

# National Science Foundation



Spring Outreach 2005

# Main Topics

- NSF Basics
- FY 2006 NSF Budget Request
- NSF Priority Areas
- Current Proposal, Award & Funding Trends
- Challenges & Opportunities
- Proposal & Award Policy and Procedure Update
- Electronic Initiatives Update

# 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: Recent Personnel Changes

- Arden Bement appointed as NSF Director in November 2004
- David Lightfoot named Assistant Director of Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) – will begin in June 2005. Currently Dean of Georgetown University's Graduate School for Arts and Sciences
- Two Assistant Director recruitments active: Education and Human Resources (EHR), and Biological Sciences (BIO)
- Office of International Science & Engineering moved to the Office of the Director; Office Head recruitment ongoing

# NSF: Recent Personnel Changes (Cont'd)

## ➤ BFA Realignment

- Mary Santonastasso heads up the newly formed Division of Institution & Award Support
- Gerry Glaser is the new Director of the Division of Grants & Agreements
- Donna Fortunat heads up the newly formed Division of Contracts & Complex Agreements



# The NSF FY 2006 Budget

# NSF FY 2006 Request by Account (Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2005 Current	FY 2006 Request	Amount Change	Percent Change
<b>Research &amp; Related Activities</b>	<b>\$4,220.55</b>	<b>\$4,333.49</b>	<b>\$112.94</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
<b>Major Research</b>	<b>173.65</b>	<b>250.01</b>	<b>76.36</b>	<b>44.0%</b>
<b>Equipment &amp; Facilities Construction</b>				
<b>Education &amp; Human Resources</b>	<b>841.42</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>-104.42</b>	<b>-12.4%</b>
<b>Salaries &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>223.20</b>	<b>269.00</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
<b>National Science Board</b>	<b>3.97</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>Office of Inspector General</b>	<b>10.03</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>1.47</b>	<b>14.7%</b>
<b>Total, NSF</b>	<b>\$5,472.82</b>	<b>\$5,605.00</b>	<b>\$132.18</b>	<b>2.4%</b>

# NSF FY 2006 Research & Related Activities Request by Directorates (Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2005 Current	FY 2006 Request	Amount Change	Percent Change
Biological Sciences	\$576.61	\$581.79	\$5.18	0.9%
Computer & Information Science & Engineering	613.72	620.56	6.84	1.1%
Engineering	561.3	580.68	19.38	3.5%
Geosciences	694.16	709.1	14.94	2.2%
Mathematical & Physical Sciences	1,069.86	1086.23	16.37	1.5%
Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences	196.9	198.79	1.89	1.0%
Office of International Science & Engineering	33.73	34.51	0.78	2.3%
U.S. Polar Research Programs	276.84	319.41	42.57	15.4%
U.S. Antarctic Logistical Support Activities	67.52	67.52	0	0.0%
Integrative Activities	129.91	134.9	4.99	3.8%
<b>Total, R&amp;RA</b>	<b>\$4,220.55</b>	<b>\$4,333.49</b>	<b>\$112.94</b>	<b>2.7%</b>



# NSF Priority Areas

# Biocomplexity in the Environment

[http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority\\_areas/biocomplexity/index.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority_areas/biocomplexity/index.jsp)

Fiscal year 2005 priorities include:

- Understand the dynamics of coupled natural and human systems on a wide range of scales
- Design and synthesis of new materials with environmentally benign impacts on biocomplex systems and maximize efficient use of individual materials throughout their life cycles
- Use of genomic and information-technology approaches to gain novel insights into environmental questions and problems
- Genomic sequencing of microorganisms of fundamental biological interest; importance to agriculture, forestry, food and water quality; and value in understanding transmission of infectious agents
- Innovative approaches to education about complexity in environmental systems

# Human & Social Dynamics

[http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority\\_areas/humansocial/index.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority_areas/humansocial/index.jsp)

Fiscal Year 2005 priorities include:

- **Agents of change** – focusing on large-scale changes in humanity and society in areas such as industrial globalization and disease epidemics, and how we influence technological change
- **Dynamics of human behavior** – applying state-of-the-art methods and cross-disciplinary approaches to better understand the dynamics that influence human behavior and action
- **Decision-making and risk** – improving decision-making in an uncertain world by studying risk perception and response to stimuli such as hazards and extreme events and the role of educational systems in that response

# Mathematical Sciences

[http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority\\_areas/mathematics/index.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority_areas/mathematics/index.jsp)

## Fiscal Year 2005 priorities include:

- Fundamental research in areas such as dynamic systems and partial differential equations, geometry and topology, probability, number theory, algebraic and quantum structures, the mathematics of computation, statistics and multi-scale and multi-resolution analysis
- Development of new analytical, statistical, computational and experimental tools to tackle a broad range of scientific and technological challenges long considered intractable.
- Advancement of mathematical sciences education, including the introduction of new ideas across the K-16 spectrum and research on how mathematics is learned, particularly in light of new learning technologies and emerging mathematical fields

# Nanoscale Science & Engineering

[http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority\\_areas/nano/index.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/news/priority_areas/nano/index.jsp)

Fiscal Year 2005 priorities include:

- **Manufacturing** - Research enabling the nanoscale as the most efficient manufacturing domain, including fabrication of nanostructured materials, nanosystems and nanoscale catalysts
- **Human performance** - Nanobiotechnology and nanobiology for improving human performance
- **Nanoscale phenomena** - Discovery, understanding and potential application of phenomena specific to the nanoscale
- **New instrumentation and standards** - Development of new instrumentation and standards, particularly for imaging, characterization and manipulation of materials and systems in three dimensions at the nanoscale
- **Education and training** - Education and training of a new generation for future industries, including high school, undergraduate, graduate and informal education
- **National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network (NNIN)** - For user facilities, development of new instrumentation and training



