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Fauci Won't Commit to Stop Funding Chinese Research With US Tax Dollars

Eva Fu

5-7 minutes

Dr. Anthony Fauci said he's unable to commit to stopping federal funding from going to Chinese scientific research, even as the U.S. intelligence community assesses the Chinese regime as America's top adversary.

Fauci, the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases ([NIAID](#)), made the remarks on June 16 during an exchange with Sen. Roger Marshall (R-Kan.) while appearing virtually at a Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee hearing.

“The [NIH](#) [National Institutes of Health] is still funding research in China, at least \$8 million since 2020,” Marshall said during the hearing. “In the Intelligence Community’s 2022 Annual Threat Assessment, the Chinese Communist Party is presented as [one of the top threats](#) to the United States, along with Russia, Iran, Syria,

and North Korea. To my knowledge, only China is receiving U.S. research dollars.”

Since 2020, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a total of \$8.3 million in grants to the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and its National Center for AIDS/STD Control and Prevention division, along with five top public universities in mainland China and Hong Kong, according to the NIH website. The NIAID is a component institute of NIH.

That amount doesn't capture dollars later funneled to a Chinese institution through a U.S.-based organization,

such as New York-based EcoHealth Alliance, which had partnered with the Wuhan Institute of Virology to perform coronavirus-related experiments that [some experts said](#) fit the definition of gain-of-function research, that is, experiments that increase the pathogenicity or transmissibility of a virus.

Marshall asked Fauci, “When will you as director of NIAID stop funding research in China?”

In response, Fauci said that U.S. federal agencies “had very productive peer-reviewed highly regarded research projects with our Chinese colleagues that have led to some major

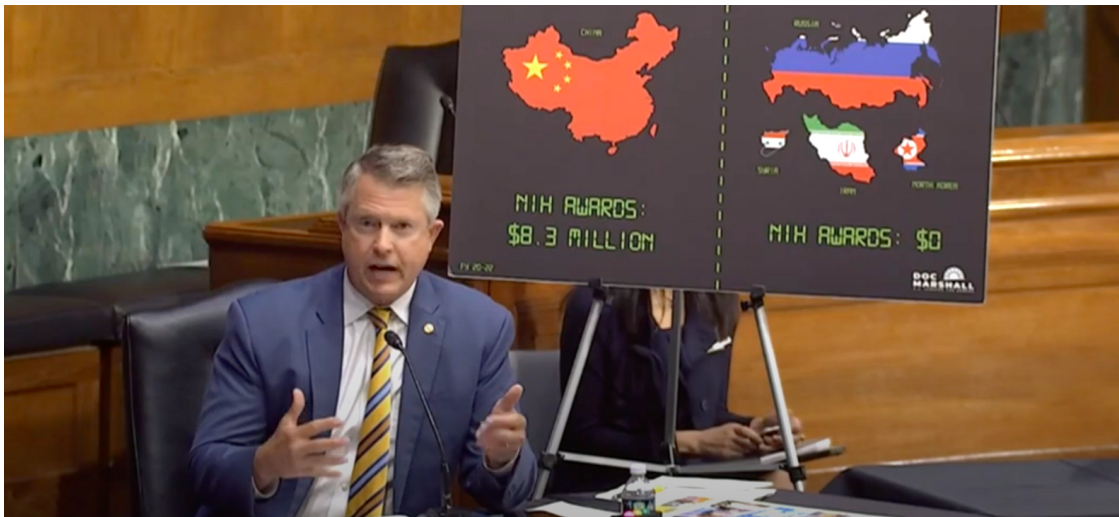
advances in biomedical research.”

“So I don’t think I’d be able to tell you that we are going to stop funding the Chinese,” he said.

“We obviously need to be careful and make sure that when we do fund them we have the proper peer review and we go through all the established guidelines,” he added, saying that “grants that go to foreign countries, including China, have State Department clearance.”

“Dr. Fauci’s remarks prove that China is the drug he just can’t quit,” Marshall told The Epoch Times about the NIAID head’s response.





Sen. Roger Marshall (R-Kan.) questions Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, at a Senate committee hearing on June 16, 2022. (The Epoch Times via the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee)

“Dr. Fauci told the truth for once, after years of repeated dishonesty that has eroded Americans’ trust in our public health institutions. In the aftermath of

the coronavirus pandemic, our government should know it's dangerous and wrong to continue funding research projects supported by the Chinese Communist Party.”

Marshall followed up by asking Fauci if he agrees that the U.S. public lacks records and studies from EcoHealth Alliance's research.

Fauci's answer was evasive.

“We have access to an extraordinary amount of information that has gone there,” he said, arguing that the publicly available information in the scientific journals is sufficient.

“Obviously none of us know everything that's going on in China, but if the

question at hand is the rather small ... peer-reviewed high-priority grant that was given from Eco[Health] to China in a sub-award, we have a lot of good information that's in the publishing.”

The NIH gave a total of \$3.1 million in grants to EcoHealth over the five years from 2014 to 2019. Almost a fifth of that, \$599,000, went to the Wuhan lab, in part for identifying and altering bat coronaviruses deemed likely to infect humans, documents obtained by The Intercept [show](#).

Fauci last week [tested positive](#) for COVID-19 and joined the June 16 Senate hearing [remotely](#). His response to Marshall omitted any reference to

EcoHealth's lack of disclosure over some of its research activities, which would have prompted an NIH review over biosafety measures.



In this image from video, Dr. Anthony Fauci testifies remotely to a Senate panel on June 16, 2022. (The Epoch Times via the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee)

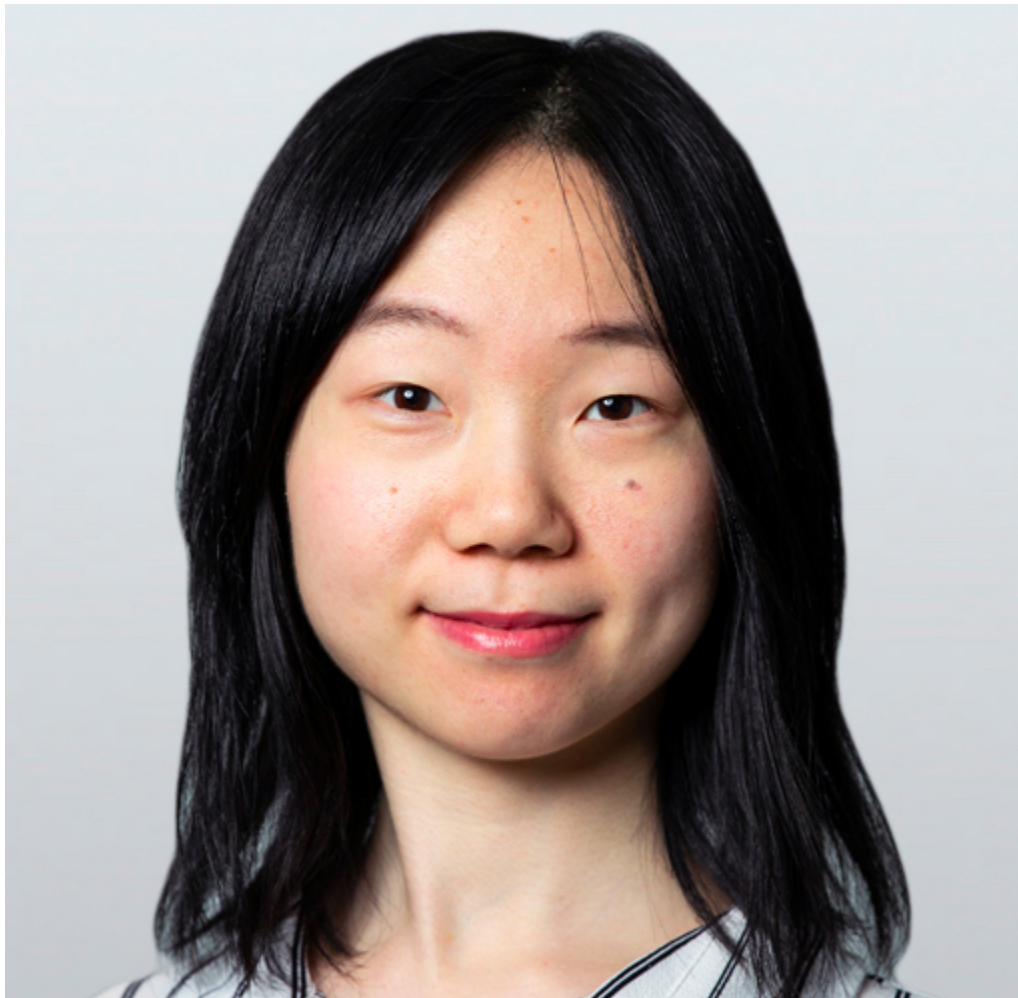
In one experiment at the Wuhan facility,

funded by NIH via EcoHealth, mice infected with a modified version of the original bat coronavirus “became sicker than those infected” with the original version, an “unexpected result” that was not “something that the researchers set out to do,” Lawrence Tabak, then-principal deputy director at the NIH, [told lawmakers](#) last October. He said EcoHealth had violated grant terms by failing to promptly notify the NIH about the finding.

Fauci, at the June 16 hearing, also told Sen. Mike Braun (R-Ind.) that he believes the outbreak of the virus “is very, very likely a jump in species from an animal host,” and less likely to be

the result of a lab leak.

“I believe it’s essential to have cooperation and collaboration with the Chinese,” he said when Braun asked him whether he thinks Beijing will cooperate with him to “get to the thorough bottom of” the origins of COVID-19.





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