life” essay contest, where every student receives personal feedback from a researcher.

» INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS through after school and in-class, hands-on lotion and soap workshops that reached 276 students and 76 adults.
Organizational Members

HEALTH-RELATED CORPORATIONS
- Amgen
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Emergent Product Development
- Novo Nordisk
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- PhaseRx Inc.
- SNBL USA, Ltd.

EDUCATIONAL & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS
- University of Idaho
- Oregon Health & Science University
- Oregon State University
- University of Oregon
- University of Idaho
- University of Washington
- Washington State University
- Western Washington University

NON-PROFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS
- Allen Institute for Brain Science
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Infectious Disease Research Institute
- Institute for Systems Biology
- Pacific Northwest Diabetes Research Institute
- PATH
- Puget Sound Blood Center
- Seattle Biomedical Research Institute
- Seattle Children’s Research Institute
- The Hope Heart Institute

RESEARCH HOSPITALS
- St. Luke’s Health System
- Legacy Health System
- Samaritan Health Services
- Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason
- Southwest Washington Medical Center
- Swedish Medical Center
- Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System

Associate Members

VOLUNTARY HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS
- Northwest Kidney Centers

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES & ASSOCIATIONS
- American Physiological Society
- Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association
- Washington Global Health Alliance
- Washington State Dental Association
- Washington State Medical Association
- Washington State Veterinary Medical Association

SERVICE PROVIDERS
- Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.
- Allentown, Inc.
- Lucent Medical Systems
- NBBJ
- Purina Mills Lab Diet/Land O' Lakes Purina Feed
- Quorum Review
- The Windward Company
- University Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
- Western Institutional Review Board

FINANCIALS

Revenue: $1,201,208
Expenses: $1,282,481
Fund balance as of 9/30/12

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TEACHERS

NWABR is dedicated to helping teachers improve their classroom experiences and offers an extensive lesson archive including full plans, rubrics, and guidelines, as well as a variety of professional development programs to promote understanding of biomedical research and its ethical conduct.

"NWABR provides fantastic, interactive lesson plans and curricula that address innovative science and grapple with bioethics. During the summer program it was such a privilege to meet science researchers doing cutting-edge experiments in stem cells, cancer, HIV, immunology and other areas of the curriculum that I teach."
-Teacher who attended NWABR’s 2012 CURE professional development workshop

COMMUNITY

NWABR programs bring the excitement of science and the promise of research to the non-science community through events such as Life Sciences Research Weekend, Community Conversations, and afterschool science workshops. We encourage dialogue within our community in order to promote the understanding of the process of research.

"Wow—your Life Sciences Research Weekend was incredible! My niece, nephew, hairdresser (seriously!), family and friends all came. You wouldn’t believe the e-mails I received afterward, all saying what an inspired time they had... My only regret is not having been involved years ago."
-Volunteer at 2012 Life Sciences Research Weekend

STUDENTS

NWABR connects hundreds of students and researchers each year through programs such as our Student Bio Expo, CURE Student Fellows, Youth Ethics Summit, Speakers Bureau and middle school essay contest.

"I owe you a huge 'Thank You.' Since participating in the [Student Bio Expo], my daughter’s interest in science blossomed. I see a different child—one who is eager to learn, hardly watches TV shows anymore and reads Scientific American in her free time. Her face lights up when she gets a chance to talk to scientists. I am deeply indebted to the NWABR community and the difference it is making in my child’s life. It truly takes a village to raise a child."
-Parent of a 2012 Student Bio Expo participant

MEMBERS

NWABR’s local and regional conferences are designed to respond to emerging member needs. We bring members together to advance knowledge, promote networking and strengthen trust in research.

"The conference was well-organized and full of current information...thought-provoking and enjoyable. Most conferences do not stress networking. I found that to be one of the highlights of this meeting."
-Attendee of the Northwest Summit on Immunological Models in Non-Human Primates

RESEARCHERS

Researchers from NWABR’s member institutions are invited to share their passion for their work by serving as judges, mentors, speakers or tour guides in their laboratories. They serve as role models to the next generation of scientists.

"It is great to hear that the essay contest is back! Even though I have since moved on from UW [University of Washington] to a postdoc position at Cornell, I was wondering if I could again be a judge of the essays. It is always fascinating to read about the different topics the students write on, to hear their personal stories about how the biomedical issues have affected their lives, and to think about how best to give constructive feedback to them."
-Scientist who served as a judge for the 2012 "Biomedical Breakthroughs and My Life" essay contest