# Current Proposal, Award and Funding Trends

# NSF by the Numbers

\$5.61B	FY 2006 Budget Request
4%	NSF share of total annual Federal spending for research and development
50%	NSF share of Federal funding for non-medical basic research at academic institutions
44,000	Proposals evaluated in FY 2004 through a competitive merit review process
10,400	New awards funded in FY 2004

# NSF by the Numbers (Cont'd)

50,000	Scientists & engineers who evaluate proposals for NSF each year
200,000	Proposal reviews done each year
40,000	Students supported by NSF Graduate Research Fellowships since 1952
216,000	People (researchers, postdoctoral fellows, trainees, students) NSF supports directly



## Challenges & Opportunities

# What's the latest on...

## ➤ Challenges

- Political Landscape/Deficit Reduction/Constrained Budgets
- Management Challenges
- Cost Sharing
- Export Controls

## ➤ Opportunities

- Research Business Models



# Challenges

- Political Landscape/Deficit Reduction/Constrained Budgets
  - Growing Deficit (\$422B est.)
  - “War Time” Environment
  - Economic/Job Uncertainty
- Continuing Management Challenges
  - Award Size, Duration and Success Rate
  - Financial Statement Audits (ours and yours)
  - Improper Payments

# Award Size and Duration

- Award Size, Duration and Success Rate
  - Surveys of PI's & Institutions in 2001
  - Study Results Published July 2002
  - New average grant size goal
    - From \$100K/3 years to \$250K/5 years
    - Over time: currently at \$138K/2.9 years
    - Declining success rates (33% → 25%)
- Balancing size, duration and success rates is difficult
- Current focus is on increasing success rates

# Financial Statement Audits

- Ours and Yours
  - Issue: Recording expenditures properly
- Federal Government
  - More scrutiny of FCTR's will require more documentation
  - Heightened scrutiny of A-133 reports
  - Site visits to high-risk awardees
- You Guys
  - Better accounting system: segregation costs
  - Better documentation
  - Clean A-133 audits (OIG reviews/recommendations)

# Improper Payments Information Act of 2002

## ➤ History

- The Federal Government makes more than \$45 billion in improper payments each year in programs that represent \$1 trillion in outlays
- IPIA requires agencies to report on programs or activities with estimated improper payments exceeding \$10 million and detail actions the agency is taking to reduce these improper payments
- OMB further expanded the definition: *An erroneous or improper payment includes any payment that was made to an ineligible recipient or for an ineligible service*
- NSF is the only research grant-making agency required to measure improper use of grant funds. All others are required to report entitlement or block grant programs

# Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (Cont'd)

## ➤ Current Action

- NSF sampled improper payments on all site visits to high-risk grantees as identified in our Award Monitoring Program
- A BFA team is analyzing the results of the site visits for the Performance and Accountability Reports (PAR)
- Continue innovative efforts for administering an improper payments program as part of a holistic grants monitoring approach, which assures accurate award institution identity and grant eligibility

## Challenges (Cont'd)

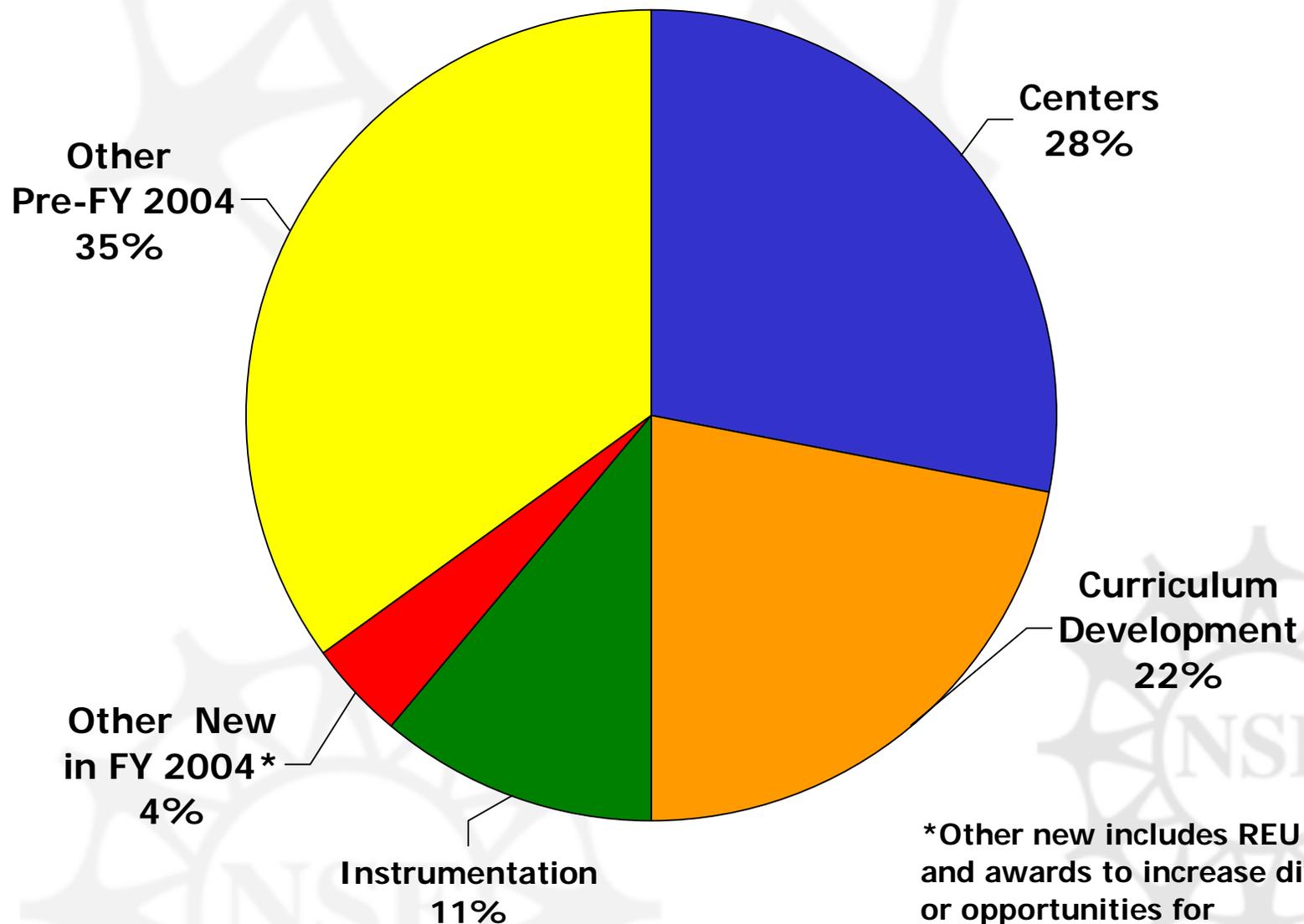
- ◆ NSB/NSF revised (Oct. 14, 2004) the current policy on cost sharing to eliminate program specific cost sharing, and require ONLY statutory cost sharing (1%).

