Current NSF Trends

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Topics

- FY15 and FY16 Budget and Investments
- Merit Review
- Transparency and Accountability
- Interdisciplinary Research
- Public Access Plan
Other than the FY 15 appropriation, numbers shown are based on FY 14 activities.
FY15 Budget

NSF FY15
Total: $7.3 billion
Increase: $172 million
FY16 Budget Request

NSF FY16 Budget Request
Total: $7.72 billion
5.2% over FY 2015
FY16 Cross-Directorate Initiatives

- Food/Energy/Water $75M
- Risk and Resilience $38M
- Understanding the Brain $37M
- INCLUDES $15M
(Note that Funding Rate has declined by 30% since 1990)
Transparency and Accountability

• Congress established the NSF to “promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense; and for other purposes.”

• Best way to promote the value of NSF is greater transparency, accountability and communication.
  • NSF’s Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide provide updated guidance.
  • Nontechnical project descriptions explain (i) the project’s significance and importance, and (ii) serve as a public justification on how the project serves the national interest.
Interdisciplinary Research (IDR)

• IDR occurs within directorates, across directorates and via directed funding opportunities.

• With co-funding as an indicator, 10.1% of the FY14 awards were co-funded by two or more NSF units.
NSF’s Public Access Plan

- NSF retains existing policies and procedures.
- Awardees deposit journal articles/juried conference papers in the NSF Public Access Repository (NSF-PAR), hosted by DOE/OSTI.
- Available no more than 12 months after initial publication (for proposals submitted January 2016).
- Goal is to build a federated system for publications that will potentially engage other Federal agencies and repositories, publishers, and universities and academic libraries.
Questions