



Director's Notes

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

November 2016



Knowledge



Economy



Security

A Message from the Director of the National Science Foundation

From the food we eat to the phones we use, many of the discoveries made by NSF-funded researchers touch our lives every day. Their findings translate into more accurate weather forecasts, faster Internet searches, better GPS tracking, speedier store checkouts and more secure cyber-networks.

Ensuring these kinds of innovations continue requires a vision for the future as well as ongoing federal investment. Last month, I was fortunate to participate in a couple of key events that highlighted this vision. The first was the White House Frontiers [Conference](#) in Pittsburgh that brought together innovators in a variety of fields to discuss what the future could look like in five key areas. The far-reaching ideas discussed and the energy displayed by the panelists was a powerful reminder of the ingenuity and wonder that drives scientific discovery. And just a week later, I was pleased to see that same enthusiasm emanating from the next generation of innovators at the White House [Kid Science Advisors](#) meeting. These 11 amazing students were among the 2,500 who submitted ideas about STEM education to the White House and reminded me how important it is for us to continue to foster that curiosity and excitement in our future explorers.



NSF has a history of supporting discoverers willing to persist when the solution isn't clear. Whether a year, a decade or several decades, these individuals continue to pursue, adjust and refine. As a nation, we have ambitious goals for the future. Meeting those goals will require input from dynamic, talented innovators whose imaginations know no bounds.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads 'France A. Córdoba'.

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

Where Discoveries Begin...



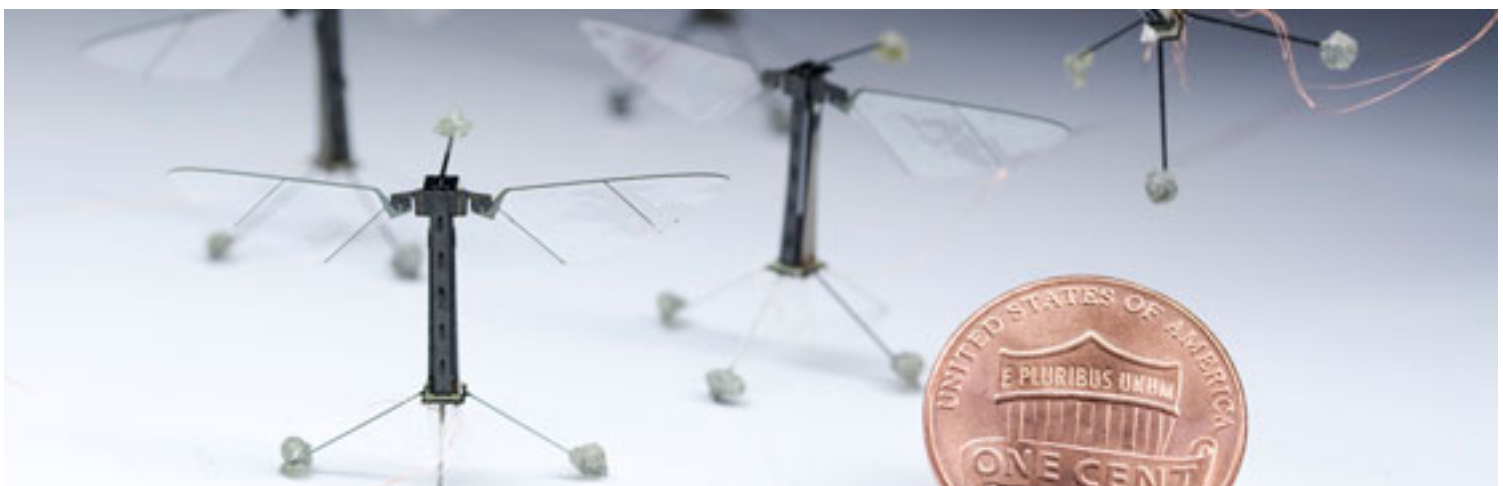
Half of U.S. business R&D concentrated in five states

Companies in California, Massachusetts, Michigan, Texas and Washington account for \$133 billion in research and development by U.S. companies.



Changing the way we manage urban water

New approaches to urban wastewater treatment could address growing water needs in cities and towns.



Advancing robotics technologies

Versatile machines that safely partner with people are now possible because of long-term federal investments.

What's Next?

Nov. 14-15 – Science Foundation Ireland Science Summit. Dr. Córdova will address over 300 members of Ireland’s research community to discuss NSF’s science policy, programs and progress.

[NSF & Congress Toolkit](#)

Tools and resources—including videos—provide information about the impact of NSF's investments in science and engineering research and education and are available for viewing online and downloading.

Learn More...



This month’s infographic shows how [NSF-funded research impacts one family over the course of a day.](#)

Subscribe

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



Our mailing address is:
National Science Foundation
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

[Add us to your address book](#)

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