# Challenges (Cont'd)

## Cost Sharing Data: FY 2000-2004

Fiscal Year	C/S Dollars	Awards	Total Award Actions	%
FY2000	\$508M	3109	19,789	15.71
FY2001	\$534M	3346	20,529	16.30
FY2002	\$419M	3188	21,369	14.92
FY2003	\$325M	2359	22,782	10.35
FY2004	\$244M	1556	22,862	6.80

# Cost Sharing Provided in FY 2004



\*Other new includes REU sites, and awards to increase diversity or opportunities for underrepresented minorities.

# Opportunities

- ✦ Research Business Models Subcommittee, Committee on Science, National Science and Technology Council
  - Coordinating across Federal agencies to address important policy implications arising from the changing nature of interdisciplinary and collaborative research, and
  - examining the effects of these changes on business models for the conduct of scientific research sponsored by the Federal government.
  - Working with the FDP, COGR, and others

# Research Business Models (Cont'd)

## **SUCCESS!**

- Three of ten initiatives approved in January 2005
  - Dr. Marburger, Director, OSTP signed a memo to research agency heads to implement a policy to acknowledge multiple PIs
  - Dr. Kathie Olsen, Assoc. Dir. For Science, OSTP and the Controller, OMB signed a memo endorsing the FDP subagreement as an effective practice
  - FDP “research terms” were published in the Federal Register as a proposal to implement more broadly and routinely across all agencies for research and related awards
- See the RBM web site for the latest news  
<http://rbm.nih.gov/>

# Research Business Models (Cont'd)

## **CONTINUING PROGRESS!**

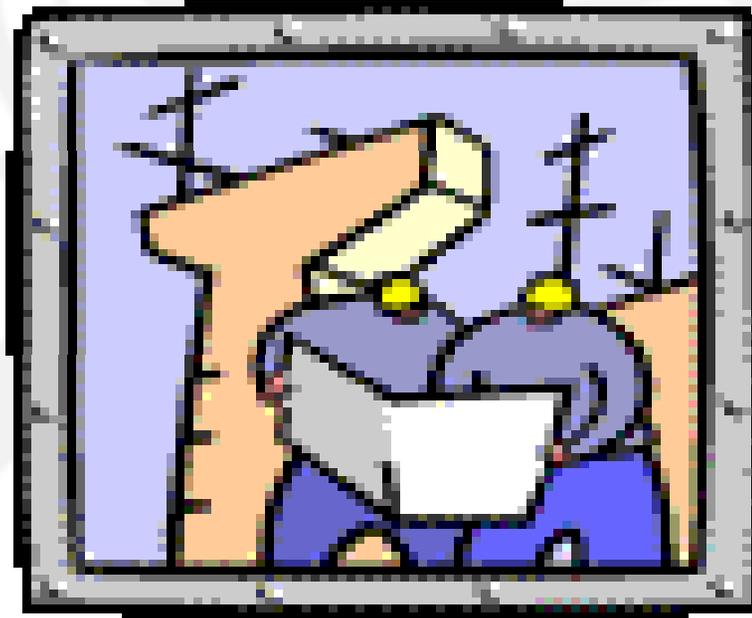
Several Activities are in the Pipeline

- ▶ Streamlined and consistent progress report formats across agencies-
  - will be discussed at May FDP meeting
  - will also be published in the Federal Register for comments
- ▶ Enhanced A-133 compliance supplement on subrecipient monitoring
  - Describe risk management and streamlined review for "Prime" subrecipients with satisfactory audits
  - Possible implementation in the 2006 compliance supplement

# Research Business Models (Cont'd)

## Activities in the Pipeline (cont'd)

- Uniform Conflict of Interest policy
  - Request for Information may be published for comment this Spring, if it's not confused by NIH issues
  - When finalized, for assistance awards, it could be published in OMB Circular A-110
- Models of Support for Instrument Operations and Maintenance (O/M)
  - Will address a variety of effective practices in supporting O/M for mid-size instrumentation
  - May attempt to address both institutional and agency practices that enhance ability to deal with unanticipated future O/M requirements



