THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

WASHINGTON E-UPDATE

Budget and Appropriations Update – Another government shutdown was averted late on September 30 when the House cleared a Senate-passed continuing resolution funding federal agencies, after which House Republican lawmakers will now undoubtedly be preoccupied with preparing for leadership elections on October 8.

As recently as a few days ago, concern was rising that Congress was on a path to shut down government programs over the controversy surrounding Planned Parenthood. House conservatives were insisting that they would block any attempts to keep the government running unless Planned Parenthood funding was stripped. But the dynamics changed dramatically when House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) announced his resignation, effective October 30.

The "clean" CR (i.e. one the does *not* prohibit funding for Planned Parenthood) that passed keeps programs operating at their current rate until December 11.

Presumably, this 10-week reprise allows Congress and the president enough time to negotiate a budget deal that some hope will lead to lifting the caps that currently restrain discretionary spending for both defense and nondefense programs. Majority Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner and the President have spoken twice in the past week about starting budget negotiations, and there is some speculation that the three might try to reach a deal on a two-year agreement before Boehner departs October 30.

But the task won't be easy, nor simple, given the size and breadth of issues involved. In addition to negotiating 12 annual appropriations bills, lawmakers will have to vote on raising the nation's debt ceiling; decide what to do about an expiring highway and public works fund; and address a string of tax breaks that that business community wants extended.

Expect the drama to build over the next 10 weeks

Third annual SUS R&D workshop convenes in U.S. Capitol

The SUS' third annual C.W. Bill Young Federal R&D Agency Workshop will be held October 8 and 9 in the U.S. Capitol. More than 60 research directors, faculty research leaders and other administrators from SUS universities will attend the two-day session. Vice Chancellor Jan Ignash will moderate the meeting. Once again, Congressman Ander Crenshaw supported our efforts in securing the venue for the workshop.

The first day will feature government leaders from all of the Federal government's high-risk, high-reward agencies, including DARPA (DoD), IARPA (National Intelligence), ARPA-E (Energy), HSARPA (Homeland Security) and similar programs at NSF and NIH.

Kei Koizumi, Assistant Director for Federal R&D of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, will open the meeting with an overview of federal investment and plans. Russell Shilling, Executive Director of STEM for the Education Department will discuss the Administration's proposal for a new program – ARPA-Ed.

The second day of the workshop will focus on agencies that fund research in the areas of coastal, ocean, marine and water sciences. Speaking will be the chief scientist for NOAA; director of research for the Office of Naval Research, director of the Oceans Sciences Division at NSF, director of the US Geological Survey, and the leading senior coastal scientist from the Army Corps of Engineers' Research and Development Center.

Education department releases College Scorecard; eases FAFSA filing policy

The Obama Administration released its new "College Scorecard" system and website September 12 designed to provide consumers with metrics on graduation rates, student loans, net price after financial aid and earnings following graduation.

The scorecard was developed by the Education Department after it abandoned in June its proposal from two years ago to actually rate colleges – a move that was widely panned in Congress and in higher education.

The new system only uses IRS data for students with federal loans or grants (about 70% of students) to provide post-college outcomes. Earnings are shown at two different times for undergraduates following entrance into college and without regard to whether the students graduated: at six years (showing the percentage earning more than the average high school graduate does) and ten years (showing median annual earnings.)

To help those trying to evaluate college quality going forward, a new [Council of Economic Advisers technical paper](#) outlines considerations for using this federal data, methods for assessing the causal effect of institutions on student outcomes, and data driven lessons for performance measurement and accountability.

The Administration also made it easier to apply for financial aid, changing policy on the FAFSA. Students can now apply to colleges and for financial aid in tandem. Beginning in 2016, FAFSA applicants will be able to complete the form in October for the following academic year, instead of the following January. The FAFSA will also use the prior year's tax information, enabling more families to use a tool that directly retrieves their tax information.

To read a White House blog on the new programs [click here.](#) The College Scorecard is [available here.](#)

Hearings consider campus assault bills

The House Education and Workforce Committee held a hearing on September 10 to discuss "Preventing and Responding to Sexual Assaults on Campuses." Witnesses at this hearing included Dana Scaduto, General Counsel at Dickinson College; Lisa Maatz, Vice President for Government Relations at the American Association of University Women; Dr. Penny Rue, Vice President for Campus Life at Wake Forest University; and Joseph Cohn, Legislative and Policy Director for the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education.

Of specific interest to witnesses and to Representatives were issues of how state and federal laws interact and their effects on the ability of universities to deal with campus sexual assault, the complicated need to protect both the victims and the accused, and the potential benefits and concerns associated with decentralizing sexual assault support and allowing schools increased flexibility to handle these issues. Panelists also discussed Title IX and the Cleary Act.

The Senate also held a hearing on campus sexual assault July 29 as part of its ongoing efforts to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA.) Leaders in the House and Senate have said that addressing campus sexual assault is a top priority in the reauthorization process. At the earlier Senate hearing, Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee members were joined by multiple Senators working on campus sexual assault legislation. To view the hearing, click here.

The House hearing delved further into issues of enforcement, complicated by Federal and state laws which sometimes conflict. Additionally, with representation from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, the House hearing also highlighted the unique and important concerns associated with protecting rights of the accused in these circumstances. Other priorities during this hearing included education, prevention, and reporting rates. The House hearing can be viewed here.

A number of bills have been introduced in this Congress to address campus assault, and will likely be incorporated into the larger reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. These bills include the SOS Campus Act (HR 1490 and S 706) and the Campus Accountability and Safety Act (HR 1310, S 590).

Review of proposed legislation
As part of the reauthorization of the HEA, members in the both chambers have been working to address campus sexual assault through a number of legislative initiatives.

There are currently two major bills which have been introduced in the House and Senate aimed at dealing with campus sexual assault: the SOS Campus Act (S.706 and H.R. 1490) and the Campus Accountability and Safety Act ("CASA") (S. 590 and H.R. 1310).

