What They’re Saying

"Why aren’t we spending $60 billion in NIH research? Certainly, as a conservative Republican, I believe the fiscal health of our nation is one of the most critical issues long term. But I think I can go to my 16-month old daughter and I can say, ‘I borrowed money in your name to cure cancer’ and she would thank me.”


“Americans need to know that today’s basic research is the engine that powers tomorrow’s therapeutic discoveries.”

— Dr. Francis Collins, director of the NIH

“Scientific research [is] the engine of a thought-based economy. Even in these tight budget times I continue to believe that we must sustain our investments in scientific research.”


“We work with universities because their inventions become the basis for our innovations.”

— Dr. Ray O. Johnson, Lockheed Martin Corp

To learn more about the health and economic benefits of NIH funding in your district, go to the ASBMB website asbmb.org and click the “Advocacy” tab or email director of public affairs Ben Corb at bcorb@asbmb.org

The importance of funding NIH

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH
90% of new ideas go unfunded as NIH pay lines are at an all-time low.

Over the past 10 years, the NIH has lost almost 20% of its buying power due to inflation and flat budget allocations.

Sequestration resulted in ~640 fewer research project grants funded in 2013.

Every $1 of NIH funding generates about $2.21 in local economic growth.

On average every NIH grant supports 7 jobs.

$0.85 of every $1 appropriated to NIH leaves the NIH in the form of research grants.

Cancer, diabetes and heart disease cost more in one year ($682 billion) than the cumulative federal investment in the National Institutes of Health over the past 30 years.