

Office of Sponsored Programs Bulletin February 2008

The SJSU Research Foundation (SJSURF), Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Bulletin is a monthly publication informing the SJSU academic community about sponsored program information, trends and opportunities. It is published every month (except July) with articles contributed by members of OSP and the SJSU Research Foundation Central Office. Extra time-sensitive messages may occasionally be issued at other times of the month. To view the OSP Bulletin online, visit the SJSU Research Foundation website at <http://www.sjsufoundation.org/>.

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1. **Registration Deadline for "NSF Day at SJSU"**

This is a reminder that the registration deadline for the National Science Foundation (NSF) workshop at San José State University is Thursday, March 6, 2008. This one-day workshop will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2008. It will provide an overview of NSF, its mission, priorities, and budget. For more information, please go to: <http://www.sjsufoundation.org/html/nsfday/index.html>.

2. **National Science Foundation (NSF) FY 09 Budget Request**

On February 4, 2008, the National Science Foundation (NSF) submitted its *FY2009 Budget Request to Congress* proposing funding for \$6.85 billion, in order to sustain NSF's mission "to advance the frontiers of research and education in science and engineering." This represents a 14 percent increase over the FY 2008 level of funding. According to NSF Director, Dr. Arden Bement, Jr., "Increased federal investments in research and education are imperative now to sustain our comparative advantages in a flattening world" where "knowledge-intensive industries, both in services and manufacturing, are reshaping the global economy." Some programs are proposed to receive increases between two and 12 percent, including the interagency National Nanotechnology Initiative (\$397 million), Climate Change Science Program (\$221 million), Climate Change Technology Program (\$23.5 million), and Homeland Security (#379.17 million).

To read the full report, go to: <http://www.nsf.gov/about/budget/fy2009/index.jsp>.

3. **Basic Research on DoD Agenda in FY 09***

The Department of Defense (DoD) recently proposed a \$35.9 billion budget for FY 09. That amount represents a 7.7 percent increase, necessary, says the agency, to "sustain our commitment to the Global War on Terror." But FY 09 could also signal an era of research growth not seen since FY 01 with DoD's FY 08 congressional increase and the president's FY 09 budget proposal. Basic research funding (referred to as 6.1 type funding) would receive an unusual increase of 4 percent to a level of \$1.7 billion. In past budgets, the Pentagon has cut basic research funding, but in FY 09, all military services and the Defense Advance Research Projects Agency (DARPA) should see increases in basic research. The Navy and Air force can expect especially large increases.

See additional DoD budget analysis from *Inside Higher Ed*
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/02/15/dod>.

*Excerpt from *Grant Week*, published by the Grants Resource Center on February 20, 2008.

4. Department of Education (ED) FY 09 Budget Summary

To continue education reform in the U.S., President Bush has requested \$59.2 million for FY 09 - representing the same amount that the Department of Education (ED) was appropriated in FY 08, and a 40 percent increase since 2001. Some of the proposed budget items that could affect Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) include:

- \$885.2 million for the TRIO programs, including \$302.7 million for Upward Bound, \$282.3 million for Student Support Services, and \$142.9 million for Talent Search.

- \$121.8 million for GEAR UP, which may support another competition for new awards in FY 09.

- \$37.4 million for the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), with no earmarked funds.

- \$658.2 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) in order to "support a new research initiative to identify and evaluate models for turning around low-performing schools, while maintaining support for existing programs of research, development, and dissemination." Look for specific IES funding priorities in late spring.

- \$24 million for the Advancing America through Foreign Language Partnerships program to support collaborations between IHEs and school districts for K-16 language study.

To read the full ED *Budget Summary*, go to:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget09/summary/edlite-section1.html>.

5. DOE's Budget Increases Continue*

U.S. Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman recently announced that the Department of Energy (DOE) has requested a budget of \$25 billion for FY 09. This would mean an increase of \$1.07 billion over the FY 08 appropriation.

The agency has requested \$2.4 billion specifically for research and development (R&D), a 4.1 percent gain after a large congressional increase in FY 08. Investments in renewable sources such as biomass and nuclear energy would continue to gain as well. The R&D investment in DOE Science would be \$4.3 billion, up 16.7 percent.

DOE also requested \$4.7 billion for advancing the American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI) in FY 09. This is \$748.8 million above the FY 08 appropriation and would increase basic research on future energy technologies and environmental solutions. It also would continue to support the operation of current world-class scientific facilities, the establishment of new facilities, and the research of faculty and students to increase U.S. global competitiveness.

*Excerpt from *Grant Week*, published by the Grants Resource Center on February 20, 2008.

6. Open-Access for Research Publishing

There's an increasing move toward publishing peer reviewed research papers online and for free, according to *Inside Higher Ed*. Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences agreed to a plan this month that makes free online access to academic papers the default submittal option, unless faculty specifically opt out. The director of the Harvard University Library, Robert Darnton, wrote in the *Harvard Crimson*, "In place of a closed, privileged, and costly system, it will help open up the world of learning to everyone who wants to learn ... ideas would flow freely in all directions." Unlike the National Institutes of Health requirement that all scholarly research must be submitted online and made publicly available, Harvard's plan does give faculty a choice. We could see other universities following this model. To read the full article, go to <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/02/13/openaccess>.

7. National Science Foundation (NSF) Cost Sharing Policies to be Revised

The 2007 America COMPETES Act directed the National Science Board, the policy arm of the National Science Foundation (NSF), to examine the impact of the Board's 2004 decision to eliminate NSF program-specific cost sharing requirements. The report, delivered to Congress on February 7, 2008, states that the Board's recommendations are intended to "mitigate some of the unintended consequences of its 2004 policy..." For example, disallowing cost sharing "virtually eliminated the incentive for participation by industry." Therefore, one of the Board's recommendations is to reinstate mandatory cost sharing for the following programs - Engineering Research Centers (ERC); Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (CPSCoR); Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers (I/UCRC) – which call for collaborations with industry partners.

To read the full report, go to http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/2008/rprt_congress_cs_policy.pdf. The Board will deliver a more comprehensive report later this year.

8. Fellowships

SJSURF receives notification of several fellowship opportunities for faculty and students. This month's highlights include:

Program: Invitation Fellowship Programs for Research in Japan

Agency: Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Next Deadline: May 09, 2008

http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/how_set.htm

Program: Fellowships and Faculty Research Awards

Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities

Next Deadline: May 01, 2008

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/grants.html>

Program: Collaborative Visiting Fellowship Program

Agency: Social Science Research Council

Next Deadline: Apr 04, 2008

<http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/esrc/>

Program: Tropical Research Institute Fellowships

Agency: Smithsonian Institution

Next Deadline: May 15, 2008

http://www.stri.org/english/education_fellowships/fellowships/stri_programs.php

Program: Fellowship Programs in Humanities and Social Sciences

Agency: Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study

Next Deadline: May 01, 2008

http://www.nias.knaw.nl/en/fellowships/regular_fellowships/#a4

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