



**NSF Regional Grants Conference**  
**Introduction & NSF Overview**  
March 22-23, 2010

**Hosted by: Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH**

# Panelist

## **Martha Rubenstein**

Acting Director and Chief Financial Officer, Office of Budget,  
Finance & Award Management





**Ask Early, Ask Often!**

# Topics Covered

- **Origins of NSF**
- **NSF Organization**
- **NSF FY 2010 Budget**
- **NSF FY 2011 Funding Request**
- **NSF Proposals & Awards & Funding Rates**
- **American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009**
- **Key Documents**
- **Conclusion**

# Origins of NSF



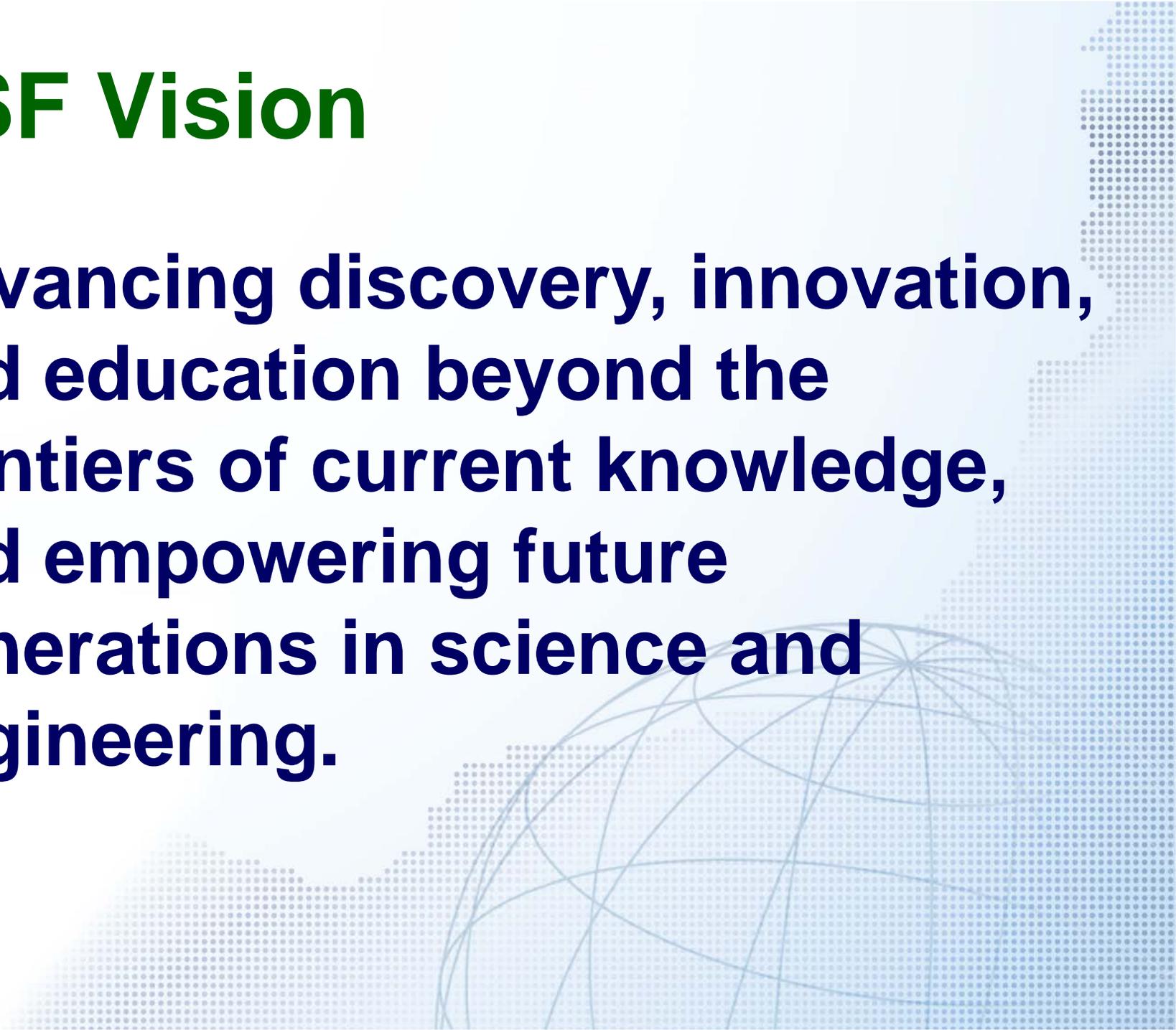
- **The Government should accept new responsibilities for promoting the flow of scientific knowledge and the development of scientific talent in our youth.”**
  - **Science - The Endless Frontier, 1945**
- **1947: Congress Approves, Truman Vetoes**
- **1950: Compromise Bill Approved & Signed by Truman**

