

BHI Reorganization

*New Focus Area & Junior Faculty
Working Groups*

May 5, 2022

Goals of the Reorganization

- Engage Rutgers neuroscience faculty in BHI activities.
 - Plenary seminars
 - Symposia
 - Planning workshops (*grants, education/training, infrastructure needs, new centers, etc.*)
- Promote collaborations to foster multi-PI, center, and institutional research.
 - P50s
 - T32's
 - Instrumentation grants
- Building a supportive and collaborative Rutgers neuroscience community
 - Recruit URM and women faculty
 - New faculty liaison
 - Junior faculty mentoring
 - Increase training opportunities
 - Increase public outreach and education
 - Recognize accomplishments of Rutgers neuroscience community

Working Group Membership (~ 20 faculty/group)

- Focus Area Working Groups (FAWGs).
 - FAWGs include research-active Rutgers neuroscience senior (Associate and above) faculty.
 - Each FAWG led by a Chair and Vice-Chair for a 3yr term. The Vice-Chair can rotate to Chair after the 3yr term.
 - A new Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected by members of the corresponding FAWG.
 - FAWG membership will be reviewed annually based upon research-related activities.
 - All senior BHI faculty recruits will become a member of one of the four FAWGs.
 - Membership in multiple FAWGs is not encouraged.

Working Group Membership (~ 20 faculty)

- Junior Faculty Working Group (JFWG).
 - Non-tenured, tenure-track Rutgers research-active, neuroscience faculty.
 - Similar 3yr terms and membership elections as for FAWGs.
 - JFWG membership will be reviewed annually based upon research-related activities.
 - All junior BHI faculty recruits will become a member of one of the four FAWGs.
 - Membership in multiple FAWGs is not encouraged.

FAWG Functions

- Each FAWG will have an annual support budget (described later)
- Each FAWG will meet 4+times/year.
 - grant planning or technical workshops
 - identification of infrastructure and equipment needs or faculty recruitment
 - Funds could be included in the annual FAWG budget for meals.
 - Meeting summary will be provided to BHI Director.
- Each FAWG will propose hosting up to 2 BHI Plenary seminar speakers per year. Speaker funds should be included in the annual budget.
- Each FAWG will nominate candidates for the keynote speaker at the annual BHI symposium.
- Each FAWG will select 1 PhD and 1 post-doc from FAWG labs to each receive a \$500 BHI travel award. Funds for travel awards should be included in the annual budget.
- FAWG members will suggest Rutgers faculty (in particular junior/mid-level) for membership on external grant review committees or editorial boards.
- Participate in BHI faculty recruitment efforts within individual focus areas by identifying strong candidates, soliciting applications, interviewing candidates etc.

FAWG Functions (continued)

- FAWG members will participate in BHI philanthropic fund-raising as well as community outreach as part of BHI digital marketing campaign initiatives
 - provide scientific content via written descriptions or short video/audio recordings on relevant neuroscience topics)
 - FAWG members should serve as BHI Ambassadors for the Annual Rutgers Giving Day.
- Each FAWG will nominate members for a BHI Awards Committee
 - To identify FAWG members to be nominated for external awards and prizes.
- The Chair and/or the Vice-chair of each FAWG will be ex-officio members of the BHI Executive Advisory Council, to provide a point-of-contact for their focus areas.

JFWG Functions

- Will have an annual support budget (described later)
- Meet 4+ times/year.
 - brief talks of active projects in member labs
 - grant planning or technical workshops
 - discussion of infrastructure and equipment needs.
 - funds included in the annual FAWG budget for meals.
 - meeting summary provided to BHI Director.
- Propose hosting up to 2 BHI Plenary seminar speakers per year. Speaker funds should be included in the annual budget.
- Nominate candidates for the keynote speaker at the annual BHI symposium.
- Select 1 PhD and 1 post-doc from JFWG labs to receive a \$500 BHI travel award each. Funds for travel awards should be included in the annual budget.
- Participate in BHI faculty recruitment efforts by identifying strong candidates, soliciting applications, interviewing candidates etc.

JFWG Functions (continued)

- Serve as a liaison for new junior BHI faculty recruits to help them transition into Rutgers Neuroscience community.
- Participate in BHI philanthropic fund-raising as well as community outreach as part of BHI digital marketing campaign initiatives
 - provide scientific content via written descriptions or short video/audio recordings on relevant neuroscience topics)
 - FAWG members should serve as BHI Ambassadors for the Annual Rutgers Giving Day.
- JFWG will nominate members for a BHI Awards Committee
 - To identify JFWG members to be nominated for external awards and prizes.
- The Chair and/or the Vice-chair of the JFWG will be ex-officio members of the BHI Executive Advisory Council, to provide a point-of-contact for the JFWG.

Budget Support for FAWGs & JFWG

- Annual Budget for each group
 - Each group will receive up to \$8,000 per fiscal year (July 1 – June 30).
 - Groups must submit a proposed budget by January 1st each year to BHI.
 - The budget categories for each working group could include-
 - seminar speaker funds.
 - food costs for internal meetings and workshops relevant to BHI mission.
 - BHI trainee travel awards (described above) to attend national or international conferences.
- Chair and Vice-Chair support
 - Chair and vice-chair will receive, per FY, a \$500 annual travel award for their trainees (they are excluded from the competitive travel awards).
 - Chairs will receive an additional \$1000, per FY, for research supplies/publication costs/recruitment ads, etc.

Budget Support for FAWGs & JFWG (continued)

- Special Support

- Special, targeted pilot funding request for Center grant projects for members within each FAWG can be requested, also by Jan 1.
 - 2-page proposal that including the RFA targeted, proposed Specific Aims, plans for generation of pilot data (with timeline), Research Plan, names and biosketch of faculty involved and timeline for submission.
 - BHI will submit the FAWG pilot proposals, with a letter signed by all members of the FAWG, for strategic funding requests from the Chancellors of the relevant campuses.

Questions & Suggestions

Other ideas:

- Each FAWG will host a quarterly seminar for non-tenured junior faculty and post-docs from Rutgers within the focus area at which they can present their lab research, proposed grant projects or job talks.
- FAWG members will help BHI Director select nominees for limited submission institutional grants and/or for external and internal awards.