



**NWABR**

Northwest Association for Biomedical Research

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

**Thirty-three years ago, the Presidents and CEOs of the Pacific Northwest's most respected research facilities recognized that public trust in the integrity of research was essential to the future of medical discovery in our region. NWABR was born out of that commitment and stands today as the Northwest's leading voice for promoting the public's trust in biomedical research, and its ethical conduct.**



(at right: Aaron Putzke, NWABR Board President)

## WHY ARE WE HERE?

**Our mission is to promote the public's trust in biomedical research, and its ethical conduct.**

NWABR believes that a strong and vibrant biomedical research community is essential to the health and betterment of individuals and communities. The future of both community and individual health relies on a partnership between researchers, their human participants, their non-human subjects, physicians and the public at large. NWABR exists to bring these groups together to facilitate education and dialogue, to promote ethical practices in research, to provide opportunities for young people to explore biomedical careers and to provide venues where the public can gain insights into the research that will change all of our lives. As an association, NWABR reflects the values of our members and the life science research community in the Northwest.

The core work of NWABR includes convening educational conferences for our members that focus on ethical research, biosafety and security. We focus on work with, and care for, laboratory animals and human research participants; creating space for dialogue that advances understanding about life science research; facilitating educational opportunities for our community; and introducing students to bioethical frameworks, career pathways and biomedical research.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Thank you

2022 has been a year when NWABR has started to see the shape of its new normal. The coronavirus pandemic changed many many aspects of how we work, and as we move to a time when our primary focus shifts from pandemic, the question we repeatedly ask ourselves is, "Given what we have learned, can we do better?"

The move to virtual meetings has, for example, made it easier for Board Members from Eastern WA, Canada, Oregon, California, Arizona, and Connecticut to stay connected. At the same time, our Board has grown to 43 members. During 2023, NWABR is undertaking a Governance Review, to ensure that we can keep this large body engaged and n benefit from Member's significant experience.

The pandemic also necessitated that NWABR's staff work remotely. We have mainly found that we are just as effective with remote work, and for this reason closed our physical office when our prior lease expired in September 2022. Our clients have seen no change in the level or quality of services from NWABR, and the money that used to be spent on rent is being reinvested in programs.

Most of NWABR's conferences held during 2021/22 continued, out of an abundance of caution, to be provided virtually. That said, the July 2022 IRB conference was offered on a hybrid basis. A hybrid conference allows both in-person and virtual attendees and presenters. This conference will again be offered on a hybrid basis in 2023, as will the IBC/ Security/IACUC conference series being held from February 28 through March 3, 2023.



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NWABR's summer science camps were held in person over the summer. These camps were provided in the science buildings at Seattle Pacific University and it was amazing to see the students come in each week and dive into real world lab experiences. The camps themes offered in 2022 included Cancer, Genetics, and CSI. These camps will run once again at SPU this coming summer, and we also have a one week Cancer-focused camp hosted on the Whitworth University campus in Spokane. I had the honor of running an ethics workshop with these students each week, and I can say that my faith in the future was buoyed by these thoughtful, smart, and passionate young people.

NWABR continues to focus on engaging the public with biomedical research. NWABR staff and our Research Ambassador volunteers have started once again making presentations about biomedical research, and have also been helping to lead national discussions on how we can better promote this work to lay audiences. Jen Wroblewski, NWABR's Public Engagement Manager, runs NWABR's annual #ThanksResearch campaign which reached more than 500,000 people over the summer of 2022. The #ThanksResearch campaign simply aims to put positive, accurate, and truthful messages about research into people's social media feeds. This is counter to the flood of misinformation purveyed and consumed in this vital field. Just to give one example of this campaign, Ms. Wroblewski shared a post aimed at younger people with resources about how to talk about vaccinations with peers. This one post was seen by more than 60,000 young people.

I have to say thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone involved in all of this incredibly positive work. 2022 has been a complex year for NWABR, and I am very clear that we came out of the year stronger and more committed to our mission of building the public's trust in biomedical research, and its ethical conduct.

An association like NWABR relies on the support, trust and goodwill of an incredibly wide range of stakeholders. I want to thank our member organizations that provide for the core costs of the association. This is our seed capital that allows us the space to plan conferences, respond to changing needs and issues in the biomedical research community and to be there to listen, support and engage when needed.