These bills, which will likely be incorporated in some capacity in discussions about the reauthorization of the HEA, seek to address the issue of campus sexual assault in different ways. The SOS Campus Act would require that institutions of higher education

participating under Title IV designate an independent advocate for campus sexual assault response and prevention. This legislation would also require the advocate, as someone with a history and experience in providing sexual assault victim services, to follow a number of protocols which would include maintaining victim privacy, conducting public education campaigns, and offering to attend any sexual assault related proceedings with the victim.

CASA is a bipartisan bill which seeks to create a number of requirements for institutions of higher education in regards to reporting campus sexual assault statistics and establishing a campus security policy. This legislation would also require institutions of higher education participating under Title IV to provide students and employees with a memorandum of understanding regarding how schools interact with local law enforcement to deal with sexual assault and other specific serious crimes.

In addressing the issue of campus sexual assault, Senators and Representatives have been discussing a number of complicated issues, including prevention and education strategies, conflicts between state and Federal law, and balancing the rights of victims and of the accused. The full text of CASA can be found here. The text of the SOS Campus Act can be found here.

House clears bill to extend Perkins loan program; Senate blocks it

The House passed a bipartisan extension of the Perkins loan program September 28, two days before the current authorization was set to expire. When the bill was brought up in the Senate September 30, Sen. Lamar Alexander blocked it from moving to a vote. He is chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee with jurisdiction over higher education.

"I'm going to oppose a one-year extension because we're in the midst of completing our work on the Higher Education Act including the Perkins loan and we should be through with that by the end of the year," he said. Expiration of the current authorization will have no effect on current Perkins loan recipients, Alexander said.

Reps. Mike Bishop (R-MI) and Mark Pocan (D-WI), members of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, introduced the *Higher Education Extension Act of 2015* (H.R. 3594) on September 24. The legislation would have extended for one year the Perkins program, as well as other higher education provisions scheduled to sunset at the end of September.

H.R. 3594 would:

- Extend through Fiscal Year 2016 the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity and the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance;

- Extend through Fiscal Year 2016 the Perkins Loan Program, allowing participating colleges and universities to continue serving new borrowers;

- Reform the Perkins Loan Program to ensure the legislation is fully paid for at no additional cost to taxpayers; and

- Allow students who receive a Perkins loan during the 2015-2016 academic year and remain in the same academic program to be eligible to receive those funds through March 31, 2018. To read the bill, click here.

FAA extension passed by Congress

The House and Senate scrambled quickly this week to extend the expiring authorization for the FAA by another six months. The Airport and Airway Extension Act was passed by the House September 28 and the Senate the next day.

The hope is that the extra time will give Members an opportunity to negotiate a new long-term measure for FAA programs. The current authorization was passed in 2012 following 20 short term extensions and a partial shutdown of the agency in 2011 resulting in some furloughs at smaller airports and flight delays.

Transportation bill
The surface transportation authorization is next on Congressional radar, set to expire October 29. Members report progress in trying to reach a multiyear authorization to continue transportation programs. The Senate has passed a six-year bill although only the first three years are fully paid for with spending offsets. House and Senate negotiators are considering shortening the length of the bill.

Windstorm and gas turbine R&D bills passed

The House cleared two research-focused bills this month. After a lengthy development stretching back to the last Congress, the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization (H.R. 23) was sent to the President for signature on September 21.

The bill would reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program which was created to improve the understanding of windstorms and their effects and to develop measures to reduce the damage they cause. The act would establish an interagency committee to oversee and coordinate activities of federal agencies participating in the program. Under H.R. 23, the committee would be directed to develop a strategic plan that sets goals for the program to mitigate the loss of life and property from future storms.

The bill would authorize funding for NSF, FEMA, NIST and NOAA for the next three fiscal years. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that

implementing H.R. 23 would cost $42 million over the 2016-2020 period. To read the bill, click here.

Gas turbine research
The second bill, HR 2961, was passed September 16 to establish a research, development, and technology demonstration program to improve the efficiency of gas turbines used in combined cycle and simple cycle power generation systems.

This bill requires the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy to carry out a research, development, and technology demonstration program to improve the efficiency of gas turbines used in power generation systems and to identify the technologies that will lead to gas turbine combined cycle efficiency of 65 percent or simple cycle efficiency of 50 percent.

The program would: support first-of-a-kind engineering and detailed gas turbine design for megawatt-scale and utility-scale electric power generation; include technology demonstration through component testing, subscale testing, and full scale testing in existing fleets; include field demonstrations of the developed technology elements to demonstrate technical and economic feasibility; and assess overall combined cycle and simple cycle system performance.

The goals of the multiphase program is:
- in phase I, to develop the conceptual design of, and to develop and demonstrate the technology required for, advanced high efficiency gas turbines that can achieve at least 62 percent combined cycle efficiency or 47 percent simple cycle efficiency on a lower heating value basis; and
- in phase II, to develop the conceptual design for advanced high efficiency gas turbines that can achieve at least 65 percent combined cycle efficiency or 50 percent simple cycle efficiency on a lower heating value basis.

In selecting program proposals, DOE is required to emphasize the extent to which the proposal will stimulate the creation or increased retention of jobs in the United States and promote and enhance U.S. technology leadership. To read the bill, click here.

STEM Ed bill advances

The Senate passed, with an amendment, the STEM Education Act **o**n September 24. The bill, HR 1020, alters the definitions of STEM education to include computer science. The House still must concur in the Senate amendment to clear the bill for the President.

The legislation includes elementary or secondary school computer science teachers as mathematics and science teachers for purposes of the program of teacher recruiting and training grants in the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program.

The legislation also requires the Director of the National Science Foundation to continue to award competitive, merit-reviewed grants to support: research and development of innovative out-of-school STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) learning and emerging STEM learning environments; and research that advances the field of informal STEM education.

It requires supported activities to include research and development that improves understanding of learning and engagement in informal environments and design and testing of innovative STEM resources for such environments to improve STEM learning outcomes and increase engagement for elementary and secondary school students and teachers and the public.

The bill also amends the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to allow award of NSF Master Teaching Fellowships to mathematics and science teachers who possess a bachelor's degree in their field (currently limited to those with a master's degree).