# NSF Act of 1950

- **To promote the progress of science...**”
- **NSB (24) and 1 Director, appointed by the President**
- **Encourage & develop a national policy for the promotion of basic research and education in the math, physical, medical, biological, engineering and other sciences**
- **Initiate & support basic scientific research in the sciences**
- **Evaluate the science research programs undertaken by agencies of the Federal government**
- **Provide information for S&E policy formation**

# NSF Vision

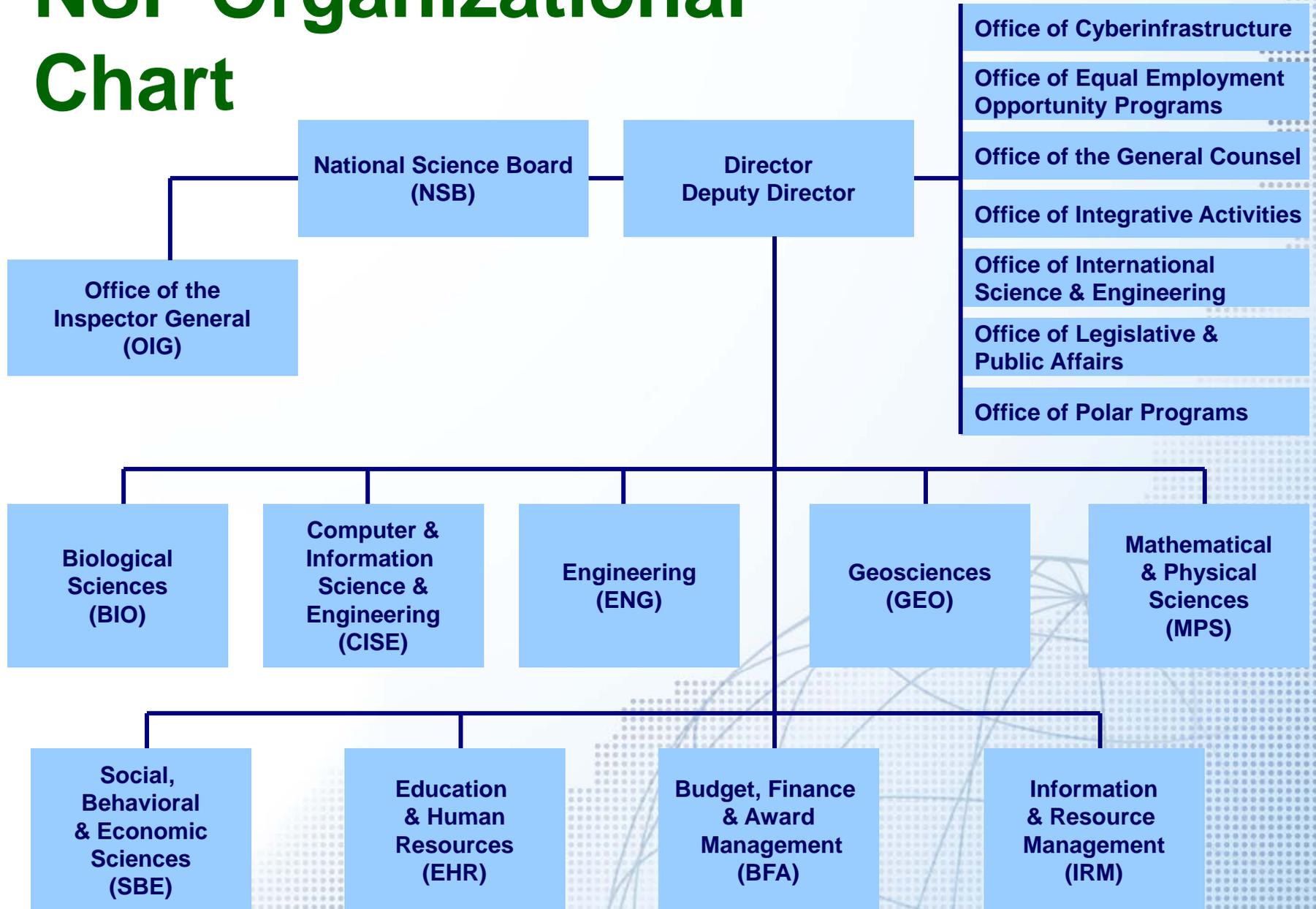
**Advancing discovery, innovation,  
and education beyond the  
frontiers of current knowledge,  
and empowering future  
generations in science and  
engineering.**

