

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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May 6, 2024

The Honorable Monica M. Bertagnolli
Director
National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Director Bertagnolli:

As part of a government-wide investigation into the work federal agencies are doing to protect Americans from Chinese Communist Party (CCP or the Party) political warfare, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability (Committee) is investigating CCP interference in the U.S. research sector. The Committee seeks information about the work the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is doing to protect American research security and valuable taxpayer funded research from CCP economic warfare. The CCP has attempted to infiltrate every aspect of our nation's scientific and academic research sectors, both of which are essential for a prosperous future. NIH has important responsibilities in safeguarding against CCP influence that jeopardizes the free exchange of ideas central to American society, economy, and culture.

Broader Committee Investigation

The Committee is conducting oversight of the federal government's work to protect the American people from CCP political warfare¹ and nefarious influence operations. For decades, the CCP has sought to infiltrate and influence every aspect of American society.² The CCP's goal is plain: defeat the "main enemy," which counterintelligence officials have identified as America.³ The fronts are multiple; according to the CCP itself: "[t]he battlefield will be

¹ "Political warfare seeks to influence emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups, and individuals in a manner favorable to one's own political-military objectives." Mark Stokes, *The People's Liberation Army General Political Department: Political Warfare with Chinese Characteristics*, Project 2049 Inst. (Oct. 14, 2013).

² See generally Constantine C. Menges, *China The Gathering Threat* (2005); H.R. Rep. No. 105-851 (1999) ("Cox Report"); Robert Spalding, *War Without Rules* (2022); Col. Grant Newsham, *When China Attacks: A Warning to America* (2023); Kerry K. Gershaneck, *Political Warfare: Strategies for Combating China's Plan to "Win without Fighting"* (2020); see also Larry Diamond and Orville Schell, *China's Influence & America's Interests: Promoting Constructive Vigilance*, Hoover Inst. (2019).

³ Menges, *supra* note 2; Gershaneck, *supra* note 2 ("The PRC is engaged in war against the United States. It is not mere competition or malign influence, but war by PRC definition."); Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 60 (The CCP "seeks global domination" and "will fight its main enemy, the United States, to achieve it.").

everywhere.”⁴ And the tools are myriad, with the “united front”⁵ leading as one of the People’s Republic of China’s (PRC)⁶ “magic weapons,”⁷ as described by General Secretary Xi Jinping,⁸ to advance the Party’s aim of global domination.⁹ United front work (UFW), which may be executed by the United Front Work Department (UFW) or elsewhere in the Party, is a “unique blend of engagement, influence activities, and intelligence operations” that the CCP uses to “influence other countries’ policy toward the PRC and to gain access to advanced foreign technology.”¹⁰ UFW “generally involves covert activity and is a form of interference that aids the CCP’s rise.”¹¹ United front “networks” are used “to carry out relationship-focused influence campaigns through a multitude of proxies.”¹²

Despite years of false promises to the West, the CCP openly seeks to achieve its destructive ambition. In 1999, two People’s Liberation Army Air Force colonels authored *Unrestricted Warfare*, which has been described as a strategic military vision for the PRC to defeat America through political warfare.¹³ Retired Brig. Gen. Robert Spalding, who has served in senior positions in strategy and diplomacy with the U.S. Departments of Defense and State for decades, characterizes the book as “the main blueprint for China’s efforts to unseat America as the world’s economy, political, and ideological leader,” which “shows exactly how a totalitarian nation set out to dominate the West through a comprehensive, long-term strategy that includes everything from corporate sabotage to cyberwarfare to dishonest diplomacy; from violations of international trade law and intellectual property law to calculated abuses of the global financial system.”¹⁴ Kerry Gershaneck, former counterintelligence officer who wrote a seminal book on combatting PRC Political Warfare, has explained that *Unrestricted Warfare* details CCP use of “any methods” where “the boundaries between war and non-war and between military and non-military affairs [have] systemically broken down.”¹⁵ To successfully combat these highly

⁴ Qiao Liang & Wang Xiangsu, *Unrestricted Warfare: China’s Master Plan to Destroy America* (PLA Lit. & Arts Pub. House 1999) (China) (military colonels describing twenty-four varieties of warfare).

