

**NSF Regional Grants Conference**  
**Introduction & NSF Overview**

October 5-6, 2009

Hosted by: Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

## **Panelist**

**Martha Rubenstein**

Division Director, Budget Division, Office of Budget,  
Finance & Award Management

**Ask Early, Ask Often!**

## **Topics Covered**

- **Origins of NSF**
- **NSF Organization**
- **American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009**
- **NSF FY 2010 Budget**
- **Current Proposal, Award, and Funding Trends**
- **Key Documents**
- **Conclusion**

## Origins of NSF

- “The Government should accept new responsibilities for promoting the flow of scientific knowledge and the development of scientific talent in our youth.”
  - Science, The Endless Frontier, 1945
- 1947: Congress Approves, Truman Vetoes
- 1950: Compromise Bill Approved & Signed by Truman



## NSF Act of 1950

- To promote the progress of science...
- NSB (24) and 1 Director, appointed by the President
- Encourage & develop a national policy for the promotion of basic research and education in the math, physical, medical, biological, engineering and other sciences
- Initiate & support basic scientific research in the sciences
- Evaluate the science research programs undertaken by agencies of the Federal government
- Provide information for S&E policy formation

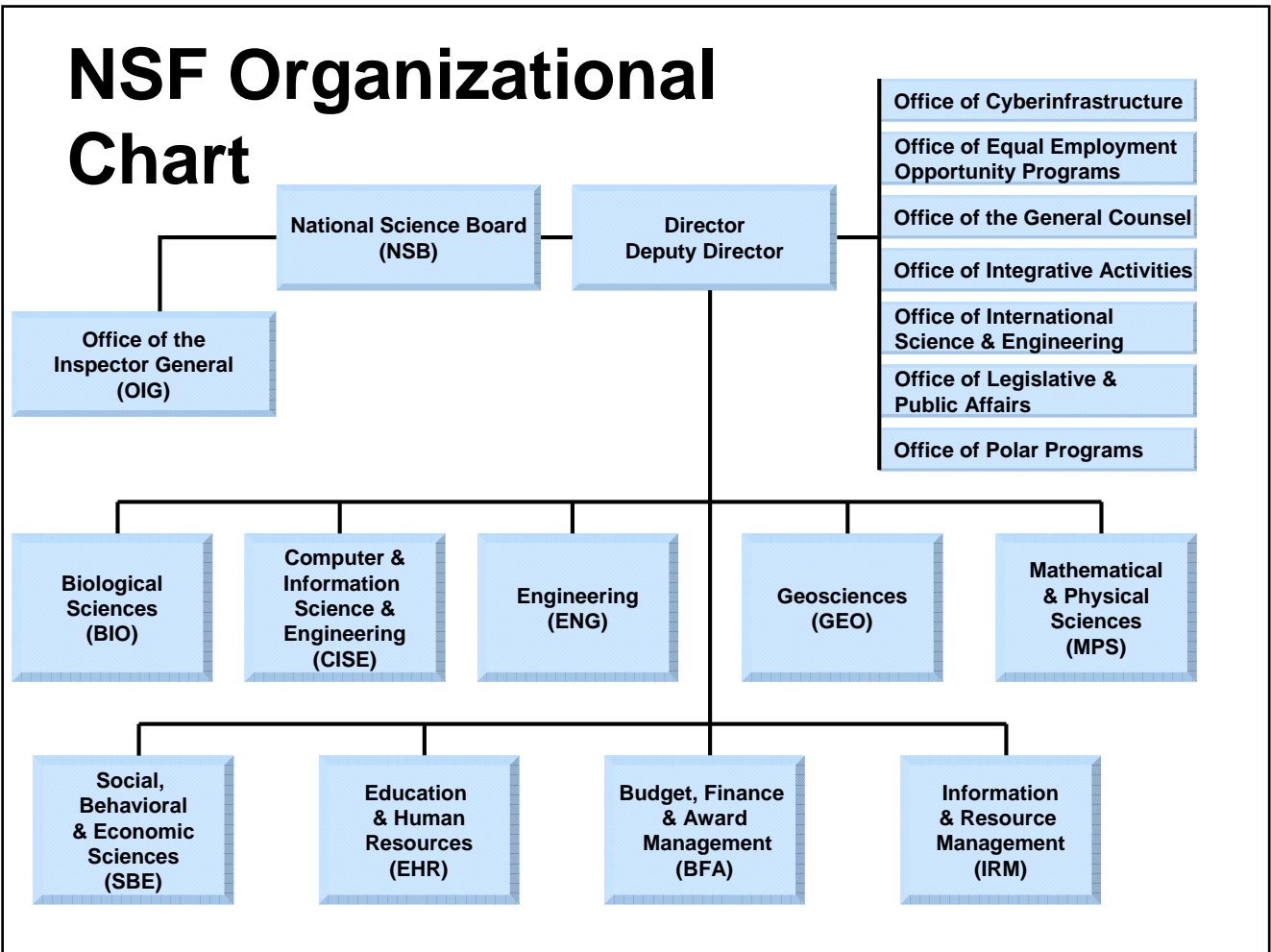
## **NSF Vision**

Advancing discovery, innovation, and education beyond the frontiers of current knowledge, and empowering future generations in science and engineering.

## **NSF in a Nutshell**

- Independent Agency
- Supports basic research & education
- Uses grant mechanism
- Low overhead; highly automated
- Discipline-based structure
- Cross-disciplinary mechanisms
- Use of Rotators/IPAs
- National Science Board

# NSF Organizational Chart



## Recent Personnel Changes

- Dr. Cora Marrett named Acting Deputy Director
- Dr. Myron Gutmann named Assistant Director for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (SBE)
- Dr. Tony Chan, Assistant Director for Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS) appointed President of Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
- Dr. Edward Seidel named as Acting Assistant Director for MPS
- Dr. Jose Munoz named Acting Director of the Office of Cyberinfrastructure (OCI)
- Ms. Allison Lerner appointed as Inspector General

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)