The background of the slide is a light blue gradient. On the right side, there is a vertical column of small, light blue dots that tapers towards the top. In the lower right quadrant, there is a faint, wireframe globe composed of thin, light blue lines forming a spherical grid.

# NSF in a Nutshell

- **Independent Agency**
- **Supports basic research & education**
- **Uses grant mechanism**
- **Low overhead; highly automated**
- **Discipline-based structure**
- **Cross-disciplinary mechanisms**
- **Use of Rotators/IPAs**
- **National Science Board**

# NSF Organizational Chart



# Personnel Changes

- Dr. Arden Bement, NSF Director, leaving NSF as of June 1
- Ms. Marty Rubenstein named Acting Chief Financial Officer & Director, Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management
- Dr. Myron Gutmann named Assistant Director for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (SBE)
- Dr. Edward Seidel named as Acting Assistant Director for Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS)
- Dr. Jose Munoz named Acting Director of the Office of Cyberinfrastructure (OCI)
- Ms. Allison Lerner appointed as Inspector General

# FY 2010 NSF Budget

*Dollars in millions*

Account	FY 2009 Omnibus	FY 2009 ARRA Actual	FY 2009 Totals	FY 2010 Appropriation	Percent Change over FY 2009 Omnibus
R&RA	\$5,152	\$2,063	\$7,215	\$5,564	8%
EHR	\$846	\$85	\$931	\$873	3%
MREFC	\$161	\$254	\$415	\$117	-27%
AOAM	\$294	-	\$294	\$300	2%
NSB	\$4	-	\$4	\$4.54	13%
OIG	\$12	\$0.02	\$12	\$14	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,469</b>	<b>\$2,402</b>	<b>\$8,870</b>	<b>\$6,873</b>	<b>6.24%</b>

Totals may not add due to rounding.

# FY 2010 Budget

- Increases support for Graduate Research Fellowship and CAREER Programs.
- Increases support for Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Program.
- Increases support for exploratory, high risk research.
- Supports research to predict future environmental conditions and develop strategies for responding to global environmental change.

# FY 2011 Budget Request

*Dollars in millions*

<b>Account</b>	<b>FY 2010 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY 2011 Request</b>	<b>Change over FY 2010 Appropriation</b>	
<b>R&amp;RA</b>	<b>\$5,564</b>	<b>\$6,019</b>	<b>\$455</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>EHR</b>	<b>\$873</b>	<b>\$892</b>	<b>\$19</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>MREFC</b>	<b>\$117</b>	<b>\$165</b>	<b>\$48</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>AOAM</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$329</b>	<b>\$29</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>NSB</b>	<b>\$4.54</b>	<b>\$5</b>	<b>\$0.30</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>OIG</b>	<b>\$14</b>	<b>\$14</b>	<b>\$0.35</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,873</b>	<b>\$7,424</b>	<b>\$552</b>	<b>8%</b>

Totals may not add due to rounding.

