The STIMULUS Package

Highlights
Selective Funding Opportunities

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Marilyn A. Berry Thompson

MWW GROUP
TABLE OF CONTENTS

The National Science Foundation ................................................................................................................................... 2

U.S. Department of Commerce ........................................................................................................................................ 5
  The National Institute of Standards and Technology ................................................................................................. 5
  NOAA ............................................................................................................................................................................ 7

U.S. Department of Energy ............................................................................................................................................. 8

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ........................................................................................................ 12
  National Institutes of Health ......................................................................................................................................... 12
  Beyond NIH – Other Health Agencies and Programs ................................................................................................. 15
  Health Information Technology ........................................................................................................................................ 17
  Workforce Development .................................................................................................................................................. 18

NASA ............................................................................................................................................................................... 19

U.S. Department of Education ........................................................................................................................................ 22
THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

- **STIMULUS TOTAL: $3 BILLION**
  -- Current FY2008 Total NSF Appropriation is $6.1 billion.
  -- Stimulus increases NSF by roughly 50%, bringing NSF to new all-time high of $9+ billion, already exceeding America COMPETES Act targets.
  -- **Stimulus includes support for $2 billion in research grants; $900 million for facilities and instrumentation; and $100 million for Education, Fellowships and Partnerships.**

- **Research Grant Increase -- $2 Billion**
  -- To be implemented and disseminated through all of NSF's divisions, and
  -- Through NSF regular peer review process.
  -- NSF plans to obligate majority of funds in 2009; 2-3 year grants.
  -- Will use some funds to address backlog of $2 billion in approved but unfunded applications.
  -- Overall plan may contain mix of reaching approved, unfunded grants, deferred decision applications, as well as selective new competitions.
  -- NSF wants to achieve an increase in their funding rate from 15% to 30%.
  -- **Young investigators** reportedly to be a strong priority for consideration.
Research Facilities and Instrumentation -- $900 Million

- Academic Research Infrastructure Program -- $200 million
  - Will be used to "restart" the Academic Research Infrastructure Program, otherwise "dormant" since FY1996, the last competition.
  - There will be a new competition for science facilities and laboratories. Colleges/universities will probably constitute majority of awardees, but eligibility will not be limited to only ihe's.
  - Match may be waived, consistent with other science agencies.

- Major Research Instrumentation Program -- $300 million
  - Competitively awarded instrumentation grants for researchers
  - Last funded at $94 million level; thus, stimulus triples program size.
  - Debate ongoing as to whether there will be a new competition, or will look only to applications which have been approved but unfunded, or constitute deferred decisions.

- Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC) -- $400 million
  - Stimulus virtually doubles size of this program.
-- Focus is on accelerating construction of truly major research facilities considered to be doing cutting-edge science.

**Education and Human Resources -- $100 Million**
-- Three key programs targeted for the increased funding.
-- **Noyce Fellowship Program -- $60 million** for STEM-related teacher support/preparation for teachers serving particularly distressed school districts/regions.

-- **Math-Science Partnerships -- $25 million.** This major victory as long-sought reversal of Bush decision to centralize support for MSPs in USDE awarded through formula based funding, leaving NSF with reduced role.
-- **Professional Science Master's Program -- $15 million** -- to initiate this new program first authorized in the America COMPETES legislation.

**Implementation**
-- Detailed spending plan to Congress due within 60 days of enactment.
-- Selective notices and RFPs may be issued earlier.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

- STIMULUS TOTAL: $600 million
- Research, Fellowships, Instrumentation, Science Facilities Development

Agency mission is to advance U.S. leadership and technology; support technology innovation and manufacturing partnerships, including collaboration with industry; provide support for projects that can demonstrate maximum near-term and longer-term benefit to the U.S. economy.

- $220 million for competitive selection of grants through NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) to support
  -- Research
  -- Research Fellowships
  -- Laboratory Research and Instrumentation
  -- Advanced Research and Measurement Equipment and Supplies
$360 million for NIST Construction of Research Facilities Account
-- $180 million for NIST infrastructure
-- $180 million for competitive extramural construction grant program for research/science buildings
-- See NIST Strategic Facilities Plan
-- See 2008 University Research Facilities Competition (93 applications; three (3) selected; $24 million)

$20 million for Health Information Technology Activities
-- to conduct standards-related research re: electronic medical records

No separate, new funding for NIST's Technology Innovation Program and/or the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

Implementation
-- Interim and preliminary guidance expected week of February 23.
-- Formal Spending Plan due within 60 days of enactment (February 17)
-- Links for updates, tracking: www.nist.gov/recovery.
TOTAL STIMULUS: $830 Million

