

Coordinating Federal Biotechnology Activities

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Tissue engineering offers great promise for medical therapeutics including regenerative medicine as well as non-medical applications ranging from efficient alternatives for animal testing to tissue-based sensors for detection of biological or chemical threats. A wide range of agencies in the U.S. Federal Government have varied interests in these new technologies including those that sponsor scientific research, those that regulate and those that make decisions about reimbursement. The Multi-Agency Tissue Engineering Sciences Interagency Working Group was established under the White House National Science and Technology Council to coordinate agency investments in research and development, promote interagency strategic planning, and disseminate information about strategic priorities and research opportunities to the research community. This presentation provides an overview of interagency participation in research planning in biotechnology, recent accomplishments, and aims for the future.