# **Proposal and Award Policy & Procedure Update**

# Proposal and Award Policy & Procedural Update

- Policy Updates
- Electronic Initiatives
- Grants Management Lines of Business
- New NSF Website

# Upcoming GPG Additions/Changes

- Information on Grants.gov apply function
- Cost sharing policy updated
- Addition of post-award administration to the GPG – providing a direct hyperlink to the GPM

# Policy & Procedural Changes to Implement Cost Sharing

- As of October 14, 2004, no new program solicitations have been issued that require program specific cost sharing
- Existing program solicitations that contain cost sharing requirements are still in effect
  - Program may opt to change requirement, but must amend program solicitation to do so
- Cost sharing commitments in current active awards remain unchanged
- Statutory cost sharing requirement (1%) remains intact

# Policy & Procedural Changes to Implement Cost Sharing (Cont'd)

- To implement policy:
  - Issuance of Important Notice
  - Revision of GPG, GPM, Internal Guidance, GC-1, FDP Agency Specific Requirements, and Cost Sharing FAQs
- Training of internal and external communities is vital to successful implementation!

# Grants Management Systems Issues

- Dynamic Award Document (DAD)
  - For new cooperative agreements
  - Future migration to web-based system for award documents
  - Access via FastLane; No e-mail transmission - use of e-notice model
- No Cost Extensions
  - Allowed one 12-month no cost extension
  - Not allowed on awards with a zero balance
- Continuing Grant Increments
  - Tied to approval of annual report
  - Tracking system with notification to PI and SPO by summer 2006

# Grants Management Systems Issues (Cont'd)

## ➤ PI Transfers

- CAREER Awards – Departmental Endorsement Letters required from new institution
- Cost share issues resolved
- No additional expenditure from old institution after submission
- Latest FCTR must be submitted
- Bottom line is the bottom line (unless FAS has a lesser balance)

## ➤ Collaborative Proposals

- Treated as one project until awarded
- Can not be un-linked once submitted as a collaborative
- Can submit the same report as lead organization, however, it must be submitted by all members of the collaborative

# Grants Management Systems Issues (Cont'd)

## ➤ Annual Project Reports

- Due 90 days prior to expiration date
- Required for **ALL** standard grants, continuing grants and cooperative agreements

## ➤ Final Project Reports

- Due within 90 days after expiration of award
- Required for standard grants, continuing grants and cooperative agreements

# Grants Management Systems Issues (Cont'd)

- FastLane Projects Report Tracking & System Edits
  - Provides set reporting periods – annual and final divisible by 12 months
  - Tracking System includes: periods, status, and due/overdue dates
  - Notification reminders automatic to PIs and SPOs
  - Back office systems to include hard edits
    - On standard grants, final report cannot be submitted if annual report has not been submitted
    - No future funding if overdue annual/final reports
    - No PI changes or time extensions
    - No changes after final report approval
    - Report status can't be re-set
    - No extensions/administrative changes thereafter
  - Implementation in phases: Summer 2006 completion



# Electronic Initiatives Update

# What's the Latest On?

- FastLane
- Grants.gov
- Grants Management Lines of Business
- New NSF Website

# Recent Enhancements to FastLane

- Enhanced Proposal File Update Module (PFU)
- Created Letter of Intent Module (LOI)
- Created modules to support National Science Board Office (NSBO) Honorary Awards
- Created modules to better support Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
- Research Administration InBox is back!

# Planned Enhancements to FastLane

- Integrate with Government-wide Grants.gov so that proposals submitted to NSF via Grants.gov can be processed electronically by NSF
- Reporting period for Project Reporting will be set by NSF
- E-Mail reminders to AORs who have proposals not signed within 5 working days of submission
- Electronic Acceptance of Rules of Behavior
- Enhance Guest Travel and Payment system
- Port new look and feel to rest of FastLane
- Redesign Project Reports System

# Grants.gov (Find) Current Status

- All 26 grant-making agencies posting funding opportunities to the FIND mechanism
- As of March 15, 2005, 1,927 funding opportunities have been posted
  - Of these, NSF has posted 439 opportunities of which 256 are currently active. This is the highest of any research agency

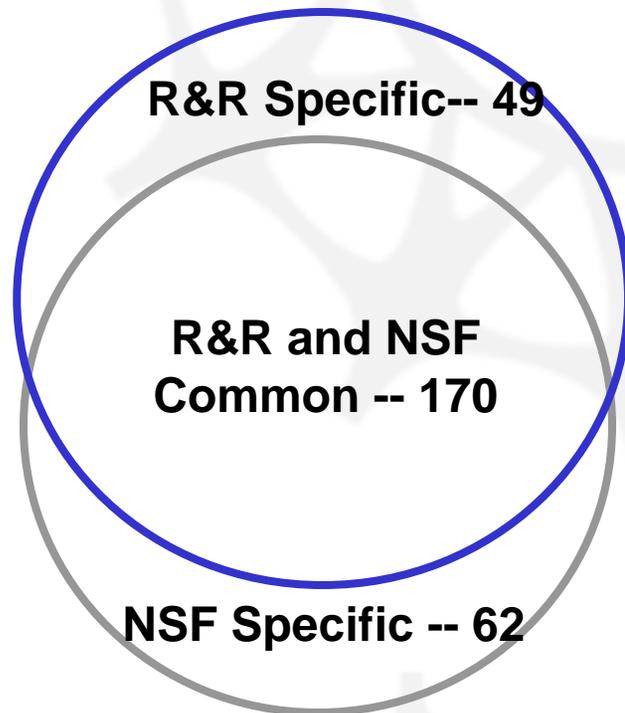
# SF 424 (R&R) Current Status and Next Steps

- OMB Clearance has been received on the SF 424 (R&R)
- Agencies are working on implementation:
  - Development of agency specific forms and Instruction packages
- Grants.gov still cleaning up forms
  - Separately submitted collaborative proposals will not be included in initial issuance

# SF 424 (R&R) Current Status and Next Steps

- Agency System to System Interface –  
Successfully tested with several agencies  
including NSF
- Applicant System to System Interface –  
Expanded pilot and production this Spring  
2005
- First research agency to implement, Spring  
2005

# NSF and R&R Data



## Key Statistics

- R&R data set is 219 fields (blue circle)
- NSF data set is 232 fields (gray circle)
  - Most NSF specific fields are optional.
  - The NSF Checklist has 33 fields and is part of NSF specific.