⁵ “While the CCP’s United Front Work Department has functional responsibility for these [warfare] operations and activities, PRC united front work is a task of all CCP agencies and members.” Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 22.

⁶ It is essential to understand that Xi Jinping has removed any “veneer of separation between the [CCP] and the Chinese state.” Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 43 (quoting Ann-Marie Brady, *Exploit Every Rift: United Front Work Goes Global*, in David Gitter et al., *Party Watch Annual Report*, Ctr. for Adv. China Res. (2018)).

⁷ Ann-Marie Brady, *Magic Weapons: China’s political influence activities under Xi Jinping*, Wilson Ctr. (Sept. 18, 2017); *see also* Sel. Comm. on the Chinese Communist Party, *Memorandum: United Front 101*, at 7 (“United Front 101 Memo”).

⁸ Alex Joske, *The party speaks for you: Foreign interference and the Chinese Communist Party’s united front system*, Austl. Strategic Pol’y Inst. (Jun. 09, 2020) (quoting Xi Jinping at 2015 Central United Front Work Meeting).

⁹ *See, e.g.*, Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 43 (“The People’s Republic of China may settle for dominance rather than occupation, but it does indeed aim to rule us all.”).

¹⁰ United Front 101 Memo, *supra* note 7, at 1.

¹¹ Joske, *The party speaks for you*, *supra* note 8, at 19.

¹² Alex Joske, *Spies and Lies: How China’s Greatest Covert Operations Fooled the World*, at 63 (2022).

¹³ Gershaneck, *supra* note 2.

¹⁴ Spalding, *War Without Rules*, *supra* note 2, at xii; *see also* Robert Spalding, *Stealth War*, at 12-13 (2019) (*Unrestricted Warfare* “should be required reading for all branches of the US government and for business leaders, because it outlines, in no uncertain terms, the strategy behind China’s policies,” including stating that the “new principles of war” are “no longer ‘using armed force to compel the enemy to submit to one’s will,’ but rather are ‘using all means, including armed force or non-armed force, military and non-military, and lethal and non-lethal means to compel the enemy to accept one’s interests.’”).

¹⁵ Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 16 (quoting Qiao Liang & Wang Xiangsu, *supra* note 4, at 6-7).

organized and pervasive warfares spawned by China, federal agencies must first recognize and understand them.

The CCP “know[s] the strength of the American people, of the American idea, and that’s why China has launched so many warfares to try to weaken us, divide us, and get us to hate ourselves and each other.”¹⁶ Retired Col. Grant Newsham, former U.S. Marine Liaison Officer to the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and U.S. Foreign Service Officer, has advised that “the way out of this is to rediscover why we are an exceptional country, get to know each other better, and fight side by side.”¹⁷

As all Americans are targets of the PRC’s warfare,¹⁸ federal agencies have responsibilities to (1) conduct outreach to citizens about the dangers they may encounter, and (2) provide appropriate incentives for Americans to proactively protect themselves—their communities, schools, houses of worship, businesses, finances, food, and more—from the threat. Federal agencies must prepare Americans to “take action.”¹⁹ To stop the CCP’s “destructive actions,” retired Brig. Gen. Spalding advises that it will “take macrolevel strategic changes by our government, but also microlevel actions by individuals, businesses and other civic institutions.”²⁰ The Committee is surveying each agency’s role to secure Americans and their communities.

Congress has recognized the threat posed by the PRC for some time. Notably, in 1999, the U.S. House Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People’s Republic of China concluded that in the preceding decade, the PRC used a “variety of techniques including espionage, controlled commercial entities, and a network of individuals that engage in contact with scientists, business people and academics” as part of its warfare operations.²¹

With varying degrees of effort and success, federal agencies have sought to address the CCP’s attack on what Col. Newsham has aptly described as “[t]he core of America.”²² However, the threat is grave and work must be done across agencies to protect America.²³ Peter Mattis,

¹⁶ Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 341.

