



# Integrative NSF Support for Interdisciplinary Research and Education (INSPIRE)

- The INSPIRE Working Group hosted two Town Halls on November 10th and 16th for NSF Program Officers. Dr. Suzi Iacono and Dr. Fleming Crim provided introductory remarks and Co-Chairs of the working group, Jessica Robin, provided program updates and information regarding the new INSPIRE DCL (NSF-16-023).
- Additionally a number of POs spoke: John Gillapsy (MPS/PHY, 1541160), Suzanne von Bodman (BIO/MCB, 1546840), Rich Yuretich (GEO/EAR, 1514882), Jeff Trinkle (CISE/IIS, 1514882), Betty Tuller (SBE/BCS, 1533260), and Floh Thiels (BIO/IOS, 1533260) all spoke about their corresponding INSPIRE awards, which all involved multiple POs.
- There were lively Q&A sessions following the presentations and over 60 NSF program directors participated in the two Town Halls. For questions regarding INSPIRE please contact: [nsf-inspire-wg@nsf.gov](mailto:nsf-inspire-wg@nsf.gov).



# **Integrative NSF Support for Interdisciplinary Research and Education (INSPIRE)**

## **Town Halls**

**Tuesday, November 10, 11:00 to 12:00 PM**

**Monday, November 16, 2:00 to 3:00 PM**



# AGENDA

- **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS** (*Suzi Iacono/Fleming Crim*)
- **PROGRAM UPDATES** (*Jessica Robin*)
- **A SAMPLE of FY15 INSPIRE AWARDS** (*Program Directors*)
- **Q & A**



# INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

*Suzi Iacono, IIA Office Head/Fleming Crim, MPS AD*





# PROGRAM UPDATES

*Jessica Robin (OD/OISE)*





# INSPIRE WORKING GROUP

- **Alan Tessier, BIO/DEB**
- **Deborah Lockhart, CISE/IIS**
- **Rick Tankersley, EHR/DGE**
- **Sohi Rastegar, ENG/EFMA**
- **Neil Swanberg, GEO/PLR**
- **Bogdan Mihaila, MPS/PHY**
- **Brian Humes, SBE/SES**
- **Randy Phelps, OD/OIA**
- **Jessica Robin (Chair), OD/OISE**



# INSPIRE

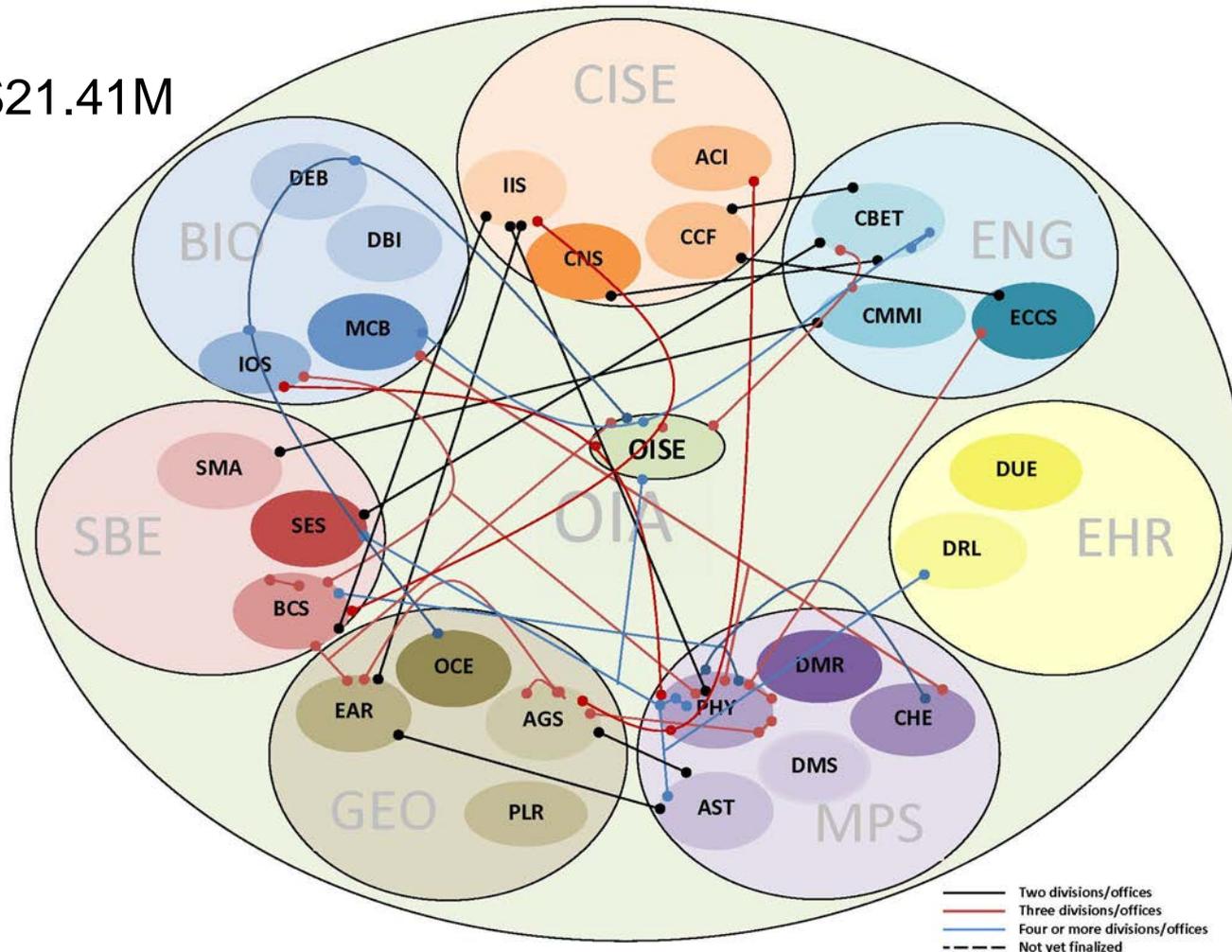
## GOALS:

