

THE NSF STATUTORY MISSION

To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense; and for other purposes.



THE NSF VISION

Enabling the Nation's future through discovery, learning and innovation.

NSF investments – in people, in their ideas, and in the tools they use – will catalyze the progress in science and engineering needed to establish world leadership and secure the Nation's security, prosperity, and well-being.

About the cover: Networks of neurons within the visual cortex of the brain. This still image is from animations developed by researchers at the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) for the planetarium show, “Gray Matters: The Brain Movie,” at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh. Informal science education projects like planetarium shows expose science and engineering to countless numbers of all ages. “Gray Matters” was a collaboration among the Studio for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University, the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition and PSC. This work was supported in part by the National Science Foundation (NSF), who is a principal supporter of PSC. NSF supports a range of activities that expand our understanding of brain functions and foster connections between physical, computational, cognitive, and biological sciences and engineering. *Image courtesy of Greg Hood, John Burkhardt, and Greg Foss, PSC. For more information visit: www.nsf.gov/news/mmg/mmg_disp.cfm?med_id=51839&from=search_list.*