The legislation requires fellowship grants to be used, in the case of Master Teaching Fellowships for teachers with bachelor's degrees in their field who are working toward a master's degree, to: offer academic courses leading to a master's degree and leadership training to prepare individuals to become master teachers, and offer programs both during and after matriculation to enable fellows to become highly effective mathematics and science teachers and to exchange ideas with others in their fields. The measure limits fellowship support during such a master's degree program to one year, with a prorated amount in the case of enrollment in a part-time program.

Education Department issues two new reports on Pell Grant and nonfederal aid

Two new reports have been issued by the National Center for Education Statistics in the Education Department:

[Trends in Pell Grant Receipt and the Characteristics of Pell Grant Recipients: Selected Years, 1999-2000 to 2011-12](#).
These Web Tables present trends in the receipt of federal Pell Grants. The data is based on the 1999-2000, 2003-04, 2007-08, and 2011-12 administrations of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study. Data include the percentages of Pell Grant recipients and the average Pell Grant amount received each survey year, as well as the average total price of attendance in 2011-12. Also shown are the percentages of Pell Grant recipients who took out student loans or received state or institutional grants and the average amounts received from these sources. The average percentage ratios of Pell Grant amount, grant aid and total aid to the total price of attendance among Pell Grant recipients are also included. Data are presented by selected student and enrollment characteristics, such as age, sex, race/ethnicity, dependency status, family income, attendance status, class level, degree program, employment status, parents' education, and by type of institution attended.

This set of Web Tables presents trend data on nonfederal grant and scholarship aid awarded to undergraduate students between 1999-2000 and 2011-12. Estimates in these tables include the percentage of undergraduates who received nonfederal aid and the average amounts they received, by aid type (need- or merit-based), source (state, institution, or private organization), and selected student characteristics, such as sex, dependency status, income, institution type, and enrollment intensity.

Student loan default rates declining

The Department of Education announced September 30 that the official three-year federal student loan cohort default rate declined to 11.8 percent for students who entered repayment in FY 2012. That drop was across all sectors of higher education—public, private and for-profit institutions. According to another analysis, the default rate for FY 2011 was 13.7 percent. To read the report, click here.

Hearings focus on higher education

Two Congressional hearing were held September 30 dealing with aspects of higher education. The Joint Economic Committee today held its hearing on: Financing Higher Education: Exploring Current Challenges and Potential Alternatives. The link provides witness testimony and a video archive.

The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee today its hearing on: A Review of the Department of Education and Student Achievement. Among the witnesses was Under Secretary of Education Ted Mitchell.

Brookings report looks at student loans and default rates

The Brookings Papers recently released an analysis of student loans and student loan defaults over the past decade, highlighting a disproportionately large burden from students attending for-profit colleges. The central argument of this paper is that the brunt of the student loan burden and crisis affects students from for-profit and, to a lesser extent, community colleges.

This paper posits that though students in 2011 attending for-profit or community colleges reflected only fifty percent of the population of students taking out loans, they represented seventy percent of the individuals going into default on their student loans. The article paper suggests that students from private or non-profit more "traditional" universities have a somewhat easier time managing the job market.

The paper's authors, Adam Looney from the U.S. Department of Treasury and Constantine Yannelis of Stanford University, note that, "[their] work suggests that weak

economic outcomes and poor loan performance are concentrated in certain sectors where institutions have not been held accountable for the outcomes of their programs either through market mechanisms or regulatory oversight."

Federal health IT plan published

HHS released the final "Federal Health IT Strategic Plan" September 21, following collaboration with 35 federal agencies.

The Plan represents the collective strategy of federal offices that use or influence the use of health information technology. The plan's work aims to improve the health IT infrastructure, help transform health care delivery, and improve individual and community health. The plan sets a blueprint for the federal partners to implement strategies that will support the nation's continued development of a responsive and secure health IT and information use infrastructure.

 Goals identified in the plan are to:

- Advance person-centered health and self-management;
- Transform health care delivery and community health;
- Foster research, scientific knowledge and innovation; and
- Enhance the United States health IT infrastructure.

To read the plan, click here, or the press release, click here.

Highlights of competitive grant opportunities at federal agencies

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service

Program: AmeriCorps State and National Grants FY 2016

Description: AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities. Grant awards have two components: operating funds and AmeriCorps member positions. Grant award amounts vary – both in the level of operating funds and in the type and amount of AmeriCorps member positions. Unless otherwise specified, the grant generally covers a three-year project period. In approving a multi-year project period, CNCS generally makes an initial award for the first year of operation. In most cases, the application is submitted with a one-year budget. Continuation funding is not guaranteed.

Due Date: 1/27/2016

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278777

Agency: Department of Commerce

Program: 2016 Monkfish RSA FFO

Description: NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), in coordination with the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils, is soliciting monkfish research proposals to utilize 500 Monkfish Days-at-Sea (DAS) per year that have been set-aside by the Councils to fund monkfish research through the 2016 Monkfish Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program. No Federal funds are provided for research under this notification. Rather, proceeds generated from the sale of monkfish harvested during a set-aside DAS will be used to fund research activities and compensate vessels that participate in research activities and/or harvest monkfish while fishing under an RSA DAS. Projects funded under the Monkfish RSA Program must enhance the knowledge of the monkfish fishery resource or contribute to the body of information on which monkfish management decisions are made. Priority will be given to monkfish research proposals that investigate research priorities identified by the Councils and detailed under the Program Priorities section of this announcement.

Due Date: 11/16/2015

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279012

Agency: Department of Commerce

Program: FY2016 Community-based Marine Debris Removal

Description: The NOAA Marine Debris Program provides funding to support locally-driven, marine debris prevention, assessment, and removal projects that will benefit coastal habitat, waterways, and NOAA trust resources. Funding for this purpose comes through the NOAA Marine Debris Program as appropriations to the Office of Response and Restoration, National Ocean Service. Projects awarded through this grant competition will implement effective, on-the-ground marine debris removal activities, with priority for those targeting medium- large-scale debris, including derelict fishing gear. Projects should also provide benefits to coastal communities, and create long-term ecological habitat improvements for NOAA trust resources. Through this solicitation NOAA identifies marine debris removal projects, fosters awareness of the effects of marine debris to further the conservation of living marine resource habitats, and

contributes to the understanding of marine debris composition, distribution and impacts. Successful proposals through this solicitation will be funded through cooperative agreements.

