



American Society of Human Genetics

ADVOCATE UPDATE

## The Importance of Universal Ethical Standards in Science



Long-standing ethical principles for genetics research help respect and protect research participants, and they are especially important for preventing harm to marginalized or vulnerable populations. In a new [AJHG Perspective](#) out this month in *The American Journal of Human Genetics*, ASHG articulates expectations that scientists worldwide abide by universal ethical standards for biomedical research. ASHG recently updated our own policies and practices, including updating journal instructions to authors and expectations for content submitted to ASHG's

Annual Meeting.

## Trainee Advocates Share Their Perspectives on ASHG's Capitol Hill Day



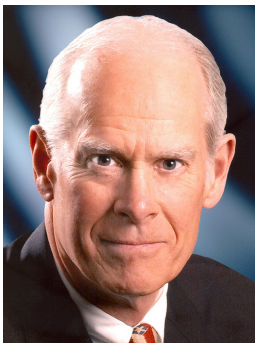
The [inaugural class](#) of trainee advocates in the Advocacy Certificate for Human Genetics and Genomics Trainees ([ACGT](#)) program participated in ASHG's Capitol Hill Day in May. Read their [reflections](#) of this experience. Participation in this event is a key feature of the ACGT program.

## Catch an Update of ASHG Activities in *The Messenger*



ASHG's quarterly newsletter, [The Messenger](#), was published last week. Read a [summary](#) of Capitol Hill Day and our [interview](#) with Geoffrey Ginsburg, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Medical and Scientific Officer at NIH's *All of Us* Research Program, among other exciting articles!

## Congressional Champion for Biomedical Research Dies



[Lawmakers](#) of both parties are [paying tribute](#) to former Rep. John E. Porter, an Illinois Republican and Appropriations "cardinal" who died on June 3 at the age of 87. As chairman of the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee, Porter led a push to double funding for the NIH; his support for research paved the way for the mapping of the human genome. Research!America also [paid tribute](#) to Porter, who served as member and chair of their Board after leaving Congress. ASHG is a member of the Research!America advocacy alliance.

## In Other Policy & Advocacy News

- In the wake of the hate-fueled mass killing in Buffalo, NY last month, ASHG President, Charles Rotimi, PhD, released a [statement](#) condemning the warping of genetic knowledge to feed racist ideology.
- The [Rally for Medical Research](#) is back on in-person this year! Join other advocates on Sept. 13-14 as we continue to call on our nation's policymakers to make NIH funding a national priority.
- ASHG has joined the [Coalition for the Life Sciences](#)! Our Board representatives are Nancy Cox, PhD and Anthony Wynshaw-Boris, MD, PhD.
- President Biden [announced](#) the nomination of Arati Prabhakar, PhD, a physicist and former head of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, as his science advisor and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.
- HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra [announced](#) the formal establishment of the Advanced Research Project Agency for Health (ARPA-H) as an independent entity within the NIH, and the appointment of Adam H. Russell, D.Phil., as acting deputy director beginning this month.

- NASEM [held](#) the third public online workshop on Use of Race, Ethnicity, and Ancestry as Population Descriptors in Genomics Research on June 14. The recording and meeting details will be [available here](#).
- If you registered for the [5th ELSI Congress](#) but missed a live session, [recordings](#) are now available.
- The U.S. House of Representatives [adopted](#) a deeming resolution in early June, setting a \$1.6 trillion discretionary spending cap for fiscal year 2023 appropriations. This clears the way for appropriators to start moving the spending bills through the House.

## ASHG Calendar

- [ASHG Webinar](#) - **June 28 at 1 PM ET**. Explore high-level approaches to managing multiple projects, multiple roles, and dynamic biomedical science careers.
- [Journal Club](#) - **July 13 at 12 PM ET**. Maria A. Nieves-Colón, PhD, and Andrés Moreno-Estrada, PhD, discuss their recent *AJHG* paper on New Insights into Preeclampsia Genetic Risk Factors.
- ASHG's [annual meeting](#) is October 25-29 in Los Angeles, CA. [Registration is open!](#)

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