National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

The NAM has more than 2,000 members elected in recognition of professional achievement and commitment to volunteer service in activities of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (“the Academies”). The NAM elects no more than 70 regular members and 10 international members annually. For those at the top of their field, NAM membership reflects the height of professional achievement and commitment to service.

Veterinarians in the National Academy of Medicine

Aguirre, Gustavo D.
Professor of Medical Genetics and Ophthalmology
University of Pennsylvania
Regular, 10f
Elected 2012
Male
Pennsylvania
gda@vet.upenn.edu

Barthold, Stephen W.
Emeritus Professor of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology
University of California, Davis
Regular, 10f
Elected 2001
Male
California
swbarthold@ucdavis.edu

Brinster, R. L., V.M.D., Ph.D.
Richard King Mellon Professor of Reproductive Physiology
National Medal of Science 2010
University of Pennsylvania
Section 2
Elected 1986
Male
Pennsylvania
brinster@vet.upenn.edu

Cleaveland, Sarah
Professor of Comparative Epidemiology
University of Glasgow
Regular, 10f
Elected 2015
Female
United Kingdom
sarah.cleaveland@glasgow.ac.uk

Conrad, Patricia A.
Professor of Parasitology
University of California, Davis
Regular, 10f
Elected 2011
Female
California
paconrad@ucdavis.edu

Cork, Linda C.
No Affiliation
Emeritus, 10f
Elected 1988
Female
California
lcork@stanford.edu

Crawford, Lester M.
Veterinarian
No Affiliation
Regular, 10f
Elected 2003
Male
South Carolina
crawfordlm@aol.com

Doherty, Peter
Laureate Professor
University of Melbourne
Regular, 10f
Elected 2008
Male
Australia
pcd@unimelb.edu.au

Fox, James G.
Professor and Director
Division of Comparative Medicine
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Regular, 10f
Elected 2004
Male
Massachusetts
jgfox@mit.edu

Kanki, Phyllis J.
Professor
Harvard School of Public Health
Regular, 10f
Elected 2008
Female
Massachusetts
pkanki@hsph.harvard.edu

King, Lonnie J.
The Ohio State University
Regular, 10f
Elected 2004
Male
Georgia
lonnieking.1518@gmail.com

Lairmore, Michael D.
Dean
School of Veterinary Medicine
University of California, Davis
Regular, 10f
Elected 2010
Male
California
mdlairmore@ucdavis.edu

Marshak, Robert R.
No Affiliation
Regular, 10f
Elected 1990
Male
Pennsylvania
rmarshak@caltech.edu

Mazet, Jonna A.K.
Professor of Epidemiology and Disease Ecology
Executive Director, One Health Institute
University of California, Davis
Regular, 10f
Elected 2013
Female
California
 jkmazet@ucdavis.edu

McCllellan, Roger O.
Advisor, Toxicology and Risk Analysis
No Affiliation
Regular, 10f
Elected 1990
Male
New Mexico
roger.o.mcclellan@att.net

McElwain, Terry F.
Washington State University
Regular, 10f
Elected 2009
Male
Washington
tfm@vetmed.wsu.edu

Murphy, Frederick A.
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
Emeritus, 10f
Elected 1999
Male
Maryland
famurphy@utmb.edu

Njenga, M. Kariuki
Professor of Epidemiology and Virology
Washington State University
Regular, 10f
Elected 2017
Male
Washington
knjenga@vetmed.wsu.edu

Palmer, Guy H.
Regents Professor of Pathology and Infectious
Diseases  
Washington State University  
Regular, 10f  
Elected 2006  
Male  
Washington  
gpalmer@wsu.edu

Riviere, Jim E.  
North Carolina State University  
Regular, 10f  
Elected 2003  
Male  
North Carolina  
rivierecon@gmail.com

Roth, James A.  
Clarence Hartley Covault Distinguished Professor  
Director  
Iowa State University  
Regular, 10f  
Elected 2016  
Male  
Iowa  
jaroth@iastate.edu

Schwetz, B. A.  
No Affiliation  
Inactive, 10f  
Elected 1998  
Male  
North Carolina  
bschwetz7@gmail.com

Tomori, Oyewale  
Nigerian Academy of Sciences  
International, 10f  
Elected 2016  
Male  
Nigeria  
oyewaletomori@gmail.com

NAM Sections
The National Academy of Medicine membership is organized in twelve membership sections. Each represents an area of professional endeavor that includes two or more sub-disciplines. Every NAM member belongs to ONE section and ONE subsection within that section.