Operational Needs -- $230 Million
-- Meeting backlog of research, restoration, navigation, conservation and facilities

NOAA Facilities Needs -- $600 Billion
-- Intramural NOAA facilities, construction and repair
-- NOAA ships and instrumentation
-- Weather instrumentation, forecasting needs, Satellite Development

Research and Modeling Needs, Climate Research-related
-- $170 Million to identify, clarify critical gaps in climate modeling, establish well-structure climate data records
-- Advancing research into cause, effect, change agents
ENERGY

The U.S. Department of Energy was one of the biggest science/research agency recipients of Stimulus Bill funding and financing tools of any agency -- roughly $30 billion in new and ongoing initiatives focused on energy efficiency and conservation and "greening" financing incentives for research, for development of new technologies, to foster changed behavior and use patterns through appropriations and through the tax code. Following are a few of the highlights:

- Office of Science -- $1.6 billion
- ARPA-E R&D -- $400 million
- Targeted Energy Efficiency and Renewable R&D, Demonstration and Deployment Projects -- $2.5 billion
  -- BioMass-$800 million; Geothermal-$400 million; Fossil-$1 billion
- State Energy Grants -- $3.1 billion
- New Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant -- $3.2 billion
- New Smart Grid Investment Program -- $4.5 billion, including
  -- Alternative Fuel Vehicles, Plug-In Vehicles -- $300 million
  -- Transportation Electricity -- $300 million
  -- Efficient Appliance Rebate Plan
- Weatherization -- $5 billion
- Loan Guarantees -- $6 billion.
In addition, there are several other agencies participating in the Green Technology, Energy Efficiency and Related Workforce Development themes of the Stimulus -- from Labor to HUD, Transportation, and Education.

- **Science and Research Highlights**
  
  - **Office of Science -- $1.6 billion**
    -- To support extramural basic research, laboratory support, and selective infrastructure/instrumentation needs
    -- Key fields include climate science and biofuels; high energy physics, and fusion energy sciences.
  
  - **ARPA-E -- $400 million**
    -- For the initiation of the new agency and support of especially high-risk, high-pay-off research, including industry collaboration.
  
  - **Targeted Energy Efficiency and Renewable R&D -- $2.2 billion**
    -- Biomass Initiatives -- $800 million (quadrupling the current $200 million level);
    -- Geothermal Energy -- $400 million (current levels only $80 million, massive infusion);
    
    -- Fossil Energy -- $1 billion (for cleaner coal, oil and gas technologies, carbon sequestration research).
- Other Highlights -- State/Local Governmental Initiatives, Developing, Training The Energy Efficiency, Green Workforce

  - New Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program -- $3.2 billion
    -- Block Grant allocations to State, County, Local, Governors -- $2.8 billion of total, to cities and counties of 50,000 and above; remainder to State for allocation to State projects and other urban, rural areas of distress not receiving direct awards
    -- $400 million allocation for national, regional demonstration projects selected competitively, at national level.
    -- Utilization includes strategic planning activities, focus on public buildings and assets, development/acquisition of new technologies, addressing the workforce needs to achieve the plan.

  - Loan Guarantees -- $6 billion
    -- to help finance renewable energy transmission/technology projects

  - Department of Labor -- $750 million initiative under Workforce Development Funds with $500 million going to State and Local Governments to support career development in renewable energy, energy efficiency and jobs defined in the Green Jobs Act.

  - Job Corps -- $250 million for job training in energy efficiency, renewable energy, environmental protections infrastructure.
➢ Economic Stabilization Fund -- Through Education Department, modernization, school/college infrastructure activities to be consistent with green standards.

➢ HUD -- Sets aside $225 million of Section 8 program to undertake upgrades on Section 8 housing facilities to enhance green standards.

■ IMPLEMENTATION

New Secretary of Energy, Chu, well engaged in planning and organization of the Stimulus.
-- Have issued preliminary, interim guidance memorandum, and set up very well-constructed website.
-- Will issue additional guidance the week of the 23rd.
-- Will have detailed spending plan as submitted to the President available -- within 60 days.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AND FACILITIES, SELECTIVE HEALTH SERVICES AND WORKFORCE FUNDING

➢ THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
  -- STIMULUS TOTAL: $10.4 BILLION
  -- The entire budget for the NIH in FY2008 was $29.6 billion.
  -- The Stimulus now leaves the NIH with a budget for FY2009 of at least $39.9 billion.
  -- $10 billion was approved by the House and the Senate, and $400 million was transferred into the NIH from another HHS-based agency -- the Agency for Healthcare.

