



[View as Webpage](#)

Gathering with family, friends, and colleagues around holiday tables large and small offers opportunities to come together around all that we have in common while also learning about our differences; to toast to both absent loved ones and new beginnings. This holiday season, RLA's table continues to expand as we welcome new staff members who will enrich our conversations and work in the new year. Together, we all look forward to supporting new and continuing projects that move science forward in service of humanity.

Supporting science that serves humanity

As the year draws to a close, we are excited to share updates on RLA's support of projects that seek to advance health, knowledge, and equity across varied geographic, patient, and research communities. These recent activities include:

- Logistics and writing support for the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity, a new office **established** by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to assess and address exposure and health disparities linked to the impacts of climate change.
- Event production services for recent full meetings of three Federal Advisory Committees: the **National Vaccine Advisory Committee**, **Presidential Advisory Committee on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria**, and **Tick-Borne Disease Working Group**.
- Qualitative analysis of stakeholder perspectives for the Office of Research Integrity to inform **plans to revise** the 2005 Public Health Service Policies on Research Misconduct.
- Publication in *Neuropsychopharmacology* of an **article** that RLA Science Writer Jay Weixelbaum, PhD, co-wrote with the National Institute on Drug Abuse about its Summer Research Internship Program. Launched in 1997, the program places college students from varied backgrounds in addiction research labs across the country, providing a nationally replicable model to increase diversity in STEM careers.
- An expansive scoping review in support of the **Advisory Committee on Blood and Tissue Safety and Availability's** development of a national red blood cell registry. The registry will be only the second established worldwide. Upon implementation, it will immediately begin saving lives by ensuring care providers can rapidly access information about patients' prior blood transfusions and antibody tests, thus preventing life-threatening complications associated with receiving incompatible red blood cells.

Tick talk: the state of tick-related diseases



Established as a Federal Advisory Committee in 2016 by the 21st Century Cures Act, the Tick-Borne Disease Working Group (TBDWG) was charged with analyzing tick-borne disease research, reviewing federal efforts related to tick-borne diseases, and articulating progress, gaps, and barriers. RLA began supporting the third iteration of the TBDWG in 2021 and has now seen the group through to the conclusion of its Congressional authorization.

Since launching support of the TBDWG, RLA has provided logistics and writing support for more than 70 subcommittee meetings, as well as six **public meetings** of the full TBDWG, four of which

included presentations from RLA staff. In addition, RLA assisted the TBDWG's five subcommittees in the preparation of a 128-page Report to Congress summarizing the group's findings and completed a National Inventory of Tick-Borne Diseases and Associated Illnesses that will serve as a baseline for future work in this area. More than 20 RLA staff members—including project managers, research coordinators, meeting planners and technicians, science writers, copyeditors, and graphic designers—contributed to these efforts.

In [remarks](#) on the final meeting of the TBDWG, Assistant Secretary for Health Admiral Rachel Levine, MD, praised the TBDWG's commitment to collegial collaboration as well as the dedicated efforts of the many individuals who were essential to the group's success. RLA was honored to be included in these acknowledgments and to have contributed to the TBDWG's work to shape research and policy recommendations informed by public feedback, multidisciplinary expertise, and robust analysis of the landscape of tick-borne diseases in the United States.

New staff members augment RLA's deep bench of program and grant management experience

RLA's staff continues to grow, with additions including program and grants management experts with decades of experience advancing science at the National Institutes of Health. **Albert Lee, PhD**, has been appointed Director of RLA's Division of Scientific Research and Development (SRD). Dr. Lee joins RLA following 12 years as a Program Director at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. His previous experience includes leadership roles at the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. At RLA, Dr. Lee will apply his expertise in research analysis and management to oversee a growing portfolio of SRD projects, including RLA's role as the [a2 Collective Coordinating Center](#), continued support of HHS Federal Advisory Committees, and new projects supporting grants management process improvement and training.



Rebecca Claycamp, MS, CRA, brings over four decades of experience in academic research administration and NIH grants management to her role as a Senior Associate at RLA. Ms. Claycamp was recently awarded the Society of Research Administrators International [Herbert B. Chermiside Award for Distinguished Contribution to Research Administration](#). She will lend her considerable expertise in grants policy management to support multiple client projects, including the training of National Institute on Aging grants management specialists.

RLA continues to expand our team to meet evolving client needs. See our current [job openings](#) for opportunities to join our team as a Project Coordinator, Science Writer, or Meeting Planner/Coordinator.

RLA on LinkedIn and Twitter



Follow RLA on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#)! We post about health- and science-related topics that inspire us—and we hope they inspire you, too. Please like, share, and let us know what science is catching your attention today!

info@roseliassociates.com | www.roseliassociates.com | (301) 530-5011