I also want to thank all of the members of our conference planning committees, conference partners and all of the speakers that literally breathe life into these programs. The provision of educational conferences for the biomedical research community is a fundamental part of the work of NWABR. In the 2021/22 year we held six annual and highly specialized conferences: IACUC, IRB, IBC, Communications, and Clinical Research Professionals Conferences in both Seattle and Portland. Our planning committees help us to identify important topics, recruit amazing speakers and ensure that these conferences continue to meet the needs of the biomedical research community. In total, we had 1,062 attendees at these conferences during the 2021/22 year. In addition, NWABR participated in, or provided numerous, virtual talks during the year – with these talks reaching several thousand participants.

Additionally, I need to particularly thank NWABR's Board members, who have worked with me and the full NWABR team to provide governance, leadership, support and counsel. They have also worked to make the whole "sausage making process," that we call good governance, both fun and productive.

I also want to thank the researchers and all of the allied staff in the community who go to work every day with the focus of caring for both animal and human research participants, while working to develop new treatments that improve all of our lives.

I am humbled to acknowledge our donors and supporters who have been recognized in the very long list at the end of this report. You provide us with the resources that enable NWABR's work. I am so totally and absolutely blown away by the fact that you trust us with your time, with your talent, and with your treasure.

Lastly, I want to thank the NWABR staff. We are a small team but a lot of stuff gets done because we are so small and we all pitch in to make sure that the most important works gets done – and done well. I am so proud of this team.



# 2022 IN REVIEW

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## Year in Review

NWABR has promoted the public's trust in biomedical research and its ethical conduct for 33 years. This past year, NWABR focused on moving to a post pandemic operation, with a conscious aim to take what we have learned over the past three years and apply it to improve our services.

## NWABR Programs

NWABR has remained committed to running high quality programs and providing needed member services. Our member services and education programs engage the life science research community including scientists, administrators, physicians, students, teachers, and the general public. Our renewed outlook and vision is based on our commitment to advance the ethical practice of research and the public's trust in this important field.

## Member Services

NWABR is first and foremost a membership association. This includes working with our members to advance their understanding of ethical practices by facilitating networking and educational programs where professionals learn from peers and other experts. Promoting the highest possible standards of ethical conduct is at the core of NWABR's work. We place human and animal welfare at the center of medical, and social and behavioral research.

In 2021/22, NWABR hosted six professional conferences: Institutional Review Board Conference (IRB), Institutional Biosafety Conference (IBC), Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUC) Conference, Communications Conference, and Clinical Research Professionals Conferences (CRP) in both Seattle and Portland. The major focus of each conference centered on bioethics, best practices, emerging trends, and regulatory compliance. Overall, 1,062 professionals attended these conferences and contributed to the ethics discussion. NWABR estimates that these conference attendees accrued approximately 7,000 hours of CE credits towards their various professional re-certifications.

## Community and Educational Programs

Over the summer of 2022, 128 students participated in STEM education programs through our ninth year of Camp BIOmed! This year these camps were held in person, and our plan for 2023 is to continue these in person camps in Seattle as well as expanding the camp programs to Spokane. In addition to the Camp program, our public outreach was supported through the ongoing work of our Research Ambassadors program. These programs provide opportunities for researchers and medical professionals to interact with the students and the public and explain their research and views on ethics, while engaging the community in problem solving and dialogue. These programs address ethical issues currently impacting medical research and the broader community and, importantly, help to improve science literacy in our community.

## Finances

We are incredibly pleased to report that in the swirl of all this additional work and refocusing, NWABR was able to produce another year where we made a surplus. The Financial Statements report a surplus of \$63,495. About half of this surplus derives from the conversion of our 2021 PPP loan to a grant, so with this factored in, our operating surplus was a more modest \$30,163. The major driver of this improved sustainability was the marked drop in the prices charged for NWABR's virtual conferences. Essentially, for NWABR, there were cost savings associated with these virtual events and we committed as an organization to pass these savings directly to our members. Both the Board and I now believe that NWABR has been able to move to a sustainable operating model that addresses the needs of its members. Staffing is a major cost for NWABR and as Executive Director I want to thank all staff who have worked with me to find ways of providing our programs effectively in 2021/22.



## NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS

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» **CONVENED SIX MAJOR REGIONAL CONFERENCES** for IACUC, IRB, IBC, Communications, and two CRP conferences drawing **1,062 participants** to learn about best practices, regulatory compliance, and lessons learned.