# FY 2011 Budget Request: Administration Priority Programs

## Administration Priority Programs:

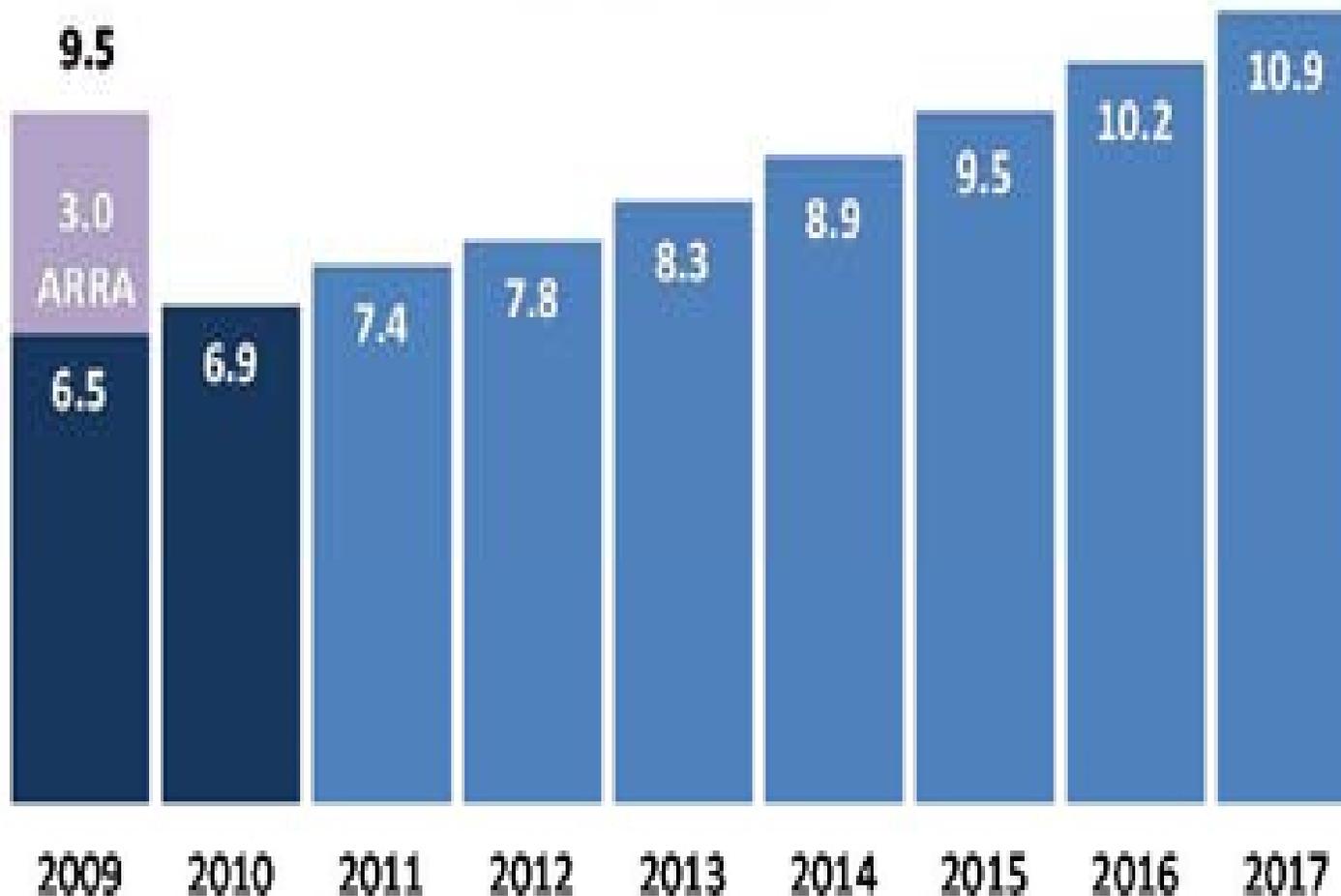
	<b>FY 2011 Total</b>	<b>Increase over FY 2010</b>
Graduate Research Fellowship Program	\$158 M	\$22.3 M
Faculty Early Career Development	\$209 M	\$12.8 M
Climate Change Education Program	\$10 M	-
Advanced Technological Education	\$64 M	-

