

**The Office of
Portfolio Analysis and Strategic
Initiatives (OPASI)**

**Secretary's Advisory Committee on
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
May 16, 2007**

**Alan M. Krensky, M.D.
Shelagh Galligan Professor, Stanford University
Director Designee
Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives
National Institutes of Health
Department of Health and Human Services**



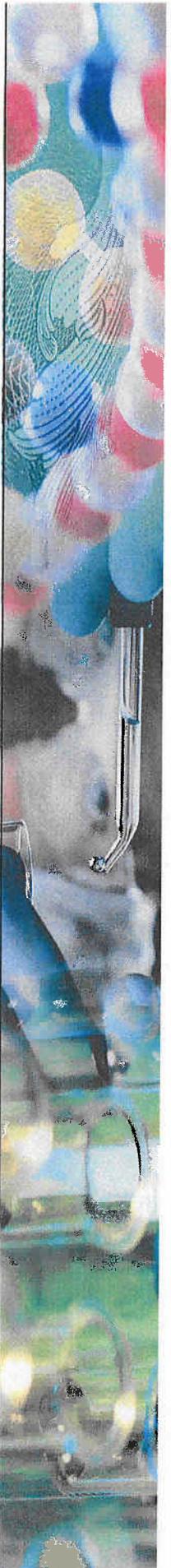


Key provisions of the NIH Reform Act of 2006

- Establishes a Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI)
- Establishes use of a Common Fund to support trans-NIH research
- Creates a Council of Councils to guide trans-NIH priorities
- Establishes a Scientific Management Review Board (SMRB) to oversee evaluation or organizational structures and authorities that may be used for improvements
- Initiates a public process to review potential organizational changes

“The first omnibus reauthorization of NIH in 14 years”





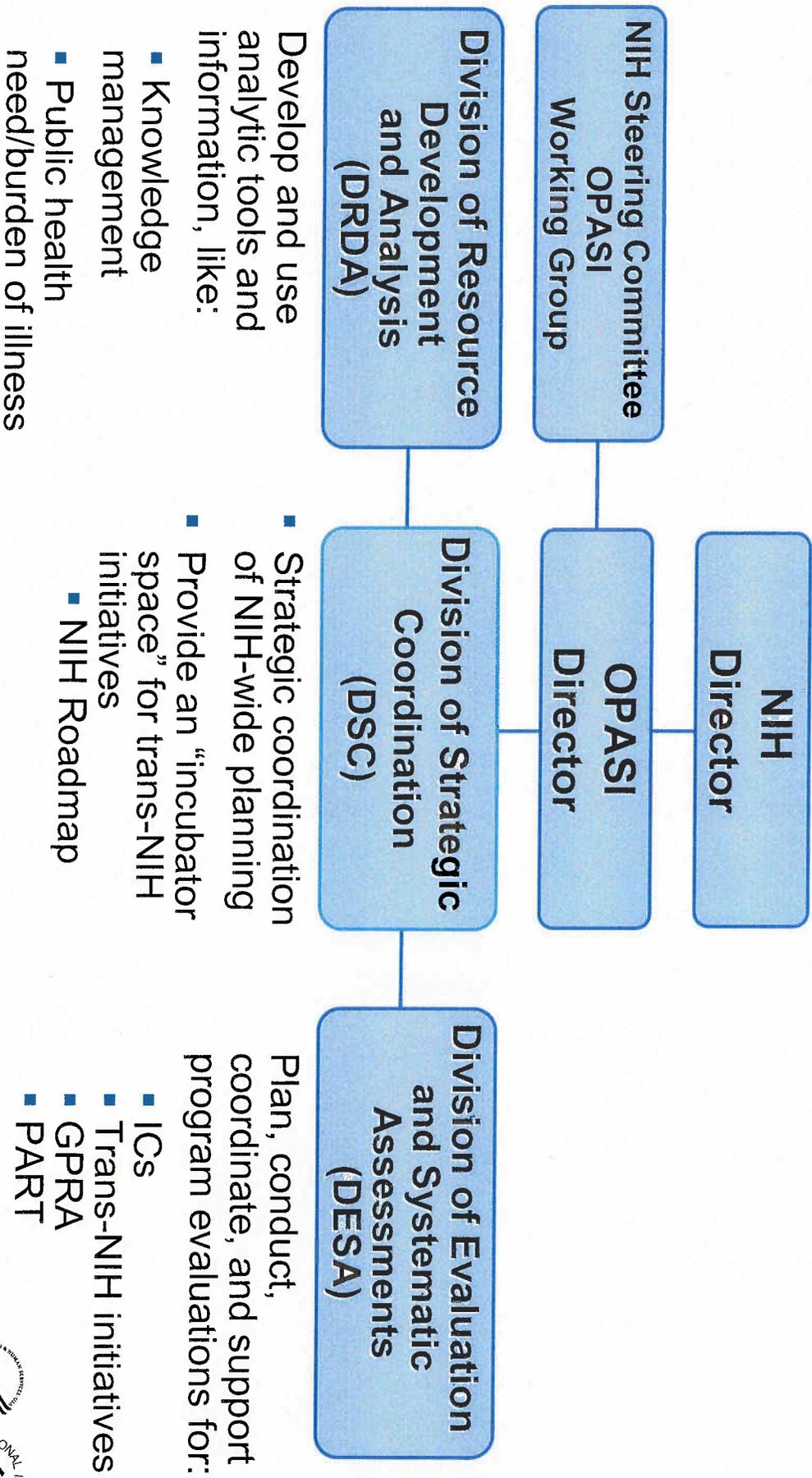
What is OPASI's Mission?

