

June 21, 2023

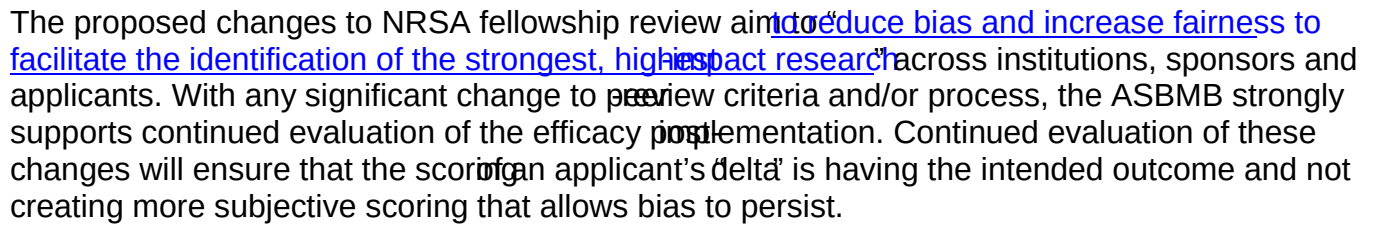
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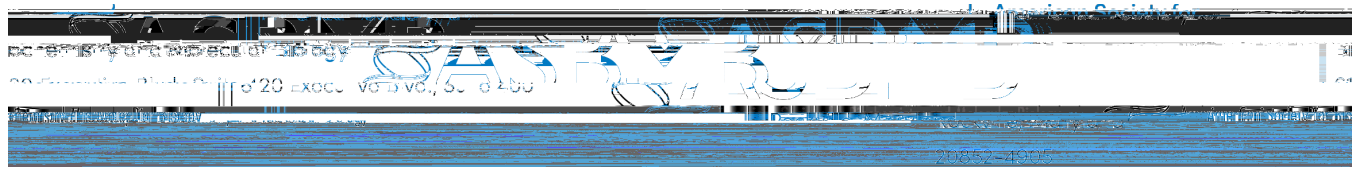
RE: National Institutes of Health Office of Extramural Research Request for Information on
Recommendations for Improving NRSA Fellowship Review

Perspectives on proposed changes to NRSA fellowship review criteria

The ASBMB supports the proposed reorganization of “Institutional Environment and Commitment to Training” and “Sponsors, Collaborators, and Consultants” into “Science and Scientific Resources” and “Training Plan and Training Resources.” With this change, we are optimistic that positive bias for highly resourced institutions and highly experienced sponsors will be reduced. We will be directed to focus their evaluations on applicant’s research and training potential with less influence from factors (e.g., sponsor and institution) that are largely outside of their control.



As the CSR begins to roll out changes to fellowship peer review, the ASBMS and the Fellowship Working Group in requesting additional outreach to low resource institutions.



The ASBMB applauds the inclusions made in the Fellowship Qualifications and other applicant statements that direct the applicant to detail both professional and experiences in further detail. By encouraging the applicant to detail the activities and/or experiences that shaped their approach to being a scientist and also how they plan to grow as a scientist, reviewers will