# FY 2011 Budget Request: NSF-wide Priorities

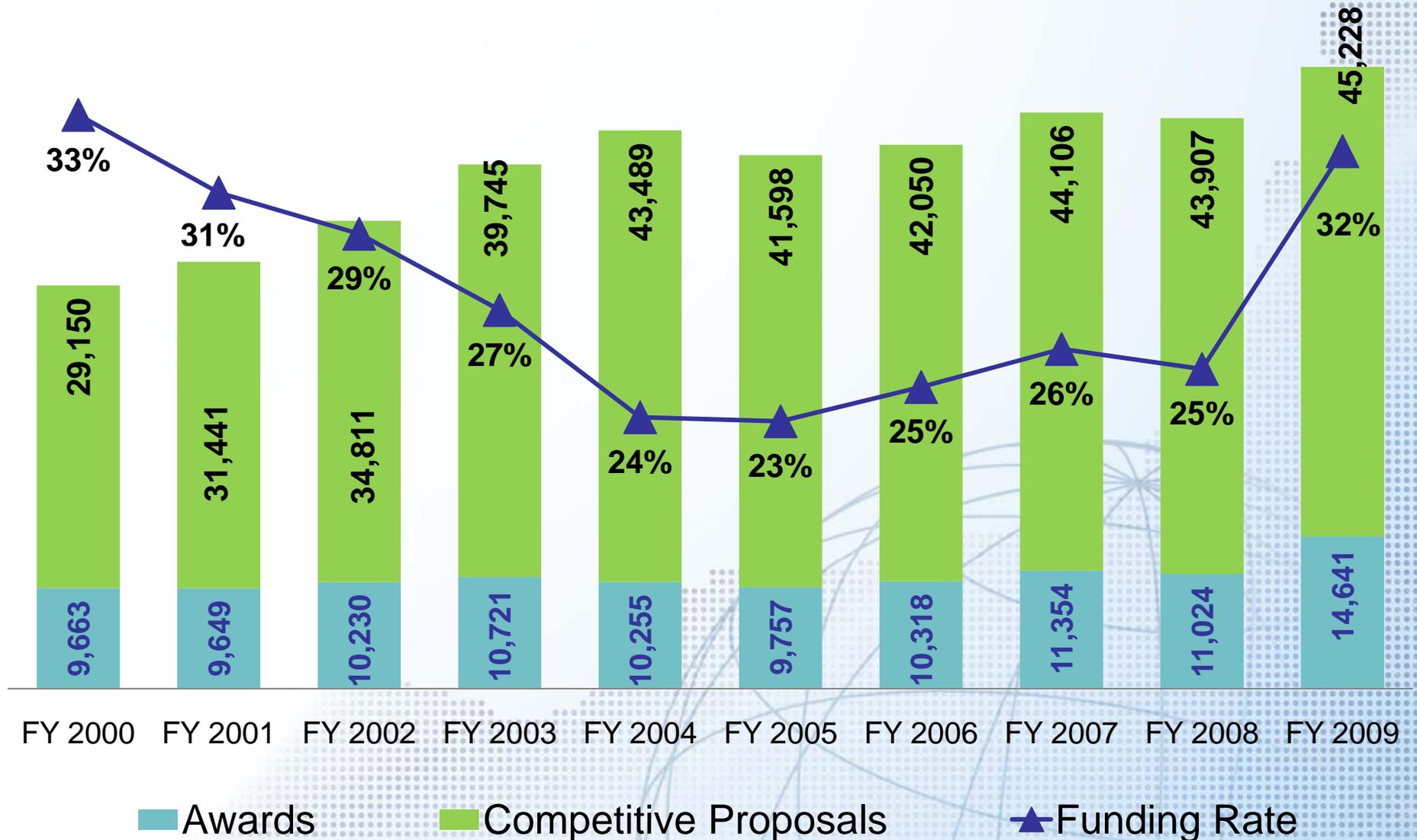
- USGCRP: NSF contributions increase by 16 percent, to \$370 million
- NSF portfolios:
  - Science, Engineering, and Education for Sustainability (SEES): \$766 million
  - Cyberlearning Transforming Education (CTE): \$41 million