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ “The Three Warfares, the traditional foundation of PRC political warfare, include public opinion/media warfare, psychological warfare, and legal warfare.” Gershaneck, *supra* note 2. It “requires efforts to unify military and civilian thinking, divide the enemy into factions, weaken the enemy’s combat power, and organize legal offensives.” Elsa Kania, *China Brief: The PLA’s Latest Strategic Thinking on the Three Warfares*, Jamestown Found. (Aug. 22, 2016).

¹⁹ Spalding, *War Without Rules*, *supra* note 2, at 214.

²⁰ *Id.*; see also Peter Mattis & Matt Schrader, *America Can’t Beat Beijing’s Tech Theft With Racial Profiling*, War on the Rocks (July 23, 2019) (“The U.S. government’s difficulties in telling a convincing story about the Chinese Communist Party point to a[n] important step: addressing a serious lack of ‘China literacy,’ both within the enforcement portions of the federal bureaucracy, and in U.S. society as a whole.”).

²¹ Cox Report, *supra* note 2, at xxxiii; see generally Menges, *supra* note 2.

²² Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 33.

²³ See Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 309 (“We need to know, value, protect and build the strengths of the United States of America, and shed the light of truth on the corruption, in every sense of the word,” of the CCP. “That could mean in discussions with family, community, at school or wherever that understanding needs bolstering.” Education courses on PRC political warfare would benefit “[a]ny decision-makers who work with China.”); see Gershaneck, *supra* note 2, at 153 (outlining such courses to “build[] internal defenses”).

former staff director of the Congressional-Executive Commission of China and counterintelligence analyst at the CIA counsels that

Only by being clear in public about the actions and intentions of the Chinese party-state, and being publicly accountable for the actions the U.S. government takes in response, will the United States be able to address Beijing's challenges while upholding our democratic commitment to fair, transparent justice for all Americans.²⁴

To this end, the Committee is conducting this investigation and implores each federal agency to uphold its duty to the American communities for whom they are responsible.

Safeguarding Taxpayer Funded Research From CCP

NIH has an important role in advancing medical research to improve the health and lives of millions of Americans. As part of its mission, NIH is charged with furthering scientific research and advances in treatments and discoveries that will aid people in living longer and healthier lives.²⁵ NIH has acknowledged that it is currently the “largest public funder of biomedical research in the world” and, in fiscal year 2022, NIH “invested most of its \$45 billion appropriations in research seeking to enhance life, and to reduce illness and disability.”²⁶ NIH is made up of 27 institutes and centers (ICs), and 24 of the 27 ICs have the authority to award and distribute grants.²⁷ Typically, these ICs award more than 80 percent of NIH's total budget to researchers and investigators at more than 2,500 universities.²⁸ With NIH distributing billions of dollars each year to universities and research labs across the country, it is imperative NIH ensure that taxpayer funded research is protected from CCP interference and economic warfare.

There is broad agreement among academics and policy experts that the PRC is engaged in political warfare by inserting itself in the U.S. education system, and that the PRC is committed to ensuring that it is the world leader in science and technology by 2050.²⁹ In summarizing the PRC's obsession with becoming a world leader in science and technology, Brig. Gen. Spalding has written “[c]ontrolling technology is given enormous prominence in the Chinese colonels' *Unrestricted Warfare* playbook, where, entwined with finance, it is viewed as a primary driver of influencing operations.”³⁰ Brig. Gen. Spalding states, “China has put technology transfer at the forefront of all its goals. So much so, it has now designated its entire population as spies.”³¹

²⁴ Mattis and Schrader, *supra* note 20.

²⁵ *Grants & Funding*, Nat'l Insts. of Health (last visited Apr. 11, 2024).

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ *Understand NIH: Finding the Right Fit for your Research*, Nat'l Insts. of Health (last visited Apr. 11, 2024).

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ Staff of S. Comm. on Homeland Sec'y and Governmental Affairs, Perm. Subcomm. on Investigations, 116th Cong., *Threats to the U.S. Research Enterprise: China's Talent Recruitment Plans*, at 1 (Comm. Print 2019) [“Staff Report”].

³⁰ Spalding, *Stealth War: How China Took Over While America's Elite Slept*, *supra* note 14, at 145.

³¹ *Id.* at 147.

