



CONGRESS FLAT FUNDS MOST FEDERAL RESEARCH AGENCIES UNTIL MARCH

On Tuesday, President Bush signed [H.R.2638](#), the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act. The bill includes the full fiscal year 2009 (FY2009) spending bills for the Department of Defense, Veterans Affairs-Military Construction and Homeland Security as well as funding for most of the rest of the federal government at fiscal year 2008 (FY2008) levels through March 6, 2009. On Wednesday of last week, the House of Representatives approved the package by 370 to 58, and the Senate quickly followed suit on Saturday, passing the bill by 78 to 12.

[More Details >](#)

MARCHASE SPEAKS AT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION SYMPOSIUM AT HARVARD

Earlier this week, FASEB President Richard Marchase, Ph.D., spoke before scientists, graduate students, and postdoctoral scholars at a Harvard symposium on "Science and the Presidential Election." The symposium, which several student, policy, and scientific organizations at Harvard hosted, featured experts on communications and public policy.

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INSIDE (THE BELTWAY) SCOOP – GRETCHEN OPPER

Having come to what we expect to be the end of the legislative activity in the 110th Congress, and in spite of our best lobbying efforts, we are looking at another five months of flat funding for the federal research agencies. The exception is the Department of Veterans Affairs, which will see a substantial increase in funds for medical research, consistent with its fiscal year 2009 (FY2009) appropriations bill. Although we were hoping for anomalies or "plus ups" in the FY2009 continuing resolution (CR) for the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Agriculture, in the

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end, it's very likely that the collapse of the financial institutions and the accompanying call for a bailout played a role in Congress' opting not spend additional money in the CR.

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ELIAS ZERHOUNI ANNOUNCES HIS RESIGNATION AS NIH DIRECTOR

Elias Zerhouni, M.D., has served the nation with distinction as the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and his retirement from that important post marks the end of an era of strong and innovative leadership. FASEB President Richard Marchase, Ph.D., called Dr. Zerhouni "a man of tremendous intellect and integrity" and noted that "in his tenure as Director, he guided NIH through challenging times with great vision and courage."

[More Details >](#)

INSTITUTE FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL RESEARCH HOLDS MEETING ON UPDATE OF *THE GUIDE*

Last week, the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research, which is part of the National Academies of Science (National Academies), held the second public meeting of the [committee](#) that is responsible for updating *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (The Guide)*. The Public Health Service's Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare and the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International, both of which helped fund the update, use *The Guide* as the standard for laboratory animal care.

[More Details >](#)

JENNIFER ZEITZER TO JOIN FASEB AS DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS

FASEB is pleased to announce that Jennifer Zeitzer will become FASEB's Director of Legislative Relations on October 14. Previously, Ms. Zeitzer was with the Alzheimer's Association, where she served as the Director of Congressional Relations and led that organization's efforts in support of federal funding for research. She will be responsible for directing FASEB's legislative agenda and for serving as the organization's principal representative on Capitol Hill.

[More Details >](#)

FASEB's Washington Update is brought to you bi-monthly by the FASEB Office of Public Affairs. We welcome your questions and comments – please contact Carrie Wolinetz at cwolinetz@faseb.org or 301-634-7650. For more information about how to get involved in research advocacy, visit: <http://capwiz.com/faseb/home/>