» **FACILITATED NETWORKING AND COMMUNITY BUILDING** through NWABR's revised Research Ambassador program. Through a one-off webinar on **Gene Therapies**, numerous conference presentations, and in person presentations to students, NWABR was able to extend its messaging to a broader community that encompassed several thousand individuals across the country.

» **HONORED AMAZING RESEARCHERS** at NWABR's #ThanksResearch Gala. #ThanksResearch has become one of NWABR's unifying themes as we work with members to ensure that ethically based research continues to be recognized as an essential public priority. At the 2022 Gala, **Dr. Nancy Haigwood and the US Animal Research Openness Initiative** were jointly presented with the Buster and Nancy D. Alvord Award. **Dr. Lynn Beattie, Dr. Judy Illes, and the Tahltan Nation** were in addition jointly presented with the Alvin J. Thompson Award. For 2023 we are opening up the nomination process for these two awards – so if you are interested in nominating a potential recipient then please connect with Jen Wroblewski at [engagement@nwabr.org](mailto:engagement@nwabr.org).

» **ENGAGED PROFESSIONALS FROM THE LIFE SCIENCE INDUSTRY** who volunteered their support for NWABR's work. These volunteers included Board Members, Conference Planning Committee members, interns, other volunteers and notably the new group of Research Ambassadors.

» **#THANKSRESEARCH** With the help of Quinn Thomas we once again ran the successful #ThanksResearch campaign. The aim of this campaign was to get positive messages about biomedical research to a much wider community in the NW. Over the summer of 2022 these positive messages about research are estimated to have been **seen by 500,000 people throughout Washington and Oregon**.

» **RENEWED NWABR'S CAMP BIOMED SUMMER CAMP WITH SHIFT BACK TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION** allowing **128 students** to participate in NWABR's summer camp programs. Students built scientific knowledge and understanding of biomedical research and worked on presentation skills.



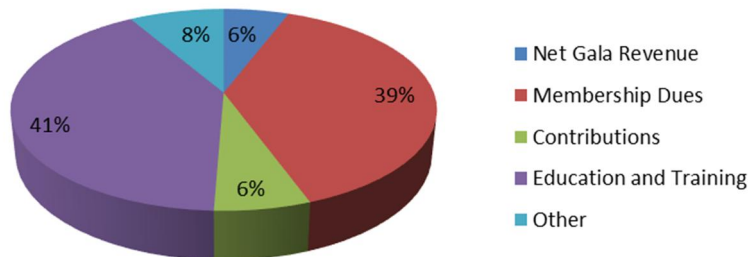
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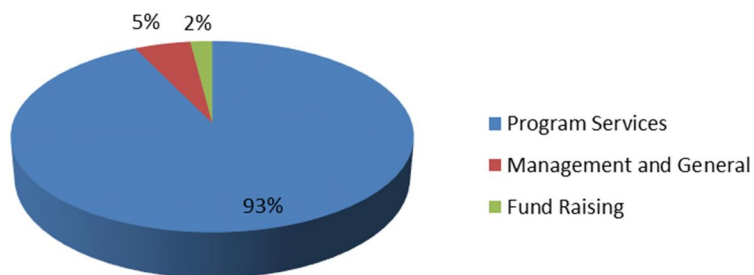
# FINANCIAL RESULTS

Northwest Association for Biomedical Research		
Statements of Financial Position		
September 30, 2022 and 2021		
Assets	2022	2021
Current Assets	222,263	192,849
Property and Equipment	-	-
Total Assets	222,263	192,849
Liabilities and Net Assets	2022	2021
Current Liabilities	37,600	71,681
Net Assets	184,663	121,168
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	222,263	192,849

## Support and Revenue 2022



## Expenses 2021



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## 2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**AARON PUTZKE, PhD;** President; Professor, Whitworth University  
**SALLY THOMPSON-IRITANI, DVM, PhD;** Immediate Past President; Director Washington National Primate Research Center, University of Washington  
**GORDON ROBLE, DVM, MBA, DACLAM;** Vice President; Attending Veterinarian and Director, Comparative Medicine, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
**GREGORY YANDL, MBA;** Vice President: Director Research Finance, Swedish  
**BOB ENNES, BA;** Treasurer; Chair, Assistant Director, Office of Animal Welfare, University of Washington  
**SHANNON REYNOLDS, BA, CPIA, RLAT;** Secretary; Sr. Program Manager, Research Compliance, Allen Institute  
**RICHARD BURROWS,** Senior Veterinary Sciences Technologist  
**CHARLOTTE SHUPERT, PhD;** Retired Researcher, and IRB and IACUC Committee Member

