

the discovery that neuronal spike trains can be described using order statistics. The device has applications in the direct control of prosthetic limbs by neuronal signals originating from electrodes placed in the brain. The method allows for decoding neuronal responses by monitoring sequences of potentials from neurons while specific motor tasks are carried out. The sequences are then characterized using the innovative technique of applying order statistics to the spike train, such that subsequent action potentials representing unidentified motor tasks can be decoded to determine the unknown task. The invention is of substantial importance because it appears to have achieved a closed form interpretation of neuronal responses upon which a motor prosthetic device might be based.

#### **Expression Vectors Able to Elicit Improved Immune Response and Methods of Using Same**

Pavlakakis et al. (NCI)

DHHS Reference No. E-308-00/0 filed 01 Nov 2000

Licensing Contact: Carol Salata; 301/496-7735 ext. 232; e-mail: salatac@od.nih.gov

Cellular immune responses against human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) and the related simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) have been shown to play an important role in controlling HIV-1 and SIV infection and in delaying disease progression. This invention relates to nucleic acids (such as DNA immunization plasmids), encoding fusion proteins containing a destabilizing amino acid sequence which increases their immunogenicity. In order to make HIV gag or env more immunogenic, several signals for proteasomal degradation were selected and linked to the proteins. One of these destabilizing amino acid sequences was found to be particularly effective. The DNA construct expressing the HIV-1 gag fusion protein was more immunogenic in mice than the HIV gag protein. Compared with gag alone, the DNA expressing the gag fusion protein evoked much higher HIV-specific proliferative responses, elevated CTL response and a high level of CD8+ IFN $\gamma$ -secreting cells.

Dated: March 28, 2001.

**Jack Spiegel,**

*Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 01-8376 Filed 4-4-01; 8:45 am]

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## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **National Institutes of Health**

#### **National Cancer Institute, Notice of Closed Meeting**

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Four U01 Family Registry Supplements and One R24 Family Registry Application.

*Date:* April 16, 2001.

*Time:* 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* National Cancer Institute, Executive Plaza North, Conference Room E and F, 6130 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20852.

*Contact Person:* Sherwood Githens, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, Special Review, Referral and Resources Branch, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 8068, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1822.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the Contact Person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.392, Cancer Construction; 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 27, 2001.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 01-8364 Filed 4-4-01; 8:45 am]

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## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **National Institutes of Health**

#### **National Cancer Institute**

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel, P01 Program Project Grant Application.

*Date:* April 18, 2001.

*Time:* 1 p.m. to 6 PM.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* National Cancer Institute, Division of Extramural Activities, Grants Review Branch, 6116 Executive Boulevard, 8th Floor, Rockville, MD 20852, (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Virginia P. Wray, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Grants Review Branch, Division of Extramural Activities, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6116 Executive Boulevard, Room 8125, Rockville, MD 20892-7405, 301/496-9236.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the Contact Person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.392, Cancer Construction; 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 27, 2001.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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