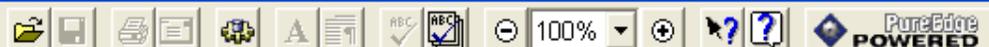
# NSF's Agency Specific Forms

## ➤ Mandatory

- NSF Cover Page
- NSF Application Checklist

## ➤ Optional

- NSF Deviation Authorization
- NSF Suggested Reviewers
- NSF FastLane System Registration



## National Science Foundation Grant Application Cover Page

Please complete the following NSF forms in conjunction with the Research and Related forms. If you are an organization or individual and you are not registered with NSF FastLane, please complete the Organization and Individual Registration Form included in this application

### 1. Funding Opportunity

\*Funding Opportunity Number:  Due Date (select a closing date):

### 2. NSF Unit

Go to <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/pgmannounce.jsp> and follow the instructions to find the Division and Program information for this funding

\*Division Code:  Division Name:

\*Program Code:  Program Name:

### 3. Principal Investigator (PI)

\*Degree Type:  \*Degree Year:

Check here if you are currently serving (or have previously served) as a PI, Co-PI or Program Director (PD) on any Federally funded project.

### 4. Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) Information

NSF applications can identify a maximum of four Co-Principal Investigators. The information below corresponds to the first 4 Co-PIs specified on the Research and Related "Senior/Key Person" Form. NSF will only use the first 4 Co-PIs entered on this form.

#### Co-PI 1

Prefix:  \*First Name:  Middle Name:  \*Last Name:  Suffix Name:

Degree Type:  \*Degree Year:

#### Co-PI 2

Prefix:  \*First Name:  Middle Name:  \*Last Name:  Suffix Name:

Close Form

Next

Print Page

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

### National Science Foundation (NSF)

It is imperative that all applications<sup>1</sup> conform to the application preparation and submission instructions identified in the SF 424 (R&R), the NSF Grants.gov Application Manual, and where specified, the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) <http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?gpg>. Applications also must comply with NSF font, spacing and margin requirements. The guidelines established in the GPG Chapter II.B establish minimum requirements, however, readability is of utmost importance and should take precedence in selection of an appropriate font. Conformance with all preparation and submission instructions is required and will be strictly enforced unless a deviation has been approved in advance of application submission. NSF may return without review applications that are not consistent with these instructions. See GPG Chapter IV.B, Return Without Review, for additional information.

Prior to electronic submission via the Grants.gov portal, it is strongly recommended that an administrative review be conducted to ensure that an application complies with all application preparation instructions, in the format specified. This checklist is not intended to be an all-inclusive repetition of the required application contents and associated application preparation guidelines. It is, however, meant to highlight certain critical items so they will not be overlooked when the application is prepared. Complete **all** of the below items in order to submit your application. Select the appropriate response for each item.

### SF 424 R&R Forms

#### CHECK SECTION COMPLETED

\*  SF 424 (R&R) Cover Sheet

Yes No NA

- +    **Renewal Applications:** For renewal applications, enter the previous award number in the Federal Identifier field. (Block 4)
- +    **Full Application Related to Submission of a Preliminary Application:** If a new full application is being submitted that is related to a previously submitted preliminary application, enter the assigned preliminary application number in the Federal Identifier field. (Block 4)
- +    **Type of Application:** For purposes of NSF, the box for "Continuation" will not be utilized and should not be checked. (Block 8)
- +    **Application Certifications:** The requisite application certifications are submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative upon checking the "I agree" box (Block 18) and submitting the application. See GPG Chapter II.C.1.e, Proposal Certifications for a complete listing of the requisite certifications.

Close Form

Print Page

### Deviation Authorization (If Applicable)

Enter text for the Deviation Authorization information in the box below (if applicable):



## List of Suggested Reviewers or Reviewers Not to Include (optional)

Applicants may include a list of suggested reviewers who they believe are especially well qualified to review the proposal. Applicants also may designate persons they would prefer not review the proposal, indicating why. These suggestions are optional. Grant Proposal Guide Appendix B, Potentially Disqualifying Conflicts of Interest, contains information on conflicts of interest that may be useful in preparation of this list.

**Suggested Reviewers:** Provide the First, Middle, and Last Name of suggested reviewers that you believe are especially well qualified to review this proposal.

**Enter text in the box below**

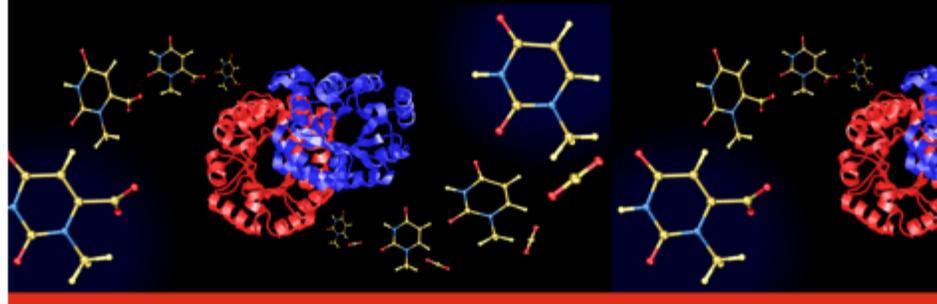
**Reviewers Not to Include:** Designate persons you would prefer not review this proposal and indicate why.