*Even beyond energy, from the National Institutes of Health to the National Science Foundation, this recovery act represents the biggest increase in basic research funding in the long history of America's noble endeavor to better understand our world. Just as President Kennedy sparked an explosion of innovation when he set America's sights on the moon, I hope this investment will ignite our imagination once more, spurring new discoveries and breakthroughs that will make our economy stronger, our nation more secure, and our planet safer for our children.*

President Barack Obama  
February 17, 2009

## **ARRA: Funding for Science**

- \$21.5 billion for scientific endeavors
  - Funding for biomedical and physical sciences
  - Funding for short-term and long-term scientific payoffs

## **ARRA: Science Budget Highlights**

- Department of Energy
  - \$1.6 billion for green-energy projects
  - \$400 million for Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy
- National Institutes of Health
  - \$10.4 billion breaks five years of flat-lined funding
- NASA
  - \$1 billion for manned and robotic space exploration and assessing climatic and other global changes
- NOAA
  - \$833 million for understanding weather and climate patterns
- US Geological Survey
  - \$140 million for research on earthquakes and other natural disasters

## **ARRA: NSF Budget Highlights**

- \$3 billion supplements FY 2009 funding:
  - \$2 billion is dedicated to research and related activities for proposals already in house that will be reviewed and/or awarded prior to September 30, 2009.
  - \$ 1 billion is dedicated as specified in ARRA.

## **ARRA: Reporting and Accountability Requirements**

- The OMB expectation is for a high level of accountability and transparency from both agencies and recipients.
- Higher scrutiny from:
  - Administration
  - Congress
  - Public
  - Recovery Act Accountability & Transparency Board
  - NSF Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

## FY 2009 Appropriation

Appropriations Account	FY 2009 Appropriation	FY 2009 Recovery Act	Total FY 2009 Appropriations
Research & Related Activities	\$5,183	\$2,500	\$7,683
Education & Human Resources	\$845	\$100	\$945
Major Research Equipment & Facilities Construction	\$152	\$400	\$552
Agency Operations & Award Management	\$294	-	\$294
National Science Board	\$4	-	\$4
Inspector General	\$12	\$2	\$14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,490</b>	<b>\$3,002</b>	<b>\$9,492</b>

