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January 10, 2020

Gary H. Gibbons, MD
Director
National Heart Lung and Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health
Building 31
31 Center Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dr. Gibbons,

On behalf of the leadership of the American Thoracic Society, the American Society of Hematology and the American College of Cardiology, we would like to schedule a conference call with you and your senior staff in the near future to discuss our shared concerns with pending open access publication policy being considered by the White House Office of Scientific and Technology Policy (OSTP). If implemented, the OSTP policy would have profound implications for each of our societies.

As you are probably aware, the OSTP has drafted and circulated for agency review a policy that would require that research manuscripts, partially or fully federally funded, be made immediately available to the public upon acceptance in peer-reviewed journals. An open access federal mandate would seriously hinder our collective ability to support high-quality, peer review systems for our respective journals. We would welcome an opportunity to further explain the impact of such a policy on our societies at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your consideration of this request; please use Gary Ewart (202 296-9770; gewart@thoracic.org) from the American Thoracic Society as your point of contact in scheduling this call.

Sincerely,

James Beck MD, ATSF
President
American Thoracic Society

Stephanie J. Lee MD, MPH
President
American Society of Hematology

Richard J. Kovacs MD, FACC
President
American College of Cardiology