



Sponsor Perspective

**For Committee on Ethical, Legal, and Regulatory Issues
Associated with Neural Chimeras and Organoids**

Steven E. Hyman
Chair, Dana Foundation Board
July 15, 2020

Points to consider

- Need to consider the issues related to chimeras and organoids in the context of the overall needs of brain research--especially as it relates to human brain disease, which lacks adequate translational models
- What would make chimeras or organoids objects of moral concern?
- How will we know? What evidence or measures might inform on sentience? There is already evidence of creeping sensationalism that must be addressed.
 - What might be measured?
 - What is the level of confidence in the interpretation of such measures?
 - What measurements would trigger concern?
- Critical to define triggers for new discussions by this or other bodies
 - We cannot know how advanced and complex these models will become in the future
 - Such advances may make the models both more valuable and more concerning