Due Date: 11/2/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $2,000,000; Award Ceiling: $350,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278589

Agency: Department of Defense
Air Force -- Research Lab

Program: Air Force Technology Transfer Pilot Project

Description: The objective of this announcement is to invite proposals from educational agencies, colleges, universities, and other nonprofit institutions that can assist the Air Force in supporting technology transfer activities, especially those within the aviation and aerospace fields. Technology transfer ensures Air Force science and engineering intellectual property is transferred or intentionally shared with state and local governments, academia, and industry through the use of technology transfer mechanisms including, but not limited to: Cooperative Research and Development Agreements, Patent License Agreements, and Educational Partnership Agreements. The exchange of knowledge, expertise, equipment and testing facilities leverages the Department of Defense (DoD) research and development investment to address the needs of the Air Force warfighter and accelerates transition to the warfighter.

Due Date: 10/27/2015

Funding: $4,100,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278737

Agency: Department of Defense
Air Force Office of Scientific Research

Program: Air Force Fiscal Year 2016 Young Investigator Research Program

Description: AFOSR's Young Investigator Research Program supports scientists and engineers who have received Ph.D. or equivalent degrees no earlier than 01 January 2010 and showed exceptional ability and promise for conducting basic research. The objective of this program is to foster creative basic research in science and engineering, enhance early career development of outstanding young investigators, and increase opportunities for the young investigators to recognize the Air Force mission and the related challenges in science and engineering. AFOSR is

seeking unclassified proposals addressing the research areas of interest for the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Due Date: 10/9/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $11,880,000; Award Ceiling: $360,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278569

Agency: Department of Defense
Office of Naval Research

Program: Fiscal Year 2016 Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Program

Description: The Office of Naval Research is interested in receiving proposals for its Young Investigator Program. ONR's Young Investigator Program seeks to identify and support academic scientists and engineers who are in their first or second full-time tenure-track or tenure-track-equivalent academic appointment, have begun their first appointment on or after 01 Nov 2010, and who show exceptional promise for doing creative research. The objectives of this program are to attract outstanding faculty members of Institutions of Higher Education to the Department of the Navy's research program, to support their research, and to encourage their teaching and research careers.

Due Date: 12/1/2015

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278925

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Program: AHRQ Health Services Research Projects: Making Health Care Safer in Ambulatory Care Settings and Long Term Care Facilities (R01)

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to support investigative research projects that examine the epidemiology of patient safety in ambulatory care settings and long term care facilities, gather evidence about strategies that can improve safety in these settings, and develop evidence-based tools to facilitate implementation of these strategies.

Due Date: 3/5/2018

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278711

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Food & Drug Administration

Program: National Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and Technical Assistance Competitive Grants Program: Regional Center Grants to Enhance Food Safety

Description: FDA announces the availability of funding and requests applications for National Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and Technical Assistance Competitive Grants Program: Regional Center Grants to Enhance Food Safety for fiscal year (FY) 2016. The intention of this program is to begin building an infrastructure that will support a national food safety training, education, extension, outreach, and technical assistance system and provide significant opportunities for funding through subcontracts and for partnerships with eligible stakeholder groups, including community-based and non-governmental organizations.

Due Date: 11/3/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $950,000; Award Ceiling: $316,666

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278714

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Occupational Safety and Health Training Project Grants (T03)

Description: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, invites grant applications for Training Project Grants that are focused on occupational safety and health training. NIOSH is mandated to provide an adequate supply of qualified personnel to carry out the purposes of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and the TPGs are one of the principal means for meeting this mandate. The majority of TPGs are in academic institutions that provide high quality training in the core occupational safety and health disciplines of industrial hygiene, occupational health nursing, occupational medicine residency, occupational safety, as well as closely related allied disciplines. NIOSH also funds non-academic programs to meet specific training needs of targeted populations including firefighters, commercial fishermen and occupational health and safety interns.

Due Date: 11/3/2019

Funding: $3,000,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279150

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Aging Research on Stress and Resilience to Address Health Disparities in the United States (R01)

Description: The purpose of this funding is to stimulate interdisciplinary health-disparities research related to aging that considers the role that stress, stress response, and stress resilience play in differential health outcomes in priority health disparity populations in the U.S.In particular, this announcement seeks applications proposing to clarify pathways linking stress and aging-relevant health outcomes (e.g. mortality, cognitive impairment, multiple chronic conditions, disability, quality of life) through the investigation of links between environmental, sociocultural, behavioral, and biological factors.

Due Date: 1/13/2016

Funding: Total Funding: $2,000,000; Award Ceiling: $500,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279101

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Child Neurologist Career Development Program (CNCDP) (K12)

Description: The purpose of the NINDS Child Neurologist Career Development Program (CNCDP) is to facilitate and support the research career development of child neurologists, at educational institutions or professional organizations, who have made a commitment to independent research careers.The CNCDP is a single national program, implemented by either a single PD/PI or multiple co- directors (at least one of whom is the PD/PI), together with an advisory committee composed of basic and clinical investigators who have a strong record of funded research and successful training of clinician scientists. The CNCDP will generally provide three consecutive years of support to individuals to provide them with the knowledge, tools and research experience that will enable them to develop a significant research project funded by an individual career development award or research grant.

Due Date: 6/14/2016

Funding: $3,200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279103

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Clinical, Behavioral and Physiological Research Testing Current and Novel Closed Loop Systems (DP3)

Description: This announcement encourages applications from institutions/organizations proposing human studies to develop and/or test a highly reliable, wearable, portable and easy to operate system linking continuous glucose monitoring and pancreatic hormone delivery in a closed loop system.This research is intended to improve glucose control and quality of life of patients with type 1 diabetes. Only human studies will be considered responsive to this announcement.