- *External - Demonstrate that NSF is open to unusually novel cross-disciplinary ideas: Welcome groundbreaking or unconventional ideas and approaches, and unusually novel, creative interdisciplinary proposals*
- *Internal - Encourage Program Directors to promote such ideas: Empower PDs with flexibility and new resources and mechanisms to enable cross-cutting collaboration and risk-taking in developing their awards portfolio*



# FY15 INSPIRE AWARDS

25 awards -- \$21.41M





## DEAR COLLEAGUE LETTER (*NSF-16-023*)

- INSPIRE to continue in a **simpler** form similar to FY14 (NSF 14-106)
  - NO DEADLINES
  - PIs must consult with minimum of at least two distinct programs
  - Maximum budget up to \$1M regardless of # of sponsoring programs
  - Duration up to 5 years
- Proposal Submission & Review Process
  - Email approval from PDs in at least two intellectually distinct programs must be included in FastLane submitted proposal
  - Internal review (optional ad-hoc reviews)
  - At least 2 PDs must recommend for funding
- NO Reconsideration
  - By submitting an INSPIRE proposal PI waives option of reconsideration; analogous to GPG provision for RAPID/EAGER



# INSPIRE WORKING GROUP CONCURRENCE

- OIA Co-Funding
  - Up to **one-third** co-funding from Office of Integrative Activities (OIA)
  - OIA co-funding requests will be reviewed by Inspire Working Group
  - Expected FY16 OIA Budget ~ up to \$8.50M
  - Expected FY17 OIA Budget ~ up to \$5.25M
- Co-funding criteria
  - Scientific advances lie outside the scope of a single program or discipline, such that substantial funding support from more than one program or discipline is necessary
  - Lines of research promise transformational advances
  - Prospective discoveries reside at the interfaces of disciplinary boundaries that may not be recognized through traditional review/co-review



# CHECK LIST FOR PROCESSING INSPIRE AWARDS

- Upload into eJacket
  - Request for INSPIRE OIA co-funding
  - OIA Co-funding response form
  - External review waiver
  - INSPIRE 16 context statement
- Review Analysis
  - Use INSPIRE review analysis template
  - Include why proposal is suitable for INSPIRE (3 criteria)
- Ensure abstract credits support of all programs, divisions, and directorates including OIA



## MOVING FORWARD

- Mechanism will transition into GPG and PAM as permanent funding mechanism starting in FY17
- Ramping down of OIA co-funding support
  - FY15: Up to one-half of award budget (OIA)
  - FY16: Up to one-third of award budget (OIA)
  - FY17: Up to one-quarter of award budget (OIA)
  - FY18 and beyond: Awards completely supported through programmatic co-funding



# A SAMPLE OF FY15 INSPIRE AWARDS





# EXAMPLES OF FY15 INSPIRE AWARDS

- ***Testing Bell's Inequality with Astrophysical Observation (1541160)***
  - *PI: David Kaiser, MIT*
  - *MPS/PHY/AST, SBE/SES, EHR/DRL, OISE/EAP*
- ***Unraveling Factors that Determine Fast Growth of a Photoautotroph (1546840)***
  - *PI: Hamadri Pakrasi, Washington University*
  - *BIO/MCB, ENG/CBET, OISE/ANESA*
- ***Legged Locomotion for Desert Research (1514882)***
  - *PI: Daniel Koditschek, University of Pennsylvania*
  - *CISE/IIS and GEO/EAR*
- ***Spatiotemporal Structure of the rs-fMRI Signal Reflects Contributions from Different Types of Brain Activity (1533260)***
  - *PI: Shella Keilholz, Emory University*
  - *SBE/BCS, BIO/IOS, MPS/PHY*