**Enter text in the box below**

# NSF FastLane and Grants.gov

- By late Spring 2005, NSF will be able to accept proposals through Grants.gov
- At least 15 application packages from across the Foundation will be posted to Grants.gov for submission to NSF during the 4th quarter of FY 2005
  - At this junction, FY 05 use of Grants.gov will be optional
- Packages will be from across the agency and will include NSF's Grants.gov Application Guide
- Interface will be tested by institutions during Spring 2005.

# Grants.gov Application Guide



A Guide for Preparation and Submission of NSF Applications via Grants.gov



# E-Authentication Federated Identity Architecture Pilot

- To establish a system that allows applications to leverage credentials from other systems
- Grants.gov, NSF and USDA have demonstrated the ability to serve as credential providers to each others' systems.
- On FastLane Test Server, NSF has demonstrated that users can use their Grants.gov or USDA credentials to access the FastLane PI and SPO functions.
- NSF is working to accept credentials from Grants.gov and USDA on production FastLane by July 31, 2005.

# Lines of Business Opportunities

**OMB and the Line of Business Task Forces are focused on a business-driven, common solution developed through architectural processes to improve customer access to federal information and support.**

- The following LOBs share core business requirements and similar business processes.
  - Financial Management (FM)
  - Human Resources Management (HR)
  - Grants Management (GM)
  - Federal Health Architecture (FHA)
  - Case Management (CM)
  
- April: RFI issued for FM, HR, GM
- May: RFI responses received and analyzed
- June: Developed Target Architecture and Common Solution

Common Solution: A business process and/or technology based shared service made available to government agencies.

Business Driven (vs. Technology Driven): Solutions address distinct business improvements that directly impact LoB performance goals.

Developed Through Architectural Processes: Solutions are developed through a set of common and repeatable processes and tools.

# Expectations

- A common, end-to end solution to support Federal grantors and grantees that would result in:
  - Transparency and efficiency in the grants decision making process
  - Improved access to grants-related programmatic and financial information
  - Enhanced ability to report on award-related accomplishments
  - Improved post award monitoring and oversight

# Current Status

- Government-wide business case was delivered to OMB in September 2004 and accepted
- Final recommendation for a consortium based approach
- Agencies with common missions working to develop and use a shared solution
- GM LOB has become the umbrella for PL 106-107 and Grants.gov
- OMB has solicited ideas from the agencies and the various government-wide grants management groups for the best governance model



# **NSF's New Web Site**



# The "Old Look"

The screenshot displays the National Science Foundation website interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for 'About NSF', 'Funding', 'Publications', 'News & Media', 'Search', and 'Site Map'. The main header features the NSF logo, the text 'National Science Foundation WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN', and the domain 'nsf.gov'. A search bar is positioned on the left. The central 'HIGHLIGHTS' section contains three news items with small images: 'New NSF Web Site on Its Way!', 'Scientists Find Climate Change is Major Factor in Drought's Growing Reach', and 'A Stellar Debut for Gemini Observatory's Online Image Gallery'. To the right, a 'Program Areas' sidebar lists various fields such as Biology, Computer, Information Sciences, and Engineering. A 'Specialized Info for:' dropdown menu is located below the highlights. The footer contains contact information for the National Science Foundation, including the address, phone numbers, and a list of policies and services.

About NSF Funding Publications News & Media Search Site Map

 **National Science Foundation**  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

nsf.gov

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Funding Search  
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▶ Office of the Director  
▶ National Science Board  
▶ Inspector General  
▶ FastLane  
▶ Grants and Awards  
▶ Legislative and Public Affairs  
▶ Science Statistics  
▶ Contracting Opportunities  
▶ Career Opportunities  
▶ Custom News Service

**HIGHLIGHTS**

 New NSF Web Site on Its Way!

 Scientists Find Climate Change is Major Factor in Drought's Growing Reach

 A Stellar Debut for Gemini Observatory's Online Image Gallery

 The Dynamo in the Cornfield—To understand our planet's magnetic field, Wisconsin scientists are studying a ball of molten metal

**Program Areas**

**Overview of Programs**

- Biology
- Computer, Information Sciences
- Crosscutting
- Education
- Engineering
- Environmental Research & Education
- Geosciences
- International
- Math, Physical Sciences
- Polar Research
- Social, Behavioral, Economic Sciences

**Guide to Programs**

- Grant Proposal Guide
- Grant Policy Manual
- GPRA/Strategic Plan

Specialized Info for:  GO

NSF Staff & Organizations:  GO

 **The National Science Foundation**  
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230, USA  
Tel: 703-292-5111, FRS: 800-877-8339 | TDD: 800-281-8749

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# A Brand New Look... And, New Audiences Too

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- When Robots Are Lifelike

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Released March 25, 2005
- [Octopus Uses Two Arms to "Walk Away" from Trouble](#)  
Released March 24, 2005
- [Sediments in Northern Gulf of Mexico Not Right for Methane Gas Hydrate Formation](#)  
Released March 24, 2005

**Now Showing: Film, TV, Museums and More**

- [NSF supports great television, inspiring museum exhibits, breathtaking IMAX films, and compelling radio.](#)
- [The Elegant Universe](#)  
A three-hour NOVA miniseries exploring one of the most ambitious and exciting theories ever proposed -- one that may be the long-sought "theory of everything," which eluded even Einstein.