Due Date: 6/28/2016

Funding: $5,000,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279086

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program (P42)

Description: The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences is announcing the continuation of the Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program, referred to as Superfund Research Program (SRP) Centers. SRP Center grants will support problem-based, solution-oriented research Centers that consist of multiple, integrated projects representing both the biomedical and environmental science and engineering disciplines; as well as cores tasked with administrative, community engagement, research translation, training, and research support functions.The scope of the SRP Centers is taken directly from the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, and includes: (1) advanced techniques for the detection, assessment, and evaluation of the effect on human health of hazardous substances; (2) methods to assess the risks to human health presented by hazardous substances; (3) methods and technologies to detect hazardous substances in the environment; and (4) basic biological, chemical, and physical methods to reduce the amount and toxicity of hazardous substances.

Due Date: 4/11/2016

Funding: Total Funding: $20,000,000; Award Ceiling: $1,750,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279068

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Research on Informal and Formal Caregiving for Alzheimer's Disease (R21)

Description: This funding opportunity invites applications for basic and translational research on caregiving for individuals with Alzheimers disease (AD), at the individual, family, community, and population level. The scope of this funding opportunity includes support for applications that propose the following: early-stage development of interventions to reduce caregiver burden and improve patient outcomes across various settings; population- and community-based research on the scope and impact of AD caregiving; improved characterization of informal and formal caregiving and the burden of caregiving across the full spectrum of the disease, including differences amongsocioeconomic, racial/ethnic and geographic sub-populations; and research addressing the unique challenges related to the provision of advanced AD care, including disparities in access to care.

Due Date: 9/7/2018

Funding: Total Funding: $3,000,000; Award Ceiling: $200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279054

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Research on the Mechanisms and/or Behavioral Outcomes of Multisensory Processing (R01)

Description: The purpose of this funding is to invite applications that elucidate the mechanisms and/or behavioral outcomes of multisensory processing, the integration or processing of at least two distinct types of sensory input as defined by distinct receptor-type transduction, neural pathways and cognate perceptual quality. Specifically, multiple sensory inputs may include the major traditional modalities of hearing, vision, taste, smell, balance, and touch. Additional submodalities of body senses include but are not restricted to thermosensation, body position and proprioception, pain, itch, and general visceral sensation. This announcement encourages research grant applications investigating multisensory processing in perception or other behavioral and social outcomes and/or the mechanisms underlying multisensory processing in the context of the described specific areas of research interests from the participating NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices. The program is intended to encourage basic, behavioral, and/or clinical research projects examining the interactions between other neural systems, such as cognitive, affective, or motor processes, and multiple sensory modalities.

Due Date: 1/7/2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279057

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Time-Sensitive Obesity Policy and Program Evaluation (R01)

Description: This announcement establishes an accelerated review/award process to support time-sensitive research to evaluate a new policy or program that is likely to influence obesity related behaviors (e.g., dietary intake, physical activity, or sedentary behavior) and/or weight outcomes in an effort to prevent or reduce obesity.This funding is intended to support research where opportunities for empirical study are, by their very nature, only available through expedited review and funding. All applications to this announcement must demonstrate that the evaluation of an obesity related policy and /or program offers an uncommon and scientifically compelling research opportunity that will only be available if the research is initiated with minimum delay. For these reasons, applications in response to this time-sensitive announcement are not eligible for resubmission

Due Date: 9/13/2018

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279064

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Emerging Directions for Addressing Health Disparities in Alzheimer's Disease (R03)

Description: This announcement invites applications proposing to study health disparities in Alzheimers disease (AD) and related disorders. Health disparities research related to AD should include the study of biological, behavioral, sociocultural and environmental factors that influence population level health differences. Research approaches of interest include 1) improving recruitment and retention of populations underrepresented in AD research, 2) identifying priority factors or locating pathways and mechanisms that create and sustain AD health disparities, 3) addressing the challenges faced by informal/family caregivers from diverse racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds that are associated with the growing population of individuals with Alzheimers Disease, and 4)

understanding the disparities in access to and utilization of formal long-term supports and services for those with dementia.

Due Date: 9/7/2018

Funding: Total Funding: $2,000,000; Award Ceiling: $50,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279065

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Using Omics to Define Human Placental Development and Function Across Pregnancy (R01)

Description: This announcement invites grant applications for research directed at the development of omics profiles reflecting human placental development and function across gestation. A goal of this funding is also to create a community resource of research resources that are broadly available and shared with the research community for providing a foundation for further integration with other novel technologies being developed to advance safe, real time placental assessment in vivo, as well as for providing large amounts of complex data and associated metadata to the research community to further advance and accelerate research in the field.

Due Date: 12/18/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $2,000,000; Award Ceiling: $500,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279061

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Using Omics to Define Human Placental Development and Function Across Pregnancy (R21)

Description: This announcement invites grant applications for research directed at the development of omics profiles reflecting human placental development and function across gestation.A goal of this funding is to create a community resource of research resources that are broadly available and shared with the research community for providing a foundation for further integration with other novel technologies being developed to advance safe, real time placental assessment in vivo, as well as for providing large amounts of complex data and associated metadata to the research community to further advance and accelerate research in the field.

Due Date: 12/18/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $1,500,000; Award Ceiling: $200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279060

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
                National Institutes of Health

Program: Health Disparities and Alzheimer's Disease (R01)

Description: This announcement invites applications proposing to study health disparities in Alzheimers disease (AD) and related disorders. Health-disparities research related to AD should include the study of biological, behavioral, sociocultural, and environmental factors that influence population level health differences. Research approaches of interest include 1) improving recruitment and retention of populations underrepresented in AD research, 2) identifying priority factors or locating pathways and mechanisms that create and sustain AD health disparities, 3) addressing the challenges faced by informal/family caregivers from diverse racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds that are associated with the growing population of individuals with Alzheimers Disease, and 4) understanding the disparities in access to and utilization of formal long-term supports and services for those with dementia.

