NIHH Director Thomas Insel Discusses Mental Health Challenges Facing the Nation

**By Colin Morris**

While pressing global issues such as war and terrorism retain the focus of much of the world’s media coverage, the American social and medical community is analyzing worrisome data on the state of mental health in the U.S. and abroad. Depression, in fact, far outstrips all other sources of disability in the U.S., a significant source of morbidity.

Yet this quiet trend is nothing new. Suicide has increased almost twice since 1983. President Sovern took the ed housing policy committee has been reporting to the Senate since the 1960s, many for being poorly formed. The last two categories got proxy resolutions last spring the Law School, reported that the Senate had been wait- ing for the committee to consider more proximality last spring (132) than in its first two years, rejecting 81 percent of them, many for being poorly formed. She said the Trustees usually accepted the committee’s advice. The committee focused on several social categories: the environment, labor, human rights, phar- maceutical pricing, handguns, executive compensation as well as board diversity and independence. The last two categories got special attention from the committee, given the recent proliferation of corporate scandals and abuses.

The resolution passed by voice vote, with one (presidential) nay. It does not require Trustee commit- currence since it does not propose changes to the University by-laws. The Senate also heard from the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing. The chair, Prof. Merit Janow of SIPA and the Law School, reported that the committee considered more proximality last spring (132) than in its first two years, rejecting 81 percent of them, many for being poorly formed. She said the Trustees usually accepted the committee’s advice. The committee focused on several social categories: the environment, labor, human rights, phar- maceutical pricing, handguns, executive compensation as well as board diversity and independence. The last two categories got special attention from the committee, given the recent proliferation of corporate scandals and abuses.

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