**Events Calendar**

- [All Events](#)
- [Advisory Committee Meetings](#)
- [National Science Board Meetings](#)
- [Proposal Review Panels](#)

**Site Features**

- [NSF at a Glance](#)
- [News](#)
- [For the News Media](#)
- [Special Reports](#)
- [Discoveries from NSF Research](#)
- [Research Overviews](#)
- [Speeches & Lectures](#)
- [Multimedia Gallery](#)
- [NSF & Congress](#)
- [Classroom Resources](#)
- [Priority Areas](#)
- [Science and Engineering Statistics](#)
- [Search NSF Awards](#)

**Need Help?**

- [Help Center](#)
- [Our New Design](#)
- [How Do I Find...?](#)

# Serving S&E Folks....As Usual...

The image shows the homepage of the National Science Foundation (NSF) website. At the top left is the NSF logo with the tagline "WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN". To the right is a search bar with "NSF Web Site" selected. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME | FUNDING | AWARDS | DISCOVERIES | NEWS | PUBLICATIONS | STATISTICS | ABOUT | FastLane.

The main content area features several featured articles and images:

- PEOPLES SOCIETY**: An Overview of NSF Research (with a fossil image)
- A New Camera for Extrasolar Planets** (with a planet image)
- Earthquake & Tsunami Disaster Research** (with a map showing dates 12/26/04 and 03/28/05)
- When Robots Are Lifelike** (with a robot image)

A red circle highlights the link **For the Research & Education Community** in the left sidebar. Other sidebar links include:

- Find Funding Opportunities
- Programs (dropdown)
- Quick Links (dropdown)
- Specialized Information for (dropdown)
- About NSF: General Information About NSF, View Staff Directory, Search Staff Directory
- Career Opportunities, Contracting Opportunities, Visit NSF
- NSF Organizations (dropdown)
- MyNSF: Sign up for email alerts & more, Login to MyNSF
- Email Address and Password fields

The central "Latest News" section includes:

- T. rex Fossil Yields Soft Tissue** (Released March 25, 2005)
- Octopus Uses Two Arms to "Walk Away" from Trouble** (Released March 24, 2005)
- Sediments in Northern Gulf of Mexico Not Right for Methane Gas Hydrate Formation** (Released March 24, 2005)

Below the news is a section titled "Now Showing: Film, TV, Museums and More" with a link to "See All". It features:

- The Elegant Universe**: A three-hour NOVA miniseries exploring one of the most ambitious and exciting theories ever proposed -- one that may be the long-sought "theory of everything," which eluded even Einstein.

The "Events Calendar" section includes a calendar grid and links to:

- All Events
- Advisory Committee Meetings
- National Science Board Meetings
- Proposal Review Panels

The right sidebar, "Site Features", includes:

- NSF at a Glance
- News
- For the News Media
- Special Reports
- Discoveries from NSF Research
- Research Overviews
- Speeches & Lectures
- Multimedia Gallery
- NSF & Congress
- Classroom Resources
- Priority Areas
- Science and Engineering Statistics
- Search NSF Awards
- Need Help?: Help Center, Our New Design, How Do I Find...?



NSF Web Site

**For the Research & Education Community**



Top Activities

- [Find Funding](#)
- [Go to FastLane](#)
- [Go to Calendar](#)

About NSF

[General Information About NSF](#)

[View Staff Directory](#)

Search Staff Directory

[Career Opportunities](#)

[Contracting Opportunities](#)

[Visit NSF](#)

NSF Organizations

Specialized Information for

Select One

How to Prepare Your Proposal

[Grant Proposal Guide](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

**Specialized Information for  
The Research & Education Community**

NSF Program Areas

- [Crosscutting and NSF-wide](#)
- [Directorate for Biological Sciences](#)
- [Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering](#)
- [Directorate for Education and Human Resources](#)
- [Directorate for Engineering](#)
- [Directorate for Geosciences](#)
- [Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences](#)
- [Directorate for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences](#)
- [Environmental Research & Education Program](#)
- [Office of International Science & Engineering](#)
- [Office of Polar Programs](#)

Recently Announced Funding Opportunities

[See All](#)

[Control Systems Program](#)

Posted February 8, 2005

[Dynamical Systems Program](#)

Posted February 8, 2005

[Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions](#)

(NSF 05-554) Posted February 8, 2005

[NSF GRADUATE TEACHING FELLOWS IN K-12 EDUCATION](#)

(NSF 05-553) Posted February 7, 2005

[U.S. GLOBEC - Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics: Synthesis in the Northwest Atlantic/Georges Bank Program and the Northeast Pacific/Coastal Gulf of Alaska Program](#)