Due Date: 9/7/2018

Funding: $10,000,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279050

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
                National Institutes of Health

Program: Planning for Regional Centers of Research Excellence in Non-communicable Diseases in Low and Middle Income Countries (P20)

Description: The goal of this funding is to facilitate the planning, designing and initial research focus of Regional Centers of Research Excellence (RCRE) for non-communicable disease, including cancer, in low and middle-income countries (LMICs). Activities in this FOA will be implemented through collaborative partnerships between investigators from institutions in high-income countries (HICs) or upper- middle-income countries (UMICs) and investigators, research administrators, and other stakeholders from LMICs. The planning efforts must demonstrate an understanding of the region's research capabilities and a commitment to enhance these capabilities with a focus on basic, translational, clinical, and population science research for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). Research activities undertaken through this initiative should demonstrate that the

collaborators can work together to answer NCD questions that are relevant, timely, and important to the concerned region.

Due Date: 8/23/2016

Funding: Total Funding: $2,000,000; Award Ceiling: $200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278984

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition (R03)

Description: This funding opportunity seeks to facilitate the entry of both newly independent and early career investigators to the area of drug abuse research on HIV/AIDS. This announcement, AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition (A-START), encourages Small Research Grant (R03) applications to support research projects on drug abuse and HIV/AIDS that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources. Applications under this FOA are welcomed from all areas of HIV/AIDS research that NIDA supports.

Due Date: 9/7/2018

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278914

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: BRAIN Initiative: Short Courses in Computational Neuroscience (R25)

Description: The NIH Research Education Program supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH.The over-arching goal of this Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nations biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs.

Due Date: 11/6/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $1,000,000; Award Ceiling: $200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278725

Agency: Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

Program: NIJ FY 16 Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal
Justice Purposes

Description: NIJ is seeking proposals for basic or applied research and development
projects that will: (1) increase the body of knowledge to guide and inform
forensic science policy and practice, or (2) result in the production of
useful materials, devices, systems, or methods that have the potential for
forensic application. The intent of this program is to direct the findings of
basic scientific research, research and development in broader scientific
fields applicable to forensic science, and ongoing forensic science
research toward the development of highly discriminating, accurate,
reliable, cost-effective, and rapid methods for the identification, analysis,
and interpretation of physical evidence for criminal justice purposes.

Due Date: 2/1/2016

Funding: $15,000,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278839

Agency: Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

Program: NIJ FY 16 Graduate Research Fellowship Program in the Social and
Behavioral Sciences

Description: The Graduate Research Fellowship Program in Social and Behavioral
Sciences provides awards to accredited academic institutions to support
graduate research leading to doctoral degrees in areas that are relevant to
ensuring public safety, preventing and controlling crime, and ensuring the
fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States. NIJ
is investing in doctoral education by supporting universities that sponsor
students who demonstrate the potential to successfully complete doctoral
degree programs in disciplines relevant to the mission of NIJ and who are
in the final stages of graduate study.

Due Date: 12/15/2015

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278693

Agency: Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

Program: NIJ FY 16 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Description: The Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (GRF-STEM) provides awards to accredited academic institutions to support graduate research leading to doctoral degrees in areas that are relevant to ensuring public safety, preventing and controlling crime, and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States.

Due Date: 12/15/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $1,000,000; Award Ceiling: $50,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278685

Agency: Department of State
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

Program: Support for Independent Media in Belarus

Description: The U.S. Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects to Support for Independent Media in Belarus. DRL's objective is to increase citizens' access to and interaction with independent media that provide objective information on local and national issues by enhancing local independent media's ability to reach a larger audience, and strengthening their link to local civic activism and initiatives.

In order to strengthen Belarusian independent media and foster links between journalists and the communities they serve, DRL seeks program proposals that will raise the quality of local media, increase the Belarusian public's access to reliable and unbiased information, and create platforms and opportunities for discussions on important issues affecting Belarusian citizens, both in their local communities and at a national level. The program should put particular emphasis on targeting older citizens, rural populations and youth, as well as other populations in Belarus that have limited access to independent information.

Due Date: 10/31/2015

Funding: $475,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278871

Agency: Department of State
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

Program: Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): The Global Equality Fund: Justice Works

Description: This funding opportunity is for a new global program, Justice Works,• with the overall goal of strengthening local, national and regional responses to hate crime and bias-motived violence persons targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons in all regions.

Due Date: 10/30/2015

Funding: $500,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278748

Agency: Department of the Interior
Forest Service

Program: 2016 National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program

Description: The Secretary of Agriculture has a congressionally designated advisory council that assists the U.S. Forest Service in establishing the grant categories and recommendations of final proposals for the Forest Service to consider. This is the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC). The Council serves to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the status of the nation's urban and community forests and related natural resources. The NUCFAC seeks to establish sustainable urban and community forests, by encouraging communities of all sizes to manage and protect their natural resources, which, if well managed, improves the public's health, well-being, economic vitality, and creates resilient ecosystems for present and future generations. The Council recommends urban and community forestry projects that have national or multi-state application and impact through the U.S. Forest Service's competitive Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program. This year, the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) has identified three national grant categories: 1. Analysis and Solutions for Development and Redevelopment Impacts on Urban and Community Forests, 2. Building Human Health Through Urban and Community Forestry, and 3. Climate Change and Its Impact on Trees and Water. An applicant may apply to more than one category; however they are to use a separate application for each category. The purpose of these grants is to address national issues.

Due Date: 11/23/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $900,000; Award Ceiling: $300,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278644

Agency: Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Program: FY 2016 Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program

Description: The Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program provides financial assistance to organizations and entities working to preserve historic Japanese American confinement sites and their history, including: private nonprofit organizations; educational institutions; state, local, and tribal governments; and other public entities, for the preservation and interpretation of U.S. confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II. The authorizing legislation for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program identifies up to $38 million for the entire life of the grant program for projects to identify, research, evaluate, interpret, protect, restore, repair, and acquire historic confinement sites in order that present and future generations may learn and gain inspiration from these sites and that these sites will demonstrate the Nation's commitment to equal justice under the law

Due Date: 11/10/2015

Funding: $2,845,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=278943

Agency: Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Program: 2016 PTT Grants Funding Opportunity

Description: 2016 PTT Grants Program The Preservation Technology and Training (PTT) Grants program provides funding for innovative research that develops new technologies or adapts existing technologies to preserve cultural resources. Grant recipients undertake innovative research and produce technical products which respond to national needs in the field of historic preservation. The resulting grant products help increase the longevity of cultural resources. The Grants program will fund research and training projects. NCPTT helps preservationists find better tools, better materials, and better approaches to conserving buildings, landscapes, sites, and collections. It conducts research and testing in its own laboratories, provides cutting edge training around the U.S., and supports research and training projects at universities and nonprofits. NCPTT pushes the envelope of current preservation practice by exploring advances in science and technology in other fields and applying them to issues in cultural resources management.