Each membership section has a chair and vice chair (appointed by the President for two-year terms). These leaders represent the section on the Membership Committee and serve as liaisons to suggest potential study committee members and report reviewers.

Any member may send a message to all other members of the same section via a single listserv email address. Members are cautioned to use this only for communications appropriate to the concerns of the section.

**SECTION 1**: Physical, Mathematical, Computer, Information, Engineering Sciences

**SECTION 2**: Biochemistry, Cellular & Developmental Biology, Medical Microbiology and Immunology, Genetics

**SECTION 3**: Anatomy, Neurobiology, Physiological and Pharmacological Sciences

**SECTION 4**: Internal Medicine, Pathology, Dermatology

**SECTION 5**: Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology

**SECTION 6**: Surgery, Anesthesiology, Radiology, Ophthalmology

**SECTION 7**: Psychiatry, Neurology

**SECTION 8**: Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

**SECTION 9**: Public Health, Biostatistics, Epidemiology

**SECTION 10**: Dentistry, Nutrition, Nursing, Allied Health Professions, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Medicine

**SECTION 11**: Social Sciences, Humanities, Law

**SECTION 12**: Administration of Health Services, Education, and Research

Membership in the National Academy of Medicine is based upon:

- Distinguished professional achievement in a field related to medicine and health
• Demonstrated and continued involvement with the issues of health care, prevention of disease, education, or research
• Skills and resources likely to contribute to the Academy’s tasks of assessing current knowledge, conducting studies, and considering policy issues
• Willingness to be an active participant in the Academy

The Academy’s Articles of Organization stipulate that at least one-quarter of the membership be selected from outside the health professions, from such fields as the natural, social, and behavioral sciences, as well as law, administration, engineering, and the humanities.

The election of individuals to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) begins with a confidential nomination by NAM members who are well-acquainted with the candidate’s work. In sponsoring the nomination, the NAM member affirms his or her personal assessment that the candidate meets NAM’s primary criteria of excellence and outstanding professional achievement in a field relevant to the mission of the NAM. Each year, up to 70 regular and 10 international members are elected to the Institute of Medicine by the active membership body at large. The annual nomination cycle begins on November 1 and closes on February 1. The election takes place in late summer with new members announced in conjunction with the NAM Annual Meeting in October.

Overview of The NAM Election Process

Who Is Elected?

• Individuals meeting the primary criterion: Excellence and Professional Achievement in a field relevant to the mission of the National Academy of Medicine
• Eighty (80) new members each year, including:
  o up to 65 Regular Members <66 years of age
  o up to 5 Regular Members 66+ years of age
  o up to 10 International Members
• The “best of the best.” The majority of the (>600) candidates would enhance NAM membership

Who Is Responsible for The Process?

The Membership Committee:

• Is composed of a committee chair plus chair and vice chair of each section.
• Develops policies and procedures for Council approval
• Develops the final ballot
• Relies primarily on Section Priority Ballot results in selecting candidates for the final ballot
• Consistently works hard and exercises sound judgment to ensure fairness to all candidates and to serve the interest of the National Academy of Medicine

The Council:

• Approves the final ballot
• Approves policies and procedures
• May designate emphasis areas for annual election.

The Membership Office:

• Manages all administrative functions of the nomination and election process
• Ensures confidentiality and integrity of the process
• Supports the Membership Committee and Council to monitor and enhance effectiveness

All NAM Members:

• Must maintain confidentiality and exercise caution with privileged information
• Are expected to consider the best interests of the NAM when nominating and evaluating candidates

What Is the Timeline for Elections?

• November 1 through February 1: Submit Nominations
• February: Straw polls in some sections
• Mid-March through mid-April: Section Priority Balloting
• May: Section leaders review priority ballot results and prepare for the Membership Committee meeting
• June: Membership Committee meets to develop the final ballot
• July: Council approves final ballot
• Late August through late September: Members vote on final ballot
• October: New members announced at NAM Annual meeting

NAM Membership Composition - Current Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emeritus</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Membership</td>
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