## 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**MIKE BROADHURST;** General Manager, Preclinical Seattle, Altasciences  
**BRUCE BUSBY;** Director of Environmental Health and Safety at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
**JESSICA COHEN, MHS;** Director, Office of Research Ethics, PATH  
**LINDA COLEMAN, JD;** Director, Human Research Protection Program, Yale University  
**MACKENZIE COOPER;** Senior Business Development Manager, Medix Scientific.  
**RAMSEY COX, BSC;** Quinn Thomas (representing PhRMA)(Resigning at 2023 Annual Meeting)  
**JEROME DIFFERDING, MPH;** ANW Regional Director of Clinical Research, Providence (Resigned during the year)  
**DEIDRE DILLON, BS, RN;** Research Program Manager, Providence (Appointed during the year)  
**CHRISTOPHER DOYLE, PhD;** Director IBC Services, WCG IRB (Appointed during the year)  
**KARA DROLET, PhD;** Associate Vice President, Research Integrity Office, Oregon Health & Science University  
**EMILY FIRMAN, MPH, MSW;** Consultant, Arcora Foundation  
**LAURA FLORES CANTRELL, JD;** Executive Director, Andy Hill CARE Fund.  
**DAVID FORSTER, JD, MA, CIP;** Chief Compliance Officer, WCG IRB  
**ROB GAEBEL, MSC;** IACUC Coordinator, Oregon State University  
**RAN GOLDMAN, MD;** Pediatrician, Researcher and IRB Chair, University of British Columbia (Appointed during the year)  
**JENNIFER HANSBERRY, RN, BSN;** Administrative Director of the Swedish Center for Research and Innovation  
**MARY HEALY, MPH;** Executive Director, Research Operations, Providence (Appointed during the year)  
**DAVID HOLMGREN;** IRB Manager, Research Integrity Office, Oregon Health & Science University  
**ANHAITA JAMULA, CCRC;** Research Director, EvergreenHealth  
**SHERYL JOHNSON, MS, CIP;** Director, Research Compliance Services/Acting Research Integrity Officer, University of Oregon

## ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

### Platinum Sustaining Members

Advarra  
University of Washington  
WCG IRB

### Gold and Gold Sustaining Members

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
Oregon Health & Sciences University  
Providence  
Swedish  
Washington State University

### Silver and Silver Sustaining Members

Altasciences  
Benaroya Research Institute

### Bronze and Bronze Sustaining Members

Allen Institute  
Arcora  
Andy Hill Care Fund  
EvergreenHealth  
Kaiser Permanente  
Medix Scientific  
Multicare Health System  
PATH  
PhRMA  
Portland State University  
Seagen  
Seattle Children's Research Institute  
University of Oregon  
VA Puget Sound  
Whitworth University  
Washington Global Health Alliance  
WBBA

### Vendor Members

LabDiet/Purina  
Sage Bionetworks  
The Jackson Laboratory

### NWABR Staff

**KEN GORDON;** Executive Director  
**MANSI KAUSHIK, MS;** Camp Manager  
**WENDI RUSSAC, MS;** Accounting and Education/  
Camp Programs  
**JENNIFER WROBLEWSKI, MPH;** Public  
Engagement Manager

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# 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

