



Director's Notes

NSF invests in basic research and people to create knowledge that transforms our future

July 2016



Knowledge



Economy



Security

A Message from the Director of the National Science Foundation

In the May newsletter, I cited the need for us to think deeply about bold, long-term research questions that address critical societal challenges and ignite the sparks of creativity that lead to unexpected discoveries.

With this in mind, NSF developed 10 big ideas to capitalize on what we do best: catalyze interest and investment in fundamental research, which is the basis for discovery, invention and innovation. These transformative ideas are meant to define cutting-edge research agendas that are uniquely suited for NSF's broad portfolio of investments. The ideas should inspire researchers and educators to advance science and engineering and the training and education of future STEM professionals.



NSF is sharing these ideas at an early stage to ensure transparency and engage our community to take these ideas to the next level. Funding these ideas will push forward the frontiers of U.S. research and provide innovative approaches for solving some of the most pressing problems the world faces. We look forward to engaging with you to turn these ideas into realities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'France A. Cordova'.

Dr. France A. Córdoba
Director, National Science Foundation
[Visit my blog!](#)

Where Discoveries Begin...

[Earth may be home to 1 trillion species](#)

Using microbial, plant and animal datasets researchers estimate that 99.999 percent of all species remain undiscovered.



[NSF I-Corps foster entrepreneurship](#)

The public-private partnership program contributes to the innovation ecosystem by helping researchers find valuable product opportunities that may arise from their work.



[Bringing programming—and social change—to girls](#)

'Co-Robots for CompuGirls' gets students to think about how robots can address human problems.

What's Next?

NSF's [Science360 app for Android's and iPads](#) showcases compelling science and engineering images and video from around the globe and features a news feed of breaking research news from NSF-funded institutions.

The [National Privacy Research Strategy](#) (NPRS) describes how federal agencies will support innovations that further improve privacy in the digital era. NSF's continued leadership in privacy research will help to enhance opportunities for IT innovation, sustaining the Nation's security and economic competitiveness for decades to come.

Learn More About [NSF's Ideas for Future Investments](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Tell us how NSF is making a difference in your community](#)



Our mailing address is:
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)