The CCP threat to America's taxpayer funded research and intellectual property has been recognized by multiple federal government entities, such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)³² and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).³³ In 2018, the FBI issued a report titled "China: The Risk to Academia," which noted that "the Chinese government has historically sponsored economic espionage" and further highlighted that "China is the world's principal infringer of intellectual property."³⁴ According to the FBI, the annual cost to the U.S. economy of "counterfeit goods, pirated software, and theft of trade secrets is between \$225 billion and \$600 billion."³⁵ NIH has a responsibility to ensure the billions of dollars it disburses to researchers and universities around the country are not misappropriated by the CCP.

The FBI has warned American universities that the CCP uses a vast array of tactics and tools to target American research discoveries.³⁶ Through the CCP's Thousand Talents Program (TTP), the CCP has been successful at pulling overseas scientists and researchers into the program with the goal of eventually facilitating technology transfer and the repatriation of science and technology experts.³⁷ In order to recruit and lure scientists into TTP, now under the title of Qiming, the CCP uses lucrative salaries and distinguished titles to convince researchers to join the program.³⁸

NIH has been the target of the CCP's efforts to use the TTP to steal taxpayer funded research. An alarming example was revealed in January 2020 when the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) announced that the Chair of Harvard University's Chemistry and Biology Department, Dr. Charles Lieber, had been charged with making a false statement when applying for grant funding from NIH and the Department of Defense.³⁹ Dr. Lieber served as a contractual participant in the CCP's Thousand Talents Program and lied to federal investigators about this information when applying for federal funding.⁴⁰ In another related case, DOJ announced the arrest of Song Guo Zheng, an American professor with strong ties to China.⁴¹ Dr. Zheng was taken into custody as he was preparing to board a charter flight to China with luggage containing two laptops, three cellphones, and several USB drives.⁴² Dr. Zheng had purposefully lied on applications to secure \$4.1 million in federal funding from NIH and did not disclose that he had participated in TTP.⁴³

³² Fed. Bureau of Investigation, *China: The Risk to Academia* (2019) ["FBI"].

³³ U.S. Gov't Accountability Off., *Federal Research: NIH Could Take Additional Actions to Manage Risks Involving Foreign Subrecipients*, (2023).

³⁴ FBI, *supra* note 32, at 2.

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ *Id.* at 5.

³⁷ Staff Report, *supra* note 29, at 20.

³⁸ *Id.*; see also FBI, *supra* note 32, at 5; see also Benzinga, *China's Stealth Revival Of 'Thousand Talents Plan' Signals Semiconductor Ambitions Despite US Restrictions*, Bus. Insider (Aug. 24, 2023).

³⁹ Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Just., Harvard University Professor and Two Chinese Nationals Charged in Three Separate China Related Cases (Jan. 28, 2020).

⁴⁰ *Id.*

⁴¹ Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Just., University Researcher Sentenced to Prison for Lying on Grant Applications to Develop Scientific Expertise for China (May 14, 2021).

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ *Id.*

NIH is a target of Chinese espionage efforts and must do all it can to safeguard federally funded research and intellectual property. The concern that the CCP poses to federally funded research has been acknowledged by NIH leadership.⁴⁴ On April 22, 2021, NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research Michael Lauer, testified before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, stating NIH had identified over 500 “scientists of concern” NIH believed were involved in foreign influence efforts, including Chinese economic espionage.⁴⁵ While it is encouraging to hear that NIH understands that the CCP poses a serious threat to national security, it is clear there are additional steps the agency should be taking to protect vital taxpayer funded research.

In June 2023, GAO released a report titled *NIH Could Take Additional Actions to Manage Risks Involving Foreign Subrecipients*, which examined awards of research funds to three Chinese entities and the steps that NIH took to conduct oversight over the federal funding.⁴⁶ GAO determined that a prior recommendation by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General—that NIH “implement enhanced monitoring documentation, and reporting requirements for award recipients with foreign subrecipients”—was necessary to properly safeguard federal dollars.⁴⁷ While it appears NIH is aware of the risk the CCP poses to the mission of the agency, it is imperative NIH take concrete actions to safeguard Americans from CCP influence operations and efforts to sabotage the U.S. academic research field.