# President's Plan for Science and Innovation

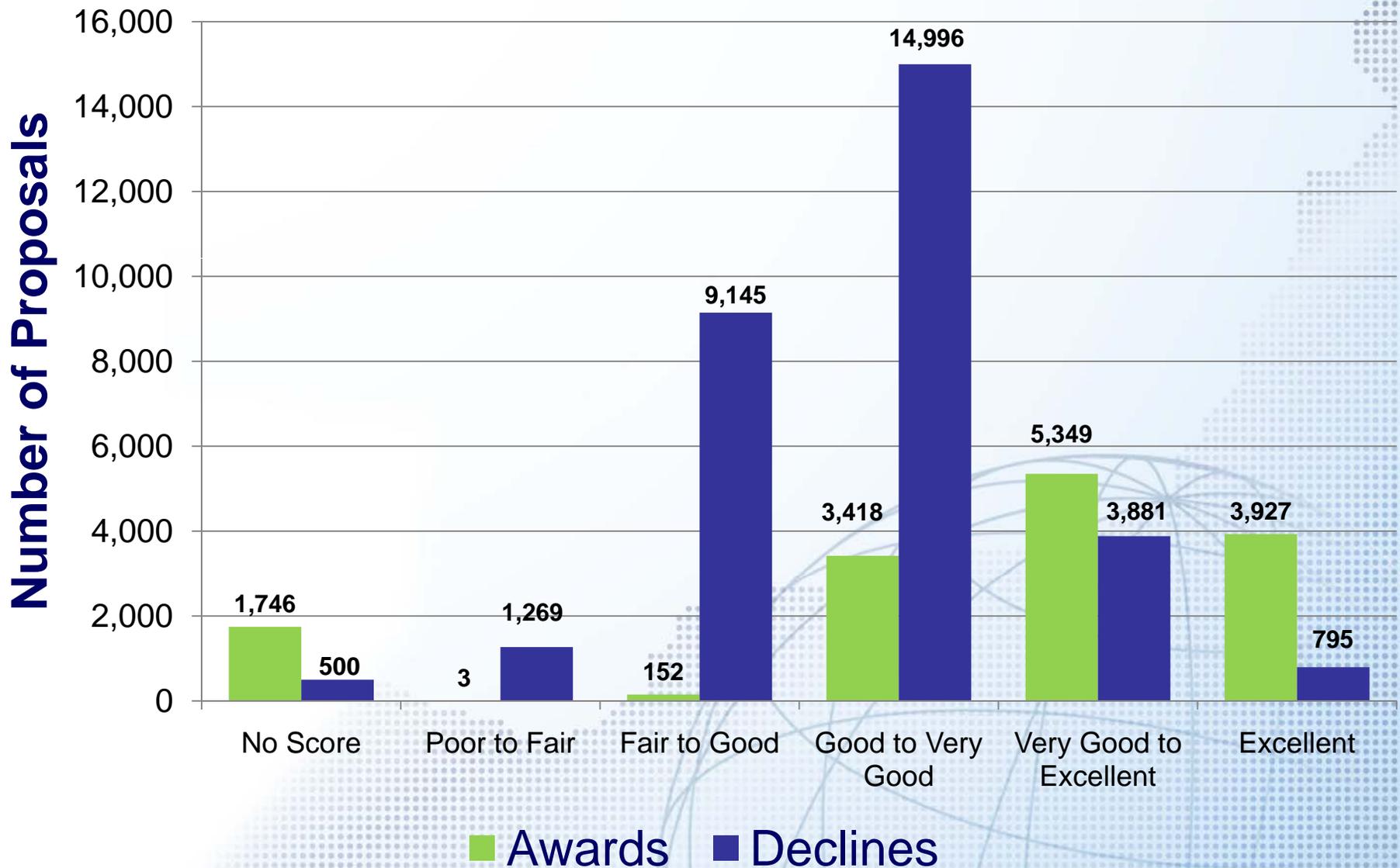
**Total NSF Funding**  
*Dollars in billions*



# Number of NSF Competitive Proposals and Awards and Funding Rates



# Distribution of Average Reviewer Ratings for Awards and Declines, FY 2009



# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)

*Even beyond energy, from the National Institutes of Health to the National Science Foundation, this recovery act represents the biggest increase in basic research funding in the long history of America's noble endeavor to better understand our world. Just as President Kennedy sparked an explosion of innovation when he set America's sights on the moon, I hope this investment will ignite our imagination once more, spurring new discoveries and breakthroughs that will make our economy stronger, our nation more secure, and our planet safer for our children.*