Due Date: 11/3/2015

Funding: See announcement

Website:

Agency: Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Program: 2016 NCPTT Media Grants

Description: 2016 NCPTT Media Grants:The NCPTT Media Grants program provides funding for innovative dissemination of new technologies or existing technologies to preserve cultural resources. Grant recipients will develop publications, web or mobile applications, and video products that offer preservationists a better understanding of tools and resources available to preserve cultural heritage. The resulting grant products help increase the longevity of cultural resources. The NCPTT Media Grants Program is a subset of the Preservation Technology and Training Grants. NCPTT helps preservationists find better tools, better materials, and better approaches to conserving buildings, landscapes, sites, and collections. It conducts research and testing in its own laboratories, provides cutting edge training around the U.S., and supports research and training projects at universities and nonprofits. NCPTT pushes the envelope of current preservation practice by exploring advances in science and technology in other fields and applying them to issues in cultural resources management.

Due Date: 11/4/2015

Funding: $15,000

Website:

Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities

Program: Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

Description: Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections (SCHC) helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting sustainable conservation measures that mitigate deterioration and prolong the useful life of collections. Libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country face an enormous challenge: to preserve collections that facilitate research, strengthen teaching, and provide opportunities for life-long learning in the humanities. Ensuring the preservation of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, art, and

historical objects requires institutions to implement measures that slow deterioration and prevent catastrophic loss. This work is best accomplished through preventive conservation, which encompasses managing relative humidity, temperature, light, and pollutants in collection spaces; providing protective storage enclosures and systems for collections; and safeguarding collections from theft and from natural and man-made disasters. All applicants, whether applying for planning or implementation projects, are required to focus on sustainable preventive conservation strategies.

Due Date: 12/1/2015

Funding: $350,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279058

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Partnerships for Innovation: Building Innovation Capacity

Description: The Partnerships for Innovation: Building Innovation Capacity (PFI:BIC) program supports academe-industry partnerships which are led by an interdisciplinary academic research team collaborating with a least one industry partner. In this program, there is a heavy emphasis on the quality, composition, and participation of the partners, including the appropriate contributions for each role. These partnerships focus on the integration of technologies into a specified human-centered service system with the potential to achieve transformational change, satisfying a real need by making an existing service system smart(er) or by spurring the creation of an entirely new smart service system. The selected service system should function as a test bed.

Due Date: 12/2/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $10,000,000; Award Ceiling: $1,000,000

Website:
http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504708&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Designing Materials to Revolutionize and Engineer our Future (DMREF)

Description: DMREF is the primary program by which NSF participates in the Materials Genome Initiative (MGI) for Global Competitiveness. MGI recognizes the importance of materials science to the well-being and advancement of

society and aims to "deploy advanced materials at least twice as fast as possible today, at a fraction of the cost." DMREF integrates materials discovery, development, property optimization, and systems design and optimization, with each employing a toolset to be developed within a materials innovation infrastructure. The toolset will synergistically integrate advanced computational methods and visual analytics with data-enabled scientific discovery and innovative experimental techniques to revolutionize our approach to materials science and engineering.

Due Date:	1/19/2016

Funding:	$1,600,000

Website:
	http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505073&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

Agency:	National Science Foundation

Program:	Solar, Heliospheric, and INterplanetary Environment (SHINE)

Description: The solar and heliospheric research communities are dedicated to promoting enhanced understanding of, and predictive capabilities for, solar disturbances that propagate to the Earth. Broad-based, grass-roots associations such as SHINE have developed to focus community effort on these scientific questions. Proposals are solicited for research directly related to topics under consideration and discussion at community workshops organized by SHINE.

Due Date:	Dec. 9, 2015

Funding:	$1,200,000

Website:	http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15606/nsf15606.htm

Agency:	National Science Foundation

Program:	EarthCube: Enterprise Governance

Description: EarthCube is a community-driven activity to transform the conduct of geosciences research and education, sponsored through a partnership between the NSF Directorate of Geosciences and Division of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure in the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering. EarthCube aims to create a well-connected and facile environment to share data and knowledge in an open, transparent, and inclusive manner, thus accelerating the ability of the geosciences community to understand and predict the Earth system. Achieving

EarthCube will require a long-term dialog between NSF and the interested scientific communities to develop cyberinfrastructure that is thoughtfully and systematically built to meet the current and future needs of geoscientists.

The critical importance of a community-driven and operated governance structure for EarthCube activities has been highlighted in the past several years of EarthCube development. The EarthCube Test Enterprise Governance Project has recommended an EarthCube Governance Framework which describes the organizational units and functions necessary for EarthCube Governance. The specific charter, by-laws, and terms of references for that governance framework is described may be found here: http://earthcube.org/info/earthcube-governance. The EarthCube Governance Framework is intended to be a living document with review and revision by the community as required for the changing needs of EarthCube.

This solicitation seeks the services of a qualified organization to provide a science support office for EarthCube governance. This organization will provide the services required to maintain and manage the community governance structures and support the activities articulated within the EarthCube Governance Framework documents. The award, to be administered as a Cooperative Agreement, is intended to cover an initial 3-year period.

Due Date: Dec. 14, 2015

Funding: $1,500,000

Website: <http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15603/nsf15603.htm>

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: NSF/DOE Partnership in Basic Plasma Science and Engineering

Description: Plasma Physics is a study of fundamental properties of physical systems exhibiting behavior governed by collective interactions of charged particles. 99.9% of the visible Universe is thought to consist of plasmas. The underlying physics of the collective behavior in plasmas has applications to space physics and astrophysics, material science, applied mathematics, fusion science, accelerator science, and many branches of engineering.