CCP Targeting of American STEM

The CCP is committed to surpassing American leadership in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and has dedicated extensive resources to ensuring that China is the world leader in science and technology by 2050.⁴⁸ Already, China is on pace to produce double the amount of STEM PhD graduates than American STEM PhD graduates by 2025. A recent study from Georgetown University’s Center for Security and Emerging Technology determined that U.S. universities awarded twice as many doctorates in STEM fields (18,289) as compared to China (9,038) in 2000.⁴⁹ However, as recently as 2019, Chinese universities produced 49,498 PhD graduates in the STEM field, compared to the 33,759 graduates that American universities produced.⁵⁰ In the report, the authors also examined current enrollment patterns and predicted that, by 2025, China’s annual STEM PhD graduates

⁴⁴ *Protecting U.S. Biomedical Research: Efforts to Prevent Undue Foreign Influence: Hearing before S. Comm. on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions*, 117th Cong. (Apr. 22, 2021) (statement of Dr. Michael Lauer, Dep. Dir. for Extramural Reas., Nat’l Insts. of Health).

⁴⁵ *Id.*; see also Wyatt Eicholz, *NIH Investigating 500 ‘Scientists of Concern’ for Foreign Influence*, Campusreform.org (May 26, 2021).

⁴⁶ U.S. Gov’t Accountability Off., *Federal Research: NIH Could Take Additional Actions to Manage Risks Involving Foreign Subrecipients*, (2023).

⁴⁷ *Id.* at 22.

⁴⁸ Regina M. Abrami et al., *Why China Can’t Innovate*, Harv. Bus. Rev. (Mar. 2014).

⁴⁹ Michael T. Nietzel, *U.S. Universities Fall Further Behind China in Production of STEM PhDs*, Forbes (Aug. 7, 2021).

⁵⁰ *Id.*

(77,179) will approximately double STEM PhD graduates in the U.S. (39,959).⁵¹ In his book, *You Will Be Assimilated: China's Plan To Sino-Form The World*, David Goldman warns that “China now graduates more scientists and engineers than the United States, Europe, Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea combined.”⁵²

NIH’s website acknowledges that “[s]tudents in the U.S. are behind other nations on international assessments of science, mathematics, and problem-solving ability.”⁵³ As the agency charged with advancing medical research, NIH must play a key role in ensuring that the U.S. does all it can to maintain its advantage in STEM fields and produce new scientists and scholars that will push the boundaries of scientific discovery. NIH administers several grant programs aimed at promoting educational opportunities in STEM for American students at various levels.⁵⁴ Through NIH’s S.T.E.M. Education Challenge grants, NIH seeks to provide an opportunity for the agency to “fuel the growing interest in mathematics and science, address health disparities in STEM competencies, and apply rigorous scientific methods to educational research to develop practical interventions for tomorrow’s classrooms.”⁵⁵ Additionally, NIH’s National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) supports Science Education Partnership Awards (SEPA) that serve as “resources that provide opportunities for pre-K-12 students from underserved communities to access STEM educational resources.”⁵⁶

The Committee is encouraged that NIH seeks to provide STEM resources to both educators and students but is interested in learning what efforts NIH is taking to specifically safeguard scientific discovery gained from NIH grants and programs from CCP theft and technology transfer. Col. Newsham has written that American students and educators must be much more aware that “taking knowledge to China means American students will contribute to a system seeking the destruction of the free world.”⁵⁷ In order to regain our competitive advantage in STEM, the U.S. must persuade American STEM field graduates that their knowledge and expertise are better served in the U.S. The degree to which China is outpacing the U.S. in producing STEM field PhD graduates is concerning and threatens the U.S.’s ability to maintain leadership over the PRC in key technologies, artificial intelligence, and critical infrastructure.⁵⁸ It is imperative that NIH and the federal government do all it can to safeguard taxpayer funded research and education, and help students and researchers thrive, create, and innovate in the essential STEM fields.

Conclusion

The CCP’s economic warfare, targeting of taxpayer funded research, and recruitment of STEM field graduates pose serious risks to our economy and millions of Americans. As an

⁵¹ *Id.*

⁵² David P. Goldman, *You Will Be Assimilated: China's Plan To Sino-Form The World*, at XXII (2020).