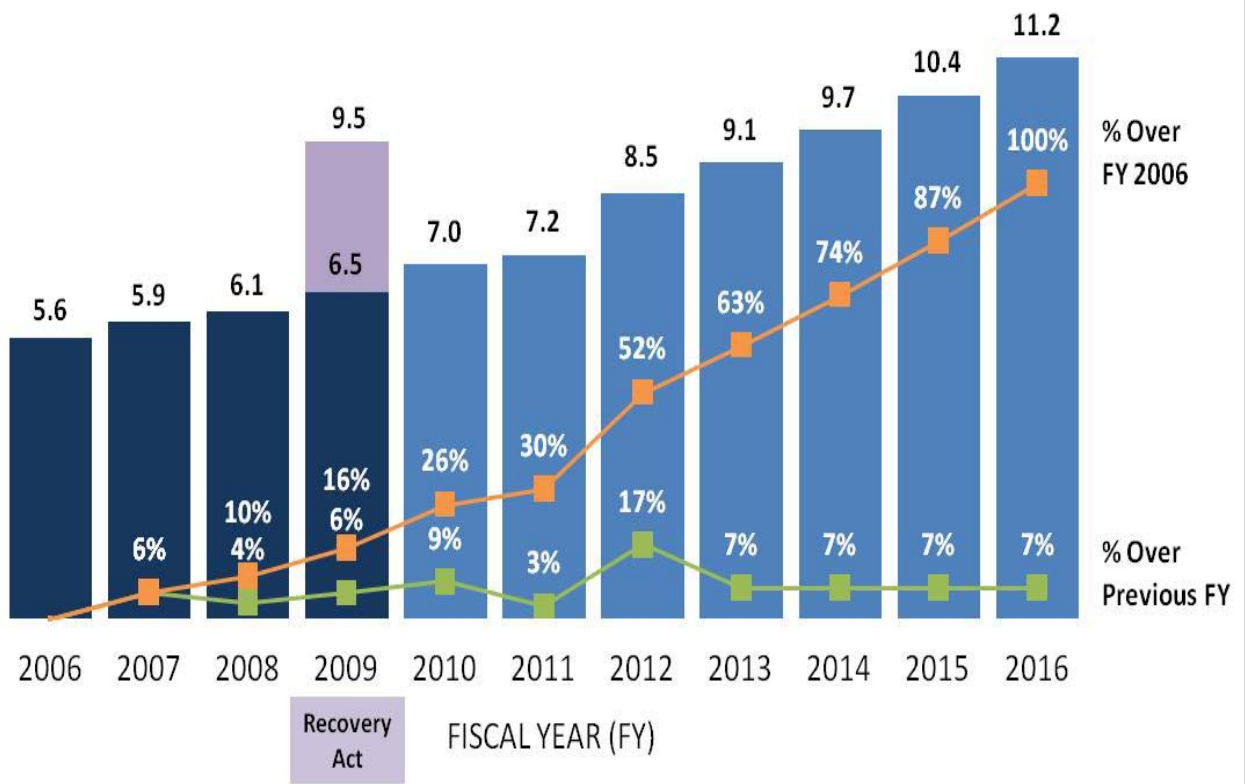
## FY 2010 Budget Request

Appropriations Account	FY 2009 Appropriation	FY 2010 Request	Percent Change over FY 2009
Research & Related Activities	\$5,183	\$5,773	10.6%
Education & Human Resources	\$845	\$857	1.5%
Major Research Equipment & Facilities Construction	\$152	\$117	-22.8%
Agency Operations & Award Management	\$294	\$318	8.3%
National Science Board	\$4	\$4	7.7%
Inspector General	\$12	\$14	16.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,490</b>	<b>\$7,045</b>	<b>8.5%</b>

## **FY 2010 Budget Request**

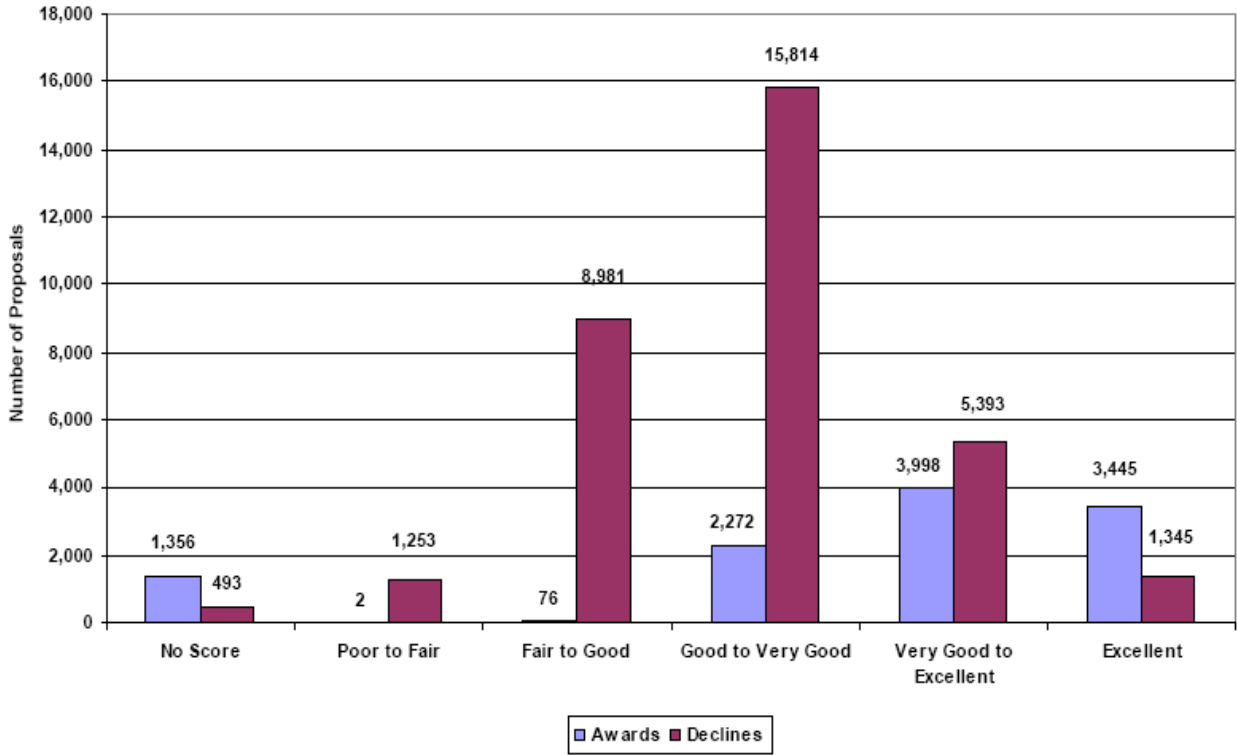
- **\$7 Billion - Increase of 16 percent over FY 2008.**
- **Increased support for Graduate Research Fellowship and CAREER Programs.**
- **Increases support for Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Program.**
- **Increases support for exploratory, high risk research.**
- **Supports research to predict future environmental conditions and develop strategies for responding to global environmental change.**

## Total NSF Funding: President's Plan for Science and Innovation FY 2006-FY 2016 (dollars in billions)



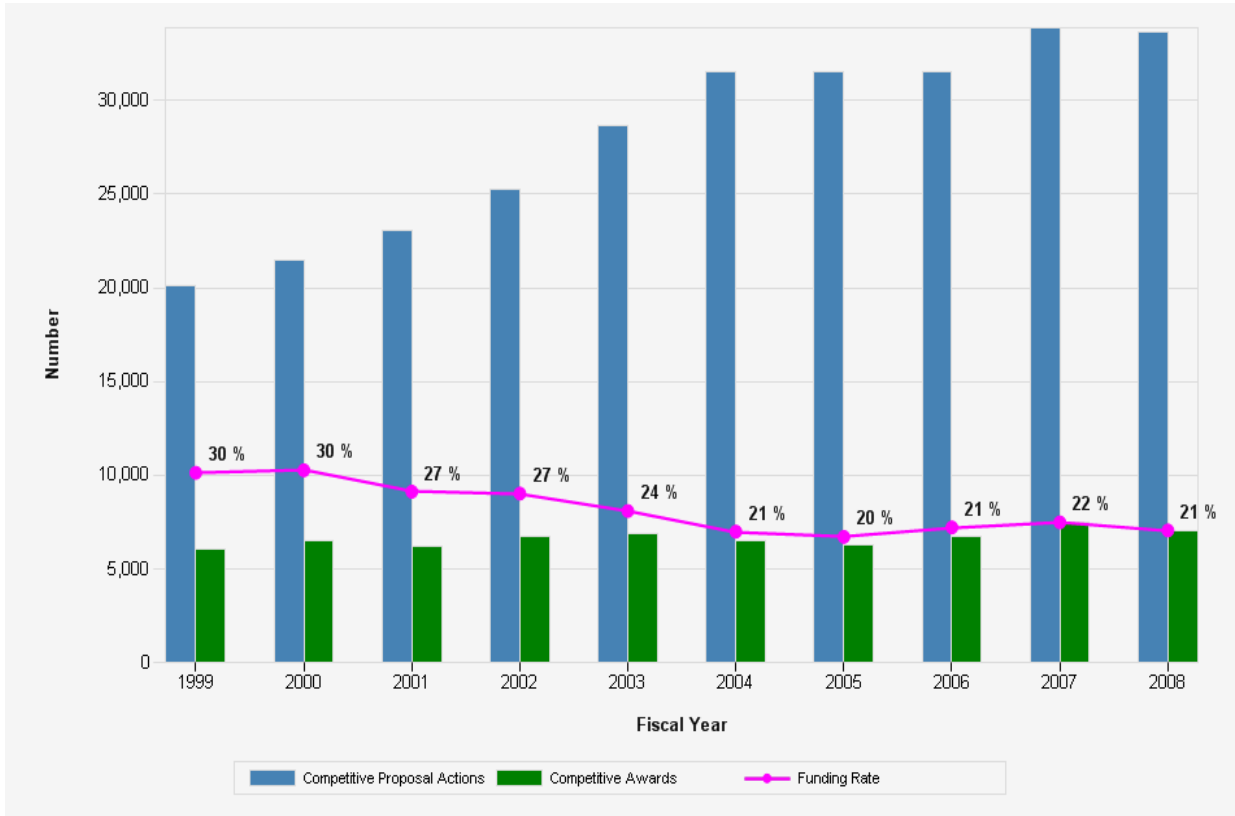
# Current Proposal, Award, & Funding Trends

# Distribution of Average Reviewer Ratings: FY 2008

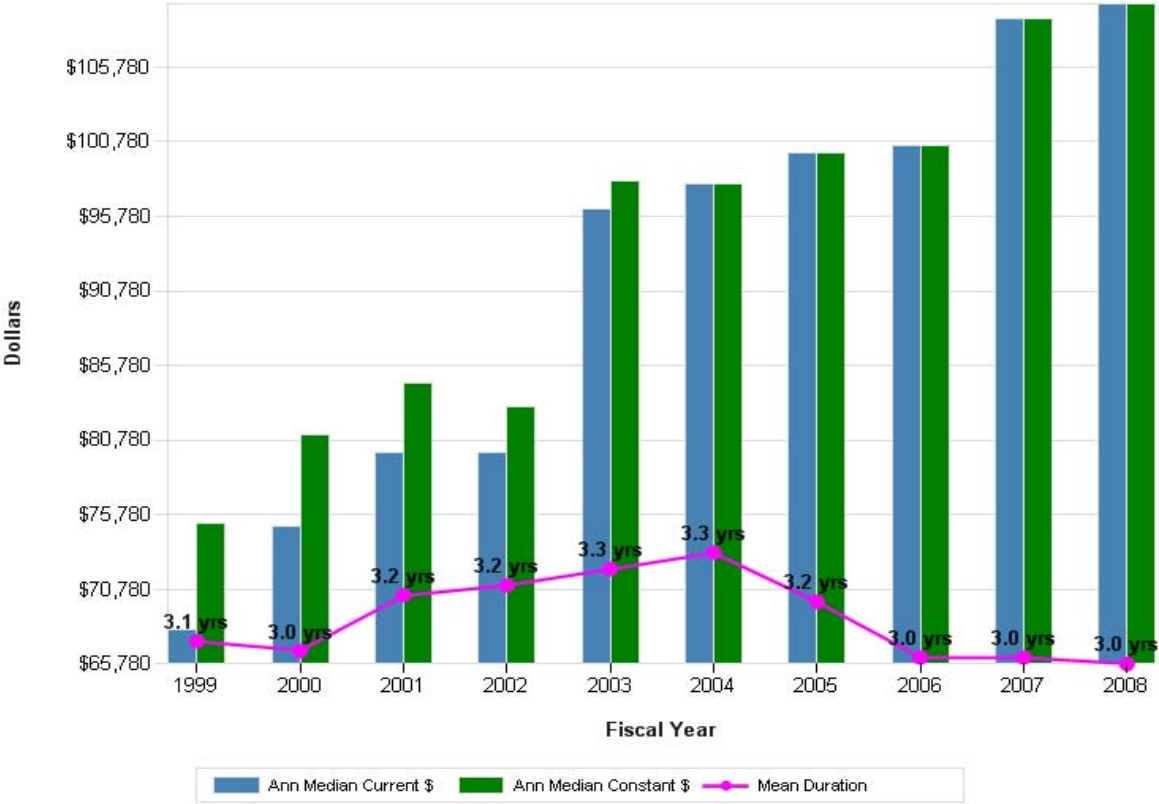


**Number of Proposals: 33,279 Declines, 11,149 Awards**

# NSF Funding Rate for Competitive Awards



# NSF Competitive Award Size and Duration



## Key Documents

- FY 2010 NSF Budget Request to Congress
- Proposal & Award Policies and Procedures Guide
- Science & Engineering Indicators



## For More Information

**Ask Early, Ask Often!**

**<http://www.nsf.gov/staff>**

**<http://www.nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp>**