Panelist

Martha Rubenstein
Director and Chief Financial Officer, Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management
Ask Early, Ask Often!

Topics Covered

• Origins of NSF
• NSF Organization
• NSF FY 2011 Budget Request
• NSF Proposals & Awards & Funding Rates
• American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009
• Interdisciplinary Research
• 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.

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

National Science Board (NSB) - Director

Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

Office of Cyberinfrastructure
Office of Diversity & Inclusion
Office of the General Counsel
Office of Integrative Activities
Office of International Science & Engineering
Office of Legislative & Public Affairs
Office of Polar Programs

Biological Sciences (BIO)

Computer & Information Science & Engineering (CISE)

Engineering (ENG)

Geosciences (GEO)

Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS)

Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (SBE)

Education & Human Resources (EHR)

Budget, Finance & Award Management (BFA)

Information & Resource Management (IRM)
Personnel Changes

• Dr. Subra Suresh confirmed as NSF Director
• Dr. Cora Marrett nominated as Deputy Director
• Dr. Farnam Jahanian named Assistant Director for Computer & Information Science & Engineering
• Ms. Amy Northcutt named Acting Director of the Office of Information & Resource Management (OIRM)
• Dr. Edward Seidel named as Acting Assistant Director for Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS)
• Dr. Jose Munoz named Chief Technology Officer
• Dr. Alan Blatecky named Acting Director of the Office of Cyberinfrastructure (OCI)
## FY 2011 Budget Request

*(dollars in millions)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>FY 2011 Request</th>
<th>FY 2011 House Mark</th>
<th>FY 2011 Senate Mark</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;RA</td>
<td>$6,019</td>
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<tr>
<td>OIG</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>$14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$7,424</td>
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<td>$7,353</td>
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</table>

Totals may not add due to rounding.
FY 2011 Budget Request: Administration Priority Programs

Administration Priority Programs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2011 Total</th>
<th>Increase over FY 2010</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Research Fellowship Program</td>
<td>$158 M</td>
<td>$22.3 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Early Career Development</td>
<td>$209 M</td>
<td>$12.8 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climate Change Education Program</td>
<td>$10 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Technological Education</td>
<td>$64 M</td>
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</table>

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*
NSF Competitive Awards, Declines, and Funding Rates

![Bar chart showing NSF Competitive Awards, Declines, and Funding Rates from FY 2001 to FY 2010.]}
Distribution by Average Reviewer Ratings for Awards and Declines, FY 2010

- No Score: 1,951 (Awards), 820 (Declines)
- Poor to Fair: 1,673 (Awards), 1 (Declines)
- Fair to Good: 98 (Awards), 4,560 (Declines)
- Good to Very Good: 12,106 (Awards), 20,317 (Declines)
- Very Good to Excellent: 3,743 (Awards), 6,318 (Declines)
- Excellent: 1,312 (Awards), 11 (Declines)
ARRA: NSF Implementation

- Recovery Act funds were to be awarded in a timely manner. NSF made 5,023 awards totaling $3.0B to more than 900 institutions by September 30, 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)
Interdisciplinary Research (IDR)

- Important research ideas often transcend the scope of a single discipline or program.
- NSF gives high priority to promoting interdisciplinary research and supports it through a number of specific solicitations.
- NSF encourages submission of unsolicited interdisciplinary proposals for ideas that are in novel or emerging areas extending beyond any particular current NSF program.
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