



Office of Polar Programs Office Advisory Committee Meeting

OPP Director's Remarks

Karl Erb, Director



OPP Director's Report

November 8, 2007

- FY 2008 Budget
- NSF & IPY: 2007-2008
- US-China IPY Roundtable
- US-Sweden Polar Agreement (*Oden*)
- MRI Program Changes and the America COMPETES Act
- Cyber-Enabled Discovery & Innovation (CDI) Initiative
- USAP Prime Support Contract
- NSF's AC/GPA Committee
- OPP Personnel Changes
- Agenda Overview



FY 2008 Budget

Office of Polar Programs Funding

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Request	FY 2008 Request	Change over FY 2007 Request	
				Amount	Percent
Arctic Sciences (ARC)	\$74.21	\$89.59	\$96.27	\$6.68	7.5%
Antarctic Sciences (ANT)	48.21	56.98	64.49	7.51	13.2%
Antarctic Infrastructure & Logistics (AIL)	203.17	228.61	240.66	12.05	5.3%
<i>U.S. Antarctic Logistical Support Activities</i>	<i>66.66</i>	<i>67.52</i>	<i>67.52</i>	-	-
Polar Environment, Safety & Health (PESH)	5.01	5.92	6.48	0.56	9.5%
USCG Polar Icebreaking	59.94	57.00	57.00	-	-
Total, OPP	\$390.54	\$438.10	\$464.90	\$26.80	6.1%

Totals may not add due to rounding.



Congressional Action on FY 2008

- Continuing Resolution in effect til November 16
- House Action
 - Appropriations Committee passed a bill providing \$6,509 million (1.2% above President's request and \$591.84 million (10%) above the FY 2007 Continuing Resolution)
 - MREFC equal to request
 - AOAM equal to request*
- Senate Action
 - Appropriations Committee passed a bill providing \$6,553.4 million (1.9% above President's request and \$637.8 million (10.8%) above the FY 2007 Continuing Resolution)
 - MREFC equal to request
 - AOAM equal to request*

*Recall that AOAM was frozen in FY 2007 at the FY 2006 level, forcing cancellation of OAC meeting.



NSF & IPY

2007-2008

- Focus Areas
 - Arctic Observing Network
 - Ice Sheet Dynamics & Stability
 - Life in the Polar Regions
 - Education & Outreach
 - Infrastructure/Logistics for New Research
 - International Legacy



International Polar Year – FY 2007 (received) and FY 2008 (November 1?) Budgets

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
	Actual	Request	Request
Biological Sciences (BIO)	-	\$2.00	\$2.00
Geosciences (GEO)	-	5.00	5.00
Office of International Science & Engineering (OISE)	-	0.30	0.40
<i>Office of Polar Programs (OPP)</i>	<i>10.00</i>	<i>47.27</i>	<i>47.27</i>
Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE)	2.40	5.00	2.00
Education and Human Resources (EHR)	2.95	2.00	2.00
Total	\$15.35	\$61.57	\$58.67

Investments created new opportunities, e.g., extended season, that will continue beyond IPY.



ABOUT OUR LOGO

The China-U.S. Relations Conference logo utilizes a traditional Chinese motif to incorporate the words China and U.S. on the top and bottom of the mark.

The stars circling the icon are also of great importance. The center star is filled with four stars to symbolize the Chinese flag (five stars). While the total amount of stars symbolize the first official United States flag (13 stars).

The bold contemporary type treatment focuses on movement to create a living brand. Overall the subliminal key shape creates "open doors" to Development, Energy, and Security.



US-Sweden Polar Agreement



Oden





MRI Program Changes

- America COMPETES Act (HR 2272)
 - “An Act to invest in innovation through research and development, and to improve the competitiveness of the United States.”
- **SEC. 7036. MAJOR RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION.**
 - (a) AWARD AMOUNT.— ... \$100K to \$4M (\$6M if >\$125M is appropriated)
 - (b) USE OF FUNDS.— ... acquisition, operations and maintenance of instrumentation and equipment
 - (c) COST SHARING.— ... institutions (with some exceptions) shall **cost-share at least 30%** from private or non-Federal sources



America COMPETES Act: Some Highlights

– **SEC. 7008. POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWS.**

(a) MENTORING.— ... proposals requesting funds to support postdocs will include mentoring activities

(b) REPORTS.— ... annual and final reports will include description of mentoring activities

– **SEC. 7009. RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH.**

Institutions to describe plans to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate and graduate students, and postdocs

– **SEC. 7010. REPORTING OF RESEARCH RESULTS.**

Final project reports and citations of published research to be made available to the public in a timely manner and electronically via NSF's web site



Merit Review Criteria

What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activity?

- ...To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts? ...
- ...To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts? ...



NSF's AC/GPA Committee

(Advisory Committee for GPRA Performance Assessment)

- The AC/GPA was established in June 2002 to provide advice and recommendations to the NSF Director regarding the Foundation's performance under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993.
- The AC/GPA is the only advisory committee that looks at the entire Foundation and determines whether NSF demonstrated significant achievement in Discovery, Learning, and Research Infrastructure.
- The Committee met on June 14-15, 2007, at NSF.
- The Committee's report:
http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07207.
- **The next AC/GPA meeting will be held at NSF on June 19-20, 2008**
- Thank you, Deanna, for signing up!



Personnel



Since May 2007,

- Additions/Changes
 - Arctic
 - Pat Haggerty, Manager, RSL (from AIL)
 - Renee Crain, Associate Program Manager, RSL (from Arctic Research and Education)
 - Tianay Robinson, Arctic Program & Technology Analyst (from GEO)
 - Antarctic
 - Angela Braxton, Antarctic Program & Technology Analyst (from CISE)
 - AIL
 - Alex Isern, Science Support, detailed from GEO
 - Ben Bergerson, USAP IT Security Manager, detailed from DOD
 - Jack Matthewman, subcontractor to AIL for Project Planning & Controls (replaces Pat Haggerty)
 - PEHS
 - Gwen Adams, Safety & Occupational Health Manager, recalled to Active Duty for 1 year
 - Elana Khanna returned to Program Specialist supporting AIL/PEHS
 - Office-Wide
 - Joan Bailey, Director's Secretary
 - Kathy Gorski, Einstein Fellow, IPY and K-12 Education
 - Dan Lubin, Program Director, Polar Cyberinfrastructure (arrives December 10)
- Retired
 - Dave Bresnahan -- Logistics Manager, AIL



Agenda Overview

- Substantial time devoted to discussion of COV reports
- Topics related to COV issues
 - Proposal Success Rates
 - Award Distribution
 - Broadening Participation
- Planning for the Antarctic Support COV
 - Lessons learned?
- IPY
- Directions and Future Challenges
- Transformative Research