⁵³ Nat’l Insts. of Health, S.T.E.M. Education (July 17, 2023), <https://commonfund.nih.gov/arra/arraresearch/stem>.

⁵⁴ *Id.*

⁵⁵ *Id.*

⁵⁶ Jon Lorsch, *STEM Education and Training Builds Diversity Among Next Generation of Biomedical Scientists*, NIH Directors Blog (Aug. 9, 2022).

⁵⁷ Newsham, *supra* note 2, at 296.

⁵⁸ *See generally* Goldman, *supra* note 52.

agency in charge of distributing billions of dollars in federal funding to advance scientific discovery that will benefit millions of Americans, NIH must ensure that it is taking the necessary steps to protect taxpayer funded research. The PRC has demonstrated that it is committed to overtaking the U.S. and becoming the world leader in science and technology by 2050.⁵⁹ Chinese recruitment programs like the Thousand Talents Program have served to turn Chinese students on American campuses into “outposts of a hostile regime” where “state-sponsored students and researchers. . . have even been convicted of spying for their home country.”⁶⁰ Additionally, China is working to produce exponentially more STEM field PhD graduates at a rate quickly outpacing the U.S.⁶¹ In order to combat this form of economic warfare, NIH must do all it can to ensure that taxpayer funded research is not permitted to be illicitly transferred to China, and to incentivize American STEM graduates to contribute to our nation.

To assist the Committee in investigating this matter, we request a briefing from NIH with Committee staff. Please contact Committee staff as soon as possible, but no later than May 13, 2024. This briefing should address the following:

- (1) How NIH strives to inspire and equip Americans to strengthen their communities, innovate, and create the technologies and phenomena that will secure a strong and prosperous future for our nation;
- (2) How NIH leadership ensures from the top down that all agency employees are aware of CCP warfare and influence operations against America and are equipped to address them wherever they arise;
- (3) NIH efforts to ensure that taxpayer funded research and any research, trade secrets or intellectual property gained from taxpayer funded research are not transferred to foreign adversaries, specifically the PRC, via Thousand Talent Programs or any other methods targeting American research;
- (4) NIH efforts to protect against CCP influence of NIH, its employees, and personnel;
- (5) NIH efforts, through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or another vehicle, to track the number of Americans dying from fentanyl,⁶² which the CCP has helped traffic into our country, and efforts to educate the American public about these numbers⁶³;

⁵⁹ Staff Report, *supra* note 29, at 1.

⁶⁰ Thomas D. Klingenstein, *China and Saudi Arabia Are Invading Our Universities*, tomklingenstein.com (Mar. 12, 2024).

⁶¹ Nietzel, *supra* note 49.

⁶² “On average, fentanyl kills over 200 Americans daily, the equivalent of a packed Boeing 737 crashing every single day. Fentanyl is the leading cause of death for Americans aged 18-45 and a leading cause in the historic drop in American life expectancy.” Staff of H. Select Comm. on the Chinese Communist Party, 118th Cong. on The CCP’s Role in the Fentanyl Crisis 2 (Comm. Print 2024).

⁶³ *Id.* at 8-23 (detailing the CCP’s role in fueling America’s fentanyl crisis).

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- (6) NIH efforts to ensure that universities or researchers receiving federal grant funding have properly disclosed ties to foreign entities;
- (7) NIH work to promote and advance STEM field research among U.S. students at American K-12 schools, as well as colleges and universities;
- (8) Efforts taken by NIH to protect the agency's S.T.E.M. Education Challenge grant program from CCP influence operations;
- (9) Efforts taken by NIH to protect the agency's SEPA grant programs from CCP influence operations;
- (10) Efforts taken by NIH to ensure that online STEM agency resources provided to educators are protected from CCP influence operations;
- (11) NIH training of employees about how to identify and address CCP warfare efforts targeting NIH, American research, and other sector targets by the PRC; and
- (12) NIH outreach to American research institutions, universities, and individuals about the CCP's warfare campaign against American universities and the American research sector;

Please contact the Committee on Oversight and Accountability staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule the staff briefing. The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Accountability

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability