Building Research Capacity
The Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)
Monday, October 3, 2011
2:00pm-3:00pm, Russell Senate Office Building, Room 253

Presentations

What Is EPSCoR?
Henry Blount
EPSCoR Director

Regional Collaborations for Success
Judith Van Houten
Vermont

States and EPSCoR: The Power of Partnerships
Paul Hill
West Virginia

From Discovery to Market
Michael Eckardt
Maine

Currently, 27 states, 1 commonwealth, and 1 territory participate in the EPSCoR program

U.S. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee and the National Science Foundation (NSF) Office of Integrative Activities invite you to attend an informational briefing on the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). This program helps enhance the nation’s science and engineering capacity.

At this briefing, experts will provide basic information about the EPSCoR program — what it is and how it works — in addition to sharing success stories on how the program has catalyzed regional collaborations and cultivated the development of marketable products.

- What is EPSCoR and how does it work?
- What can EPSCoR do for my state? If I am not EPSCoR eligible?
- How does EPSCoR build research capacity?
- How can EPSCoR help improve economic development?

Please join us for a candid discussion regarding this capacity-building program. Contact NSF’s Office of Legislative and Public Affairs at (703) 292-8170, if you need any additional information regarding this event.
EPSCoR
Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

Judith Van Houten – Vermont
Paul Hill – West Virginia
Michael Eckardt – Maine
Henry Blount – NSF EPSCoR

3 October 2011
What is EPSCoR?

- **State-based** capacity-building program
  - Governance led by State Committee
  - Alignment with State S&T plan
  - Research driven: *Science First!*
  - State co-investment
  - Economic development
- Multidisciplinary
- Multi-institutional
- Cooperative interaction between NSF and the EPSCoR community
EPSCoR in Context

- Established by NSB Resolution in 1978
- Target: States receiving lesser amount of NSF research support funding
- Purpose: To build sustainable capacity of educational institutions in those states to compete more successfully in NSF and other research programs
NSF EPSCoR Jurisdictions

1980
Arkansas
Maine
Montana
South Carolina
West Virginia

1985
Alabama
Kentucky
Nevada
North Dakota
Oklahoma
Puerto Rico
Vermont
Wyoming

1987
Idaho
Louisiana
Mississippi
South Dakota

1992
Kansas
Nebraska

2000
Alaska

2001
Hawaii
New Mexico

2002
U.S. Virgin Islands

2003
Delaware

2004
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Tennessee

2009
Iowa
Utah
EPSCoR Strategic Objectives

- Catalyze key research themes
- Activate effective jurisdictional and regional collaborations
- Broaden participation
- Use EPSCoR for development, implementation, and evaluation of programmatic experiments

Strengthen Jurisdictions Capacity for Competitiveness
EPSCoR Investment Strategies

• Research Infrastructure Improvement Awards
  Support physical, human, and cyber infrastructure within academic institutions at the state level (~65%)

• Co-Funding with NSF Directorates and Offices
  Supports individual investigators and groups from EPSCoR jurisdictions by co-investment with disciplinary research programs in their meritorious proposals (~34%)

• Outreach Activities and Workshops
  Brings EPSCoR jurisdiction investigators together with NSF program staff; builds mutual awareness and transparency (~1%)
• **Research Infrastructure Improvement Awards (RII)**

  Track-1: Up to $4M/year for up to 5 years to jurisdictions to improve physical, human, and cyber infrastructure critical to R&D competitiveness in priority research areas.
• Research Infrastructure Improvement Awards (RII)

  Track-2: Up to $2M/year for up to 3 years to consortia of jurisdictions to support innovation-enabling cyberinfrastructure of regional, thematic, or technological importance. (New in FY 2009)
EPSCoR Investment Tools for Capacity Building (cont’d)

• Research Infrastructure Improvement Awards (RII)

  ➢ Inter-Campus and Intra-Campus Cyber Connectivity (C2): Up to 2 years and $1M to support the enhancement of inter-campus and intra-campus cyber connectivity and broadband access within an EPSCoR jurisdiction. (New in FY 2010)
Infrastructure

Physical – Human – Cyber

the enabling apparatus of science and engineering
Thank You!