The National Science Foundation (NSF), with participation of the Directorates for Engineering, Geosciences, and Mathematical and Physical Sciences, and the Department of Energy, Office of Science, Fusion Energy Sciences are continuing the joint Partnership in Basic Plasma Science and Engineering begun in FY1997 and renewed several times since. As stated in the original solicitation (NSF 97-39), which is

superseded by the present solicitation, the goal of the initiative is to enhance basic plasma research and education in this broad, multidisciplinary field by coordinating efforts and combining resources of the two agencies. The current solicitation also encourages submission of proposals to perform basic plasma experiments at NSF and DOE supported user facilities, such as the Basic Plasma Science Facility at the University of California, Los Angeles, designed to serve the needs of the broader plasma community.

Due Date: 11/19/2015

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15601/nsf15601.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST)

Description: ITEST is a program that promotes PreK-12 student interests and capacities to participate in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and information and communications technology (ICT) workforce of the future. To achieve this objective, ITEST supports the development, implementation, and selective spread of innovative strategies for engaging students in experiences that: (1) increase student awareness of STEM and ICT careers; (2) motivate students to pursue the education necessary to participate in those careers; and/or (3) provide students with technology-rich experiences that develop their knowledge of related content and skills (including critical thinking skills) needed for entering the STEM workforce. ITEST projects may adopt an interdisciplinary focus on multiple STEM domains, focus on a single domain, or focus on one or more sub-disciplines within a domain. ITEST projects must involve students, and may also include teachers. The ITEST program is especially interested in broadening participation of students from traditionally underrepresented groups in STEM fields and related education and workforce domains. Projects that actively engage business and industry partners to better ensure that PreK-12 experiences foster the knowledge and skill-sets needed for emerging STEM-related occupations are strongly encouraged. ITEST supports two project types: Strategies projects and SPrEaD (Successful Project Expansion and Dissemination) projects. Strategies projects support the design, implementation, and testing of innovative educational experiences that support the objectives of the ITEST program. SPrEaD projects support the wider and broader testing and dissemination of promising strategies to generate evidence and greater understanding of contextual factors that operate to enhance, moderate, or constrain anticipated project impacts. All ITEST projects may include activities designed to inform judgments regarding the feasibility of

implementing strategies in typical learning environments associated with formal classrooms, out-of-school settings, or combinations of such environments. The ITEST program also invites proposals for an ITEST Resource Center to provide technical assistance to projects and provide assistance with the outreach activities of the ITEST program.

Due Date: 11/13/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $35,000,000; Award Ceiling: $1,200,000

Website: http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15599/nsf15599.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Integrated Earth Systems

Description: Integrated Earth Systems (IES) is a program in the Division of Earth Sciences (EAR) that focuses on the continental, terrestrial and deep Earth subsystems of the whole Earth system. The overall goal of the program is to provide opportunity for collaborative, multidisciplinary research into the operation, dynamics and complexity of Earth systems at a budgetary scale between that of a typical project in the EAR Division's disciplinary programs and larger scale initiatives at the Directorate or Foundation level. Specifically, IES will provide research opportunities for the study of Earth systems that operate across components of the Earth encompassing the core of the Earth to the top of the critical zone with a specific focus on subsystems that include all or part of the continental, terrestrial and deep Earth subsystems at all temporal and spatial scales (NROES, 2012). IES will provide opportunities to focus on Earth systems connected to topics which include (but are not limited to) the continents; the terrestrial, surficial Earth systems including physical, chemical and biotic dimensions; linkages among tectonics, climate, landscape change, topography and geochemical cycles including core and mantle processes.

Due Date: 11/16/2015

Funding: Total Funding: $9,000,000; Award Ceiling: $1,000,000

Website: http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15600/nsf15600.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences (RIDIR)

Description: As part of NSF's Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21) activity, the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) seeks to develop user-friendly large-scale

next-generation data resources and relevant analytic techniques to advance fundamental research in SBE areas of study. Successful proposals will, within the financial resources provided by the award, construct such databases and/or relevant analytic techniques and produce a finished product that will enable new types of data-intensive research. The databases or techniques should have significant impacts, either across multiple fields or within broad disciplinary areas, by enabling new types of data-intensive research in the SBE sciences.

Due Date: 2/29/2016

Funding: $4,500,000 (3-4 awards)

Website: http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15602/nsf15602.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience (CRCNS)

Description: Computational neuroscience provides a theoretical foundation and a rich set of technical approaches for understanding complex neurobiological systems, building on the theory, methods, and findings of computer science, neuroscience, and numerous other disciplines.

Through the CRCNS program, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF), the French National Research Agency (Agence Nationale de la Recherche, ANR), and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) support collaborative activities that will advance the understanding of nervous system structure and function, mechanisms underlying nervous system disorders, and computational strategies used by the nervous system.

Two classes of proposals will be considered in response to this solicitation:

Research Proposals describing collaborative research projects, and

Data Sharing Proposals to enable sharing of data and other resources.

Domestic and international projects will be considered. As detailed in the solicitation, international components of collaborative projects may be funded in parallel by the participating agencies. Opportunities for parallel funding are available for bilateral US-German Research Proposals, US-German Data Sharing Proposals, US-French Research Proposals, US-French Data Sharing Proposals, US-Israel Research Proposals, and multilateral proposals involving the United States and 2 or more additional countries.

Appropriate scientific areas of investigations may be related to any of the participating funding organizations. Questions concerning a particular project's focus, direction and relevance to a participating funding organization should be addressed to the appropriate person in the list of agency contacts found in Section VIII of the solicitation.

NSF will coordinate and manage the review of proposals jointly with participating domestic and foreign funding organizations, through a joint panel review process used by all participating funders. Additional information is available in Section VI of the solicitation.

Due Date: 10/29/2015

Funding: $20,000,000 (15-25 awards)

Website: http://nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15595/nsf15595.htm