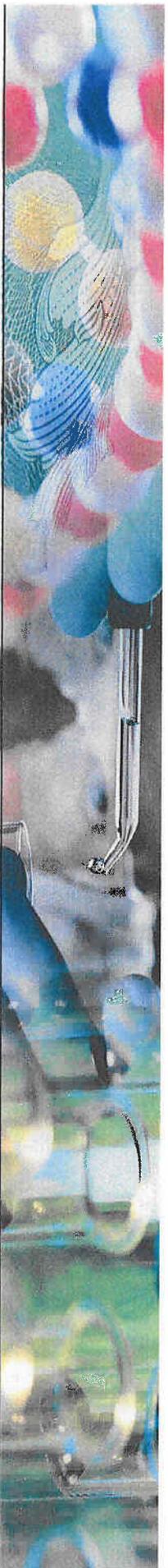
- To provide NIH Institutes and Centers with the methods, tools, and information necessary to improve management of the large and complex scientific portfolios
- To identify -- in concert with multiple other inputs -- important areas of emerging scientific opportunities or rising public health challenges
- To help accelerate investments in these areas, focusing on those involving multiple Institutes and Centers
- To coordinate and make more effective use of NIH-wide evaluation processes





Structure of OPASI





OPASI STRUCTURE-FUNCTION

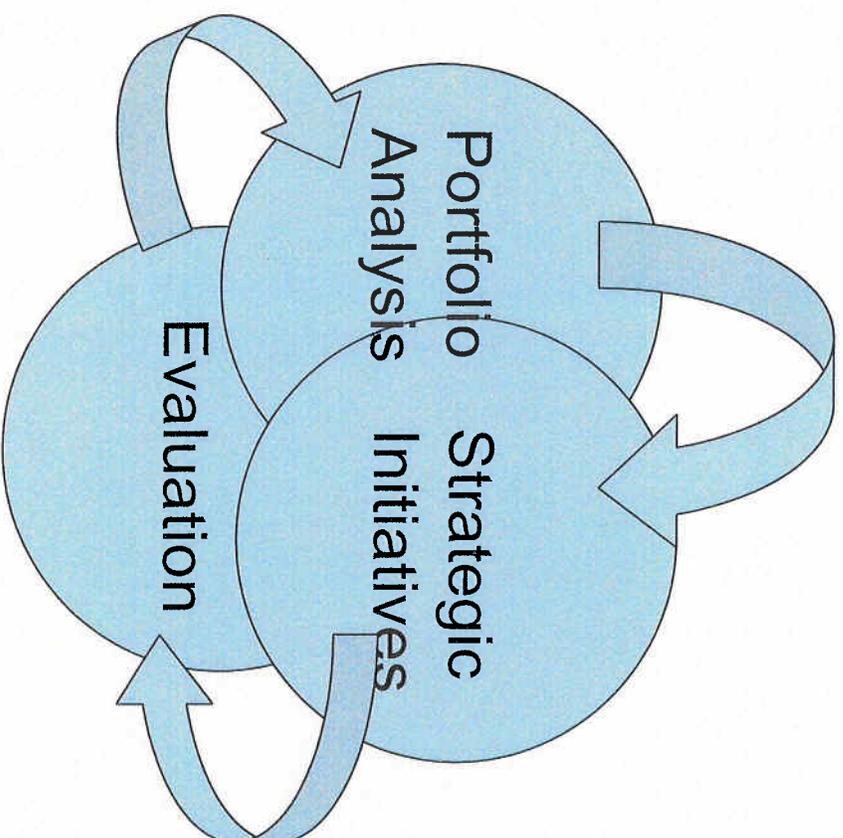
OPASI is:

A service organization

- Of, by and for the ICs
- A facilitator of interactions in “trans”

OPASI is not:

A 28th IC





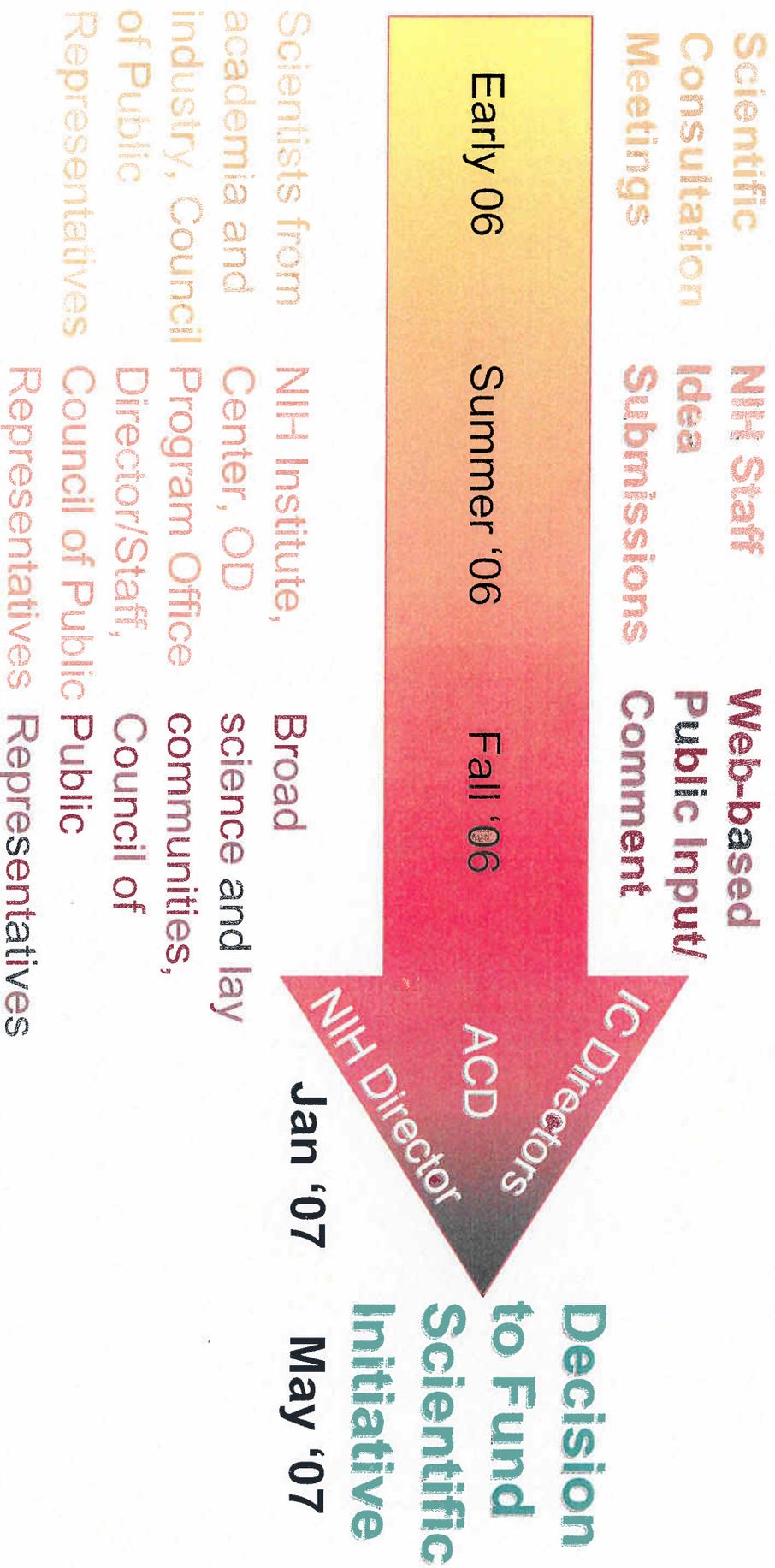
The Roadmap and the Common Fund

Roadmap initiatives must demonstrate:

- 1) High potential to transform how biomedical and/or behavioral research will be conducted
- 2) Synergistic promotion and advancement of the individual missions of the ICs to benefit health
- 3) Applicability to issues beyond the scope of any one or small number of ICs
- 4) Likelihood that no other entity is able or likely to perform the work
- 5) A public health benefit of having the results of the research in the public domain.



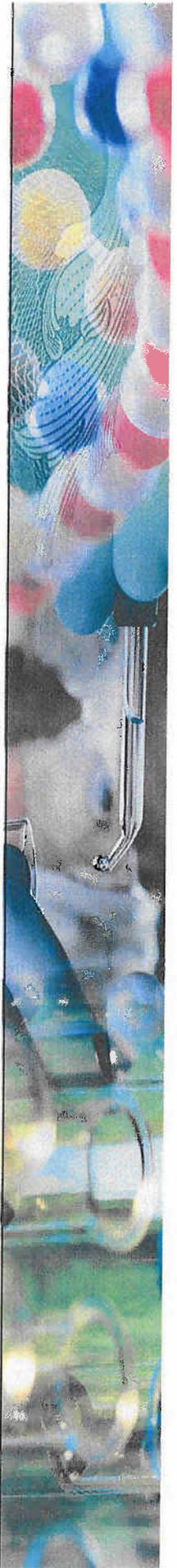
How New Initiatives are Chosen





Potential Roadmap Topics under discussion

- The microbiome
- Inflammation as a common mechanism of disease
- Protein capture agents and proteomics
- Standardization of human disease phenotypes
- Epigenetics



Beyond the Roadmap: Developing other Trans-NIH Initiatives

- Obesity
- Neuroscience Blueprint
- Regenerative Medicine
- Informatics
- Pharmacogenomics
- Health Disparities
- A Children's Health Initiative?



How Will OPASI Likely Affect Transdisciplinary Research?

- Roadmap initiatives, by nature, are more likely to cross disciplinary and organization boundaries
- Larger, infrastructure-type Roadmap projects will be open to access from multiple disciplines and research areas
- Portfolio analysis tools will promote broader understanding of the complete NIH investment portfolio and promote connections across disciplines, institutes/centers, disease research topics



Factors for success

- Science First
- Planning based on evidence
- Maintaining transparency
- Communicating plans
- Managing change

In the end, the success of OPASI will be measured in its ability to fill gaps, alleviate redundancies and add value to strategic planning and the portfolio of the largest biomedical research institution in the world.

