

**Council on Governmental Relations Meeting
Washington, D.C. – Feb. 19, 2009, 4-5 p.m.**

Summary of presentations by Joe Ellis (NIH) and Joanna Rom (NSF).

Description	NSF	NIH
Overall Funding Levels	\$3B Stimulus (typical annual budget for the agency is \$6B)	\$10.4B Stimulus (typical annual budget for the agency is \$29B)
Supplements to existing grants	No	Yes, both competing (expand aims) and administrative (no expansion but acceleration of “tempo” of research). Solicitation details not yet released. Funding must be segregated from non-stimulus funding and be reported separately.
Agency Timing	Stimulus funds available for obligation within 2 years. Spending Plan must go to the Hill within 60 days but is expected to go much earlier (after NSB meeting next week). First award release dates not yet known.	Stimulus funds will be available for 2 yrs. NIH anticipates balancing the obligations in 09 and 10. Institutes/Centers asked to estimate what they can accomplish within 30, 60, 90 days. First award release dates not yet known.
Likely Award Duration and Funding Strategy	2-, 3-, 4- or 5-year awards with staggered end dates and usual provisions (including automatic carryover). All funding obligated at time of initial award for multi-year period. Obligation to spend promptly still applies despite up-front funding. This staggered end date approach still needs to be approved by Congress and could change.	2-year research awards only, funded one year at a time. Award will allow for automatic carryforward and will allow grantees to approve a one-time no cost-time extension, but expectation is that awards can be completed within two years. (Construction support requires a longer period of expenditure.)
Communications Plan	“Dear Colleague” letter within the next week.	Not explicitly stated, but presumably NIH Guide Announcement and FOAs.
Solicitations for New Proposals	Yes, but only for certain programs Solicitation announcements expected to start being released later this week or very early next week	Yes, one mechanism among several options Solicitation announcements expected to start being released later this week or very early next week. Includes a Challenge grant Program (expected to be ~\$500K total cost per year x 2 years).

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Funding for Proposals Already at Agency	<p>Primary mechanism for distribution of Stimulus funds – NSF has 24,000 proposals in-house, 8,000 of which have already been reviewed and 3,000 of which have rankings of “very good” or better.</p> <p>\$300M for Major Research Instrumentation will likely be used to fund proposals already submitted for the last proposal round (unclear whether there would also be a separate proposal call).</p>	<p>One mechanism among several options. Might include construction applications previously considered in addition to new FOAs in development</p> <p>Will consider high-merit R01s already reviewed or in the review process. See also revision requirements below.</p>
Revision Requirements for Already-Submitted Proposals	<p>Regular NSF business process to request revised budget or revised statement of work when needed. No other special requirements anticipated at this time.</p>	<p>PIs should expect calls from NIH if their proposal is selected for funding, possibly requesting revised statement of work and budget for a 2-year time period (and presumably, JIT information)</p> <p>Proposals that cannot realistically be down-scoped to a 2-year period will likely not be able to be funded.</p> <p>All proposals will require detailed budget (even if originally submitted as a modular budget) to facilitate mandatory Stimulus reporting and expected transparency.</p>
Funding for Proposals Recently Declined but Scientifically Meritorious	<p>Undecided – if this occurs, NSF will not consider proposals declined before 10/1/08.</p>	<p>Unfunded meritorious applications are carried forward for consideration in subsequent rounds.</p>
Proposal Format	<p>Regular requirements but solicitations will include Stimulus requirements and Stimulus-specific CFDA's</p>	<p>Will use Grants.Gov</p> <p>No additional information furnished today.</p>
Cost-Sharing	<p>No change.</p> <p>Already submitted proposals with committed cost-sharing will still be liable for that commitment if awarded</p>	<p>Act authorizes waiver of cost-sharing waived for construction programs (through NCRP).</p>
Award Terms	<p>Typical award terms except all time and money awarded up front. Progress report requirements still apply. Award will also include special stimulus clauses (may be common clause</p>	<p>Typical award terms plus special stimulus clauses as required by the Act (may be common clause across all agencies – now in the works)</p>

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	across all agencies – now in the works)	Award terms will include standard automatic carryforward and grantee ability to authorize a single no-cost extension.
Reporting Obligations and Progress (Section 1512 of the Act)	<p>Quarterly reporting by institution 10 days after quarter end (NOTE: this does not allow enough time to match most U month-end close processes; missing data may threaten retention of awards if spending is low)</p> <p>Data elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percent complete ▪ Stimulus funds received ▪ Funds expended ▪ Funds obligated (encumbered) ▪ # of Jobs created ▪ # of Jobs retained ▪ Subawards issued over \$25K ▪ Subawards issued under \$25K, in aggregate <p>Agency and OMB will periodically review to determine when funds are being spent (awards may be terminated early if funds are not being spent in a timely manner)</p> <p>May create some sort of a federal system for us to upload these data, but that not yet determined</p>	Same as NSF (provision of the Act).