President Barack Obama  
February 17, 2009

# ARRA: NSF Budget Highlights

- **\$3 billion supplemented FY 2009 funding:**
  - **\$2 billion for research and related activities for proposals that were reviewed and/or awarded prior to September 30, 2009.**
  - **\$ 1 billion dedicated as specified in ARRA.**

# ARRA: Specified Programs

- Academic Research Infrastructure \$200 million
- Major Research Instrumentation \$300 million
- Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarships \$60 million
- Math and Science Partnerships \$25 million
- Science Masters Program \$15 million
- Alaska Region Research Vessel \$148 million
- Ocean Observatories Initiative \$106 million
- Advanced Technology Solar Telescope \$146 million

# ARRA: NSF Funding Prioritization

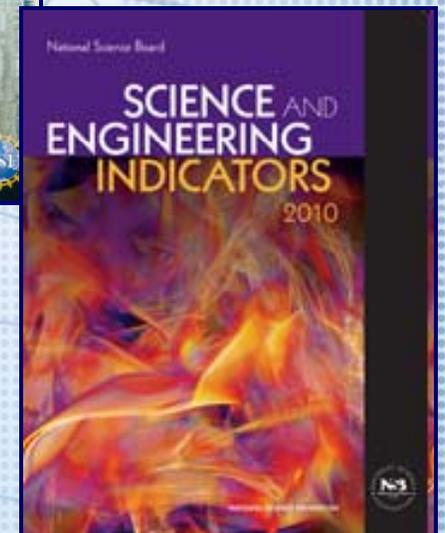
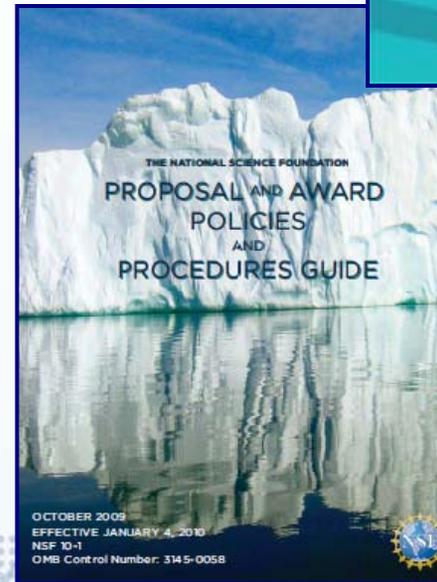
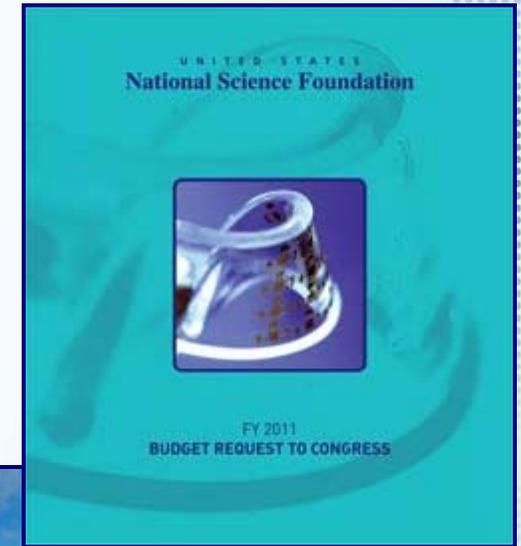
- Recovery Act funds were to be awarded in a timely manner. NSF made 4,712 awards totaling \$2.6B to more than 800 institutions by February 28, 2010.
- All grants were issued as standard grants with durations of up to five years.
- Funding of new PIs and high-risk, high-return research were top priorities.
- Only four ARRA-specific solicitations were released.
- NSF considered proposals declined on or after October 1, 2008, and made 318 awards from this pool.

# ARRA: Reporting and Accountability Requirements

- **The OMB expectation is for a high level of accountability and transparency from both agencies and recipients.**
  - **Higher scrutiny from:**
    - Administration
    - Congress
    - Public
    - Recovery Act Accountability & Transparency Board
    - NSF Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

# Key Documents

- **FY 2011 NSF Budget Request to Congress**
- **Proposal & Award Policies and Procedures Guide**
- **Science & Engineering Indicators**



**For More Information**

**Ask Early, Ask Often!**

**<http://www.nsf.gov/staff>**

**<http://www.nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp>**