



**DATE:** May 1, 2019

**TO:** Mikia P. Currie  
Branch Chief, Project Clearance Officer  
Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration (OPERA)

**FROM:** NIH Privacy Act Officer

**SUBJECT:** Applicability of the Privacy Act: Surveys to Support Conference, Meeting, Workshop, and Poster Session Registration Generic Clearance (OD)

I have reviewed the OPERA submission to OMB referenced above. The surveys will allow NIH to select and register the most appropriate number of researchers to participate in a poster session, identify speakers and panelists with desired expertise on a specific topic to be covered at a meeting, or determine which researchers would mostly likely benefit from a training course or other opportunity.

I have determined that the Privacy Act will apply to this data collection, which includes the collection of personally identifiable information (PII) such as the respondent's first and last name, email, gender, and other identifiers stored in a system designed to be retrieved by a personal identifier.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) directly sponsors, organizes, and conducts research-related activities such as conferences, workshops, meetings, poster sessions, and training courses. These activities are designed to be relevant to the current state of research in a given field or to the current stage of participants' research projects or careers. In order for such activities to be timely and to optimally use available resources to address needs and opportunities within the research community, it is necessary for NIH to have a means to register and select the most appropriate participants, according to the type or purpose of a given activity.

The data collection is covered by NIH Privacy Act Systems of Record 09-25-0156, "*Records of Participants in Programs and Respondents in Surveys Used to Evaluate Programs of the Public Health Service, HHS/PHS/NIH/OD.*" If you have questions, please contact me at (301) 402-6201.

*Celeste Dade-Vinson*

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NIH Privacy Act Officer