(NSF 05-552) Posted February 4, 2005

# ...And Now, the Public Too

The image shows a screenshot of the National Science Foundation (NSF) website. A large red circle is drawn around the central content area, which includes a navigation menu, a search bar, a main banner with four featured articles, a 'Latest News' section with three articles, a 'Now Showing' section with one article, and an 'Events Calendar' section. The website header features the NSF logo and the tagline 'WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN'. The navigation menu includes links for HOME, FUNDING, AWARDS, DISCOVERIES, NEWS, PUBLICATIONS, STATISTICS, ABOUT, and FastLane. The main banner is titled 'PEOPLE & SOCIETY: An Overview of NSF Research' and contains four featured articles: 'New Camera for Extrasolar Planets', 'Earthquake & Tsunami Disaster Research', and 'When Robots Live'. The 'Latest News' section includes articles such as 'T. rex Fossil Yields Soft Tissue', 'Octopus Uses Two Arms to "Walk Away" from Trouble', and 'Sediments in Northern Gulf of Mexico Not Right for Methane Gas Hydrate Formation'. The 'Now Showing' section features 'The Elegant Universe'. The 'Events Calendar' section lists 'All Events', 'Advisory Committee Meetings', 'National Science Board Meetings', and 'Proposal Review Panels'. The left sidebar contains links for 'For the Research & Education Community', 'Find Funding Opportunities', 'Program Areas', 'Quick Links', 'Specialized Information for', 'About NSF', 'Career Opportunities', 'Contracting Opportunities', 'Visit NSF', 'MyNSF', and a sign-up form for email alerts. The right sidebar contains a 'Site Features' section with links to 'NSF at a Glance', 'News', 'For the News Media', 'Special Reports', 'Discoveries from NSF Research', 'Research Overviews', 'Speeches & Lectures', 'Multimedia Gallery', 'NSF & Congress', 'Classroom Resources', 'Priority Areas', 'Science and Engineering Statistics', 'Search NSF Awards', and 'Need Help?'. A large, faint NSF logo is visible in the background of the slide.



## Events Calendar



### Events Calendar

[Search Events Calendar](#)

[Proposal Review Panels](#)

## Events

All Events May 2005 View

May 10, 2005 - May 11, 2005

[Office of Polar Programs Advisory Committee Meeting](#)

Advisory Committee Meeting

May 11, 2005 - May 12, 2005

[ENG AdCom Meeting](#)

Advisory Committee Meeting

May 11, 2005 - May 12, 2005

[EHR Advisory Committee](#)

Advisory Committee Meeting

May 11, 2005 - May 13, 2005

[GEO AC Meeting](#)

Advisory Committee Meeting

May 18, 2005 - May 20, 2005

[Frontiers in Soft Condensed Matter Workshop](#)

Workshop

May 20, 2005 - May 21, 2005

[NSF Tribal College Workshop](#)

Outreach

May 25, 2005 - May 26, 2005

[National Science Board Annual Meeting](#)

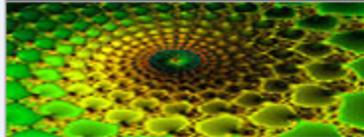
NSB Meeting

May 26, 2005 - May 27, 2005

[Late Paleozoic of Western Pangea](#)



## Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management (BFA)



[DIAS Home](#)

[CAAR Branch](#)

**Policy Office**

[Systems Office](#)

[View DIAS Staff](#)

Search DIAS Staff



### BFA Organization

**Office of Budget, Finance, &  
Award Management**

[Budget Division](#)

[Division of Contracts & Complex  
Agreements](#)

[Division of Financial  
Management](#)

[Division of Grants &  
Agreements](#)

[Division of Institution & Award  
Support](#)

## Policy Office

**HEAD: Jean Feldman**

### [Policy Office Overview:](#)

The Policy Office is responsible for developing, implementing and issuing proposal and award policy for the programs of the National Science Foundation and is available to assist you with questions involving policy related issues. Questions related to specific awards should be directed to the [Division of Grants and Agreements](#).

### Grants & Cooperative Agreements:

- [Revision of the NSF Cost Sharing Policy](#)
- [Policy & Guidance](#) (including the [Grant Proposal Guide \(GPG\)](#), and [Grant Policy Manual \(GPM\)](#))
- [Examples of Activities that Demonstrate Broader Impacts](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) regarding Electronic Signatures](#)
- [FAQs: Proposal Preparation and Award Administration](#)
  - Current Maximum Daily Consultant Rate of Pay - \$537.00 (January 1, 2005)
  - [Archived Consultant Rates](#)
- [Human Subjects](#)
  - [FAQs regarding Human Subjects](#)
  - [Common Rule for the Protection of Human Subjects](#)
- [Information for U.S. Government Funded Researchers Collecting In Situ Genetic Resources Outside the United States](#)
- [Grant & Agreement Conditions](#)
- [Federal Demonstration Partnership](#)
- [NSF Outreach](#)

# The new *nsf.gov*....

Come to browse...  
Stay to explore.

The screenshot displays the homepage of the National Science Foundation (NSF) website. At the top, the NSF logo is on the left, and the text "National Science Foundation WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN" is in the center. A search bar is on the right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for HOME, FUNDING, AWARDS, DISCOVERIES, NEWS, PUBLICATIONS, STATISTICS, ABOUT, and FastLane. The main content area features a "PEOPLES SOCIETY" banner with an overview of NSF research. Below this are four featured articles: "A New Camera for Extrasolar Planets", "Earthquake & Tsunami Disaster Research", and "When Robots Are Lifelike". The left sidebar contains sections for "For the Research & Education Community", "Find Funding Opportunities", "About NSF", "Career Opportunities", and "MyNSF". The right sidebar includes "Latest News" with three articles: "T. rex Fossil Yields Soft Tissue", "Octopus Uses Two Arms to 'Walk Away' from Trouble", and "Sediments in Northern Gulf of Mexico Not Right for Methane Gas Hydrate Formation". Below the news is a section for "The Elegant Universe" and an "Events Calendar". The far right sidebar lists "Site Features" such as "NSF at a Glance", "News", "Special Reports", "Research Overviews", "Speeches & Lectures", "Multimedia Gallery", "NSF & Congress", "Classroom Resources", "Priority Areas", "Science and Engineering Statistics", "Search NSF Awards", "Need Help?", "Help Center", "Our New Design", and "How Do I Find...?".