

## Integrity Watch – Week of 2/3/06

*The Center for Science in the Public Interest's Integrity in Science Project (<http://www.cspinet.org/integrity>) this week launches a new service – Integrity Watch. We'll be sending brief new summaries and links to those interested in ending corporate misuse and abuse of science. If you have an item you'd like to see posted and included in our Database of Scientists' and Organizations' Ties to Industry, please send it to [science@cspinet.org](mailto:science@cspinet.org).*

*If you do not wish to receive these emails, please hit reply and put "unsubscribe" in the subject line.*

*If you receive duplicate emails from Integrity Watch, please hit reply and type "duplicate" in the subject line.*

### **WHO Excludes ILSI from Panels on Global Food and Water Supplies**

The World Health Organization's executive board voted last Friday to exclude the Washington-based International Life Sciences Institute from WHO committees that set global standards for food and water supplies. The Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Working Group, United Steelworkers of America and 15 other health, environmental and union groups complained to WHO last December that ILSI "has a demonstrated history of putting the interests of its exclusively corporate membership ahead of science and health concerns."

Source: John Heilprin, "Who to Rely Less on U.S. Research," Associated Press (posted on Washington Post website, Jan. 27, 2006 (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/01/27/AR2006012701302.html>))

For more on ILSI, see:

[http://www.cspinet.org/integrity/nonprofits/international\\_life\\_sciences\\_institute.html](http://www.cspinet.org/integrity/nonprofits/international_life_sciences_institute.html)

### **Lung Association Teams with Rx Firm for New DTC Advertising Mag**

The German drug company Altana AG and the American Lung Association have teamed up to produce *Lung* magazine, which will be distributed through doctor offices and to association affiliates. The magazine will carry direct-to-consumer advertising aimed at people with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and other lung conditions. An Altana-Aventis partnership is currently seeking Food and Drug Administration approval for Alvesco, an asthma drug.

Source: FDA WebReview, Jan. 30, 2006

(<http://www.fdaweb.com/start.php?sa=v&aid=D5101791&cate=&stid=%241%24zz2.A55.%24iKNwxs8w3u.5pRYX66R7d%2F> , subscription required)

### **IOM President Claims No Conflicts of Interest in Its Reports**

At a presentation on Capitol Hill last week, Dr. Harvey V. Fineberg, president of the Institute of Medicine at the National Academies of Science claimed NAS science panels issue authoritative reports because it avoids conflicts of interest. He failed to note that Harvard scientist David C. Bellinger, sitting on an IOM committee reviewing mercury risks in seafood, recently completed a study on the subject for the fishing industry.

Sources: Cornelia Dean, "Where Science and Public Policy Intersect, Researchers Offer a Short Lesson on Basics," New York Times website, Jan. 31, 2006 (<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/31/science/31cong.html>); and the [Integrity in Science Database](#).

### **OSU Professor Attacks *Science* over Grad Student's Findings**

Oregon State University professor John Sessions, who has close ties to the forest products industry, is continuing his campaign to quash graduate student Daniel Donato's report in *Science* magazine that showed logging after wildfires slows regrowth. Sessions claims the magazine's peer review fell short. According to the Portland Oregonian, *Science* editor Donald Kennedy rejected his petition because "Sessions is aligned with the timber industry" and "Sessions' work is influenced by political views."

Source: Michael Milstein, "OSU prof will press research challenge salvage logging," The Oregonian, Feb. 1, 2006

(<http://www.oregonlive.com/enter/index.ssf?/news/oregonian/index.ssf%3fbase/news/1138766107157040.xml&coll=7>, subscription required)

### **Fish and Wildlife Official Promoted After Manipulating Conservation Data**

Jay Slack, former FWS Field Supervisor in Southeast Florida, has been promoted to a top job in the Mountain-Prairie Region. The promotion comes after top FSW officials confirmed Slack ordered employees to deliberately alter scientific data on the endangered Florida panther to make way for development projects. Government biologist Andrew Eller in Kentucky almost lost his job after filing a whistleblower complaint about the deception.

Source: Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility press release, Feb. 1, 2006

([http://www.peer.org/news/news\\_id.php?row\\_id=637](http://www.peer.org/news/news_id.php?row_id=637))