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**MIKE KLUZIK, MHS;** Director, Office of Research Assurances at Washington State University  
**KELLY LAWRENCE, JD;** Manager and Regulatory Attorney, Seattle Children's Research Institute  
**TANYA MATTHEWS;** Administrator, IRB & Research Review at Kaiser Permanente (Washington Health Research Institute)  
**ALISHA MCCALL;** Research Administrator, VA Puget Sound  
**STERLING MCPHERSON, PhD;** Professor/Assistant Dean for Research, Washington State University  
**HEATHER PETERS;** IRB Coordinator for the MultiCare Health System  
**NORMAN PETERSON, DVM, PhD, DACLAM;** Director, In Vivo Sciences & Technology, Seagen  
**JAMES RIDDLE, MCSE, CNE, CIP, CRQM;** Vice President Institutional Services for Advarra  
**JOHN ROLL, PhD;** Professor, Vice Dean for Research for the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, Associate Vice President for Health Sciences Research, Washington State University (Resigning at 2023 Annual Meeting)  
**MEGHAN SCOTT, BA;** Director, Institutional Review Office Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
**TONG SUN, MS, MBA;** Executive Director, Institute of Translational Health Sciences  
**KAREN TAYLOR, MPH;** Senior Technical Advisor, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory  
**RAJESH UTHAMANTHIL, DVM, PhD, DACLAM;** Chief Medical Officer (Preclinical & Translational), Director of Comparative Medicine, Seattle Children's Research Institute  
**PRESTON VAN HOOSER;** Review Scientist & Compliance Manager, Office of Animal Welfare, University of Washington  
**CHERYL WEAVER, BA, CCRC, CCRA;** Immediate Past President; Administrative Director, Clinical Research Program, Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason  
**R. BERT WILKINS, JD, MHA, CIPBA;** Regulatory Chair Director, WCG IRB

## Donors and Supporters

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As an organization, NWABR is incredibly fortunate to be supported by members, donors, event attendees, and sponsors. Sometimes certain individuals or organizations fall into several of these categories. The following is a combined list of all of NWABR's supporters over the last year. We have grouped multiple contributions – so the

donor's true support for NWABR can be seen.

### **The Fundamental Building Blocks - The ACGT level – contributions up to \$1,000**

Purina LabDiet  
Sage Bionetworks  
The Jackson Laboratory  
Paul Amieux  
Karalee Baquero

Peter Barr-Gillespie  
Michele A. Basso  
Alisha Bouge  
John and Catherine Brandon  
Christopher W. Braunger  
Bruce Busby (Board)  
John and Sharon Cannon  
Judy Cashman  
Paula Clifford  
Nichelle Cobb  
Jessica Cohen (Board)

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Jen & Peter Cole  
Richard and Dodie Cole  
Linda Coleman (Board)  
Mackenzie Cooper (Board)  
Christina Cruzen  
Deidre Dillon (Board)  
Kara Drolet (Board)  
Bob Ennes (Board)  
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Emily and Erik Firman  
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Rob Gaebel (Board)  
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Sterling McPherson (Board)  
Heather Peters (Board)  
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Gordon Roble (Board)  
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Meghan Scott (Board)  
Charlotte Shupert (Board)  
Greg and Vandana Slatter

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Laurel and David Stitzhal  
Kim Stocking  
Tong Sun (Board)  
Andrea Swanson  
Karen Taylor (Board)  
Deanna Ternes-Failing  
J. Preston Van Hooser (Board)  
Elizabeth Vogt  
Reitha Weeks  
Chris Weir  
R. Bert Wilkins (Board)  
Jen Wroblewski (Staff)  
Gregory Yandl (Board)  
Mary Zelinski

**The Variability of Life –The  
Gene Level – contributors from  
\$1,000 and up to \$5,000**

Allen Institute  
Andy Hill CARE Fund  
Arcora  
Benaroya Research Institute  
EvergreenHealth  
Kaiser Permanente  
MultiCare Health Systems  
PATH  
Portland State University  
Seagen  
Seattle Children's Research  
Institute  
University of Oregon  
VA Puget Sound  
Whitworth University  
Cami Gearhart  
Nancy Haigwood  
Jennifer Hansberry (Board)  
David Holmgren (Board)  
Dena Levine  
Cindy Pekow  
Lynn and Tim Rose  
Jane Sullivan  
Sally Thompson-Iritani (Board)  
Cheryl Weaver (Board)  
Hope Wechkin  
Max Witter  
Bob and Cindy Wroblewski

**The Pattern of Life – The  
Chromosome Level –  
contributors from \$5,000 and  
up to \$15,000**

Altasciences  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer  
Research Center  
Oregon Health and Science  
University  
Providence  
Swedish  
Washington State University  
Ken Gordon (Staff) and Jenn  
Brandon  
Stevens and Tricia Trainer

**The Full Expression of Life –  
The Genome Level –  
contributors from \$15,000 and  
up**

Advarra  
PhRMA  
University of Washington  
WCG IRB

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