Centers and Center-like Activities Awardee Meeting on Cyberinfrastructure

Held 27 June 2012 at the Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) in Annapolis, Maryland

Debrief to BIO Advisory Council
5 September 2012
12 Center and Center-like Activities
Meeting emphasis: Cyberinfrastructure

Areas of strength, overlap, gaps in cyberinfrastructure

• **Advanced Computational Infrastructure (ACI):** Compute cycles and gateways not effectively used by BIO researchers. Improve access and usability and encourage use by BIO awardees

• **Data:** Increased need for short- and long-term storage, and archiving, metadata, standards, ontologies, data quality, trust, and data publishing

• **Software:** Support for tools that biologists use

• **Collaboration:** Research has become increasingly collaborative, interdisciplinary, and international

• **Coordination:** What can both the Centers and NSF do to improve usability, management, evaluation
As strategic investments, are Centers able to do the things we should expect of them?

- Create/leverage *economies of scale* to better utilize cyberinfrastructure
- Address *grand challenges* not possible at individual or small-scale
- Foster *collaboration and shared opportunities*.

Are large-scale activities competing with individual researchers for program funding?
What NSF can do

Enhance opportunities at all levels through existing programs, DCLs, supplements.

• Grow out the top level investments at large-scale integrative level
  – Facility scale investments that support software, tools
  – Facility scale investments for data acquisition and

• Provide mechanisms to improve CI access; partnerships with Centers for individual/small researchers.
  – Strategic supplements
  – plus-ups
  – co-funding (e.g., CI-REUSE)

• Push better integration between OCI and BIO investments in CI (SI2, Software Institutes, Xsede, DIBBs [Datanet])
Coordination, Accountability, Post-award Management

• Coordination
  – Community-based infrastructure needs: Conceptualization first, implementation to follow, as communities demonstrate readiness
  – Facility scale investments that support software, tools
  – Facility scale investments for data acquisition and

• Accountability
  – award conditions documenting collaboration for awards partnering with Centers and in programs participating in CILS portfolio

• Post award management
  – Improve data reporting to include common data templates (e.g., for demographic data).
  – Continue coordination of CI development, use, re-use across the Directorate and in the communities
OCI DCL – Supplements for large-scale coordination

Table 1. BIO Centers response to the call entitled "Cyberinfrastructure Coordination for Multi-User Research Facilities (NSF 12-101)" issued as a Dear Colleague letter on June 27, 2012.

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<tr>
<th>Supplement ID</th>
<th>PI</th>
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<th>Institution</th>
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<td>DBI - 1253049</td>
<td>Palmer, Margaret A.</td>
<td>National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center</td>
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