- National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) -- $1.3 billion
  The extramural research competition of NCRR has been dormant since 2005, when Congress appropriated a total of $30 million for the agency for the entire nation. The stimulus provides $1.3 billion for two core activities:
  -- $1 billion for competitive grants for extramural facilities construction, renovation;
  -- and $300 million for shared instrumentation and other capital research equipment needs.
  -- Priority will be given to projects which also advance energy-saving, green technologies, and/or will have beneficial environmental effects.
  -- No match will be required.
Office of the NIH Director -- $7.4 billion
-- Funds will be distributed, for the most part, on a proportional basis, among all of the NIH Institutes, Centers, and the Common Fund to meet urgent and cross-cutting needs.
-- Objective will be to help drive NIH grant success rates back up over 20%, and to channel these funds through already scheduled, regular grant review cycles. 14,000 meritorious were not funded last year according to NIH sources.
-- R01 applications already reviewed but were unfunded that could still benefit from two years of support would be given priority. Some grants may also be made for three and four years.
-- The OD will also consider using these increased funds to expand existing grants through supplements -- including expanded support for training and support for summer student, among other activities/costs.

Office of the Director -- $800 million for High Priority Needs
-- $800 million will be targeted to short-term grants that will focus on specified scientific challenges, as well as expanding the scope of an ongoing project; or on research on urgent public health or international/global health needs.
There is also discussion about some of these NIH funding decisions having to reflect local/regional economic impact.

- **New Challenge Grant Program -- $100 million**  
  -- $100 million, at least, however, will be competed through a new program competition, as referenced above. Grants would be two-year grants, for the most part, and address very specific scientific challenges.  
  -- Grants will, for most part, include cross-cutting research.  
  -- NIH representatives have indicated that grants may be limited to $500,000 per grant. Other reports have this going up to a $1 million range.  
  -- NIH has also said that it is going to try to put out a Request for Applications within the next two weeks.

- **Intramural NIH Facilities -- $500 million.**

- **Funding Transfer from Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) -- $400 million**  
  -- To assist NIH with charge of working on health care comparative effectiveness research.
HIGHLIGHTS:

- WELLNESS AND PREVENTION FUND -- $1 BILLION
  -- Of which $650 million to address and support chronic disease rate reduction, research and strategies; use of evidence based clinical and community-based approaches; infectious disease.

- COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS -- $2 BILLION
  -- $500 million for operations, services
  -- $1.5 billion for construction, renovation, equipment, for HIT-related acquisition

- CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) -- $300 MILLION
  -- $300 million for Immunization Services

- PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND/OS
  -- $50 million for internal information security
HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY RESEARCH -- $1 BILLION

- AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY
  -- $300 Million
  -- Compare clinical outcomes and effectiveness, assess risks, benefits of two or more medical treatments focused on a particular medical condition; assessment of sub-population issues.

- TRANSFER TO NIH FROM AHRQ -- $400 Million
  -- To conduct outcomes and effectiveness research

- OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HHS -- $400 Million
  
  - FEDERAL COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH
    -- Reduce replication
    -- Foster coordination of comparative effectiveness research
    -- Advise Congress and the President
    -- Not allowed to mandate coverage, reimbursement policies for public/private payors
OTHER HEALTH PRIORITIES: HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY -- MULTI-AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS
  - National Center for HIT -- $2 Billion for Up-front, Start-Up Grants
  - Community Health Centers -- $1.5 billion for Infrastructure can be used for HIT-related acquisition
  - Secretary's Public Health Fund -- $50 million for internal HHS/HIT/information security needs
  - Department of Commerce -- NIST -- $20 million through Commerce/NIST to create and test standards related to health security and interoperability in conjunction with partners at HHS.

Department of Defense -- Health Facilities, Sustainment, Restoration, Modernization -- $400 Million
  -- Army: $220 Million
  -- Air Force: $130 Million
  -- Navy: $50 Million
OTHER HEALTH PRIORITIES: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

One of the key workforce arenas where there is especially solid growth and high potential is the health workforce. The Stimulus includes a number of health-workforce-related components.

- HEALTH RESOURCES SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) -- $500 Million
  - National Health Service Corps -- $300 Million
    -- To be used to enhance recruitment efforts, reinforce field station and field operations.
  - HRSA Public health Service Acts, Titles VII and VIII -- $200 Million
    -- to support health workforce development/training support for primary care physicians, preventive medicine arena, dentists, allied health under Title VII, and to address nursing workforce shortages under Title VIII.
    -- funding can be utilized for training, training equipment, scholarships and loan repayment costs.

- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR -- EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING -- $750 Million
  - Workforce Improvement Funds -- Out of $750 Million for high priority jobs, strong potential, in high growth, emerging sectors -- $250 Million for health workforce jobs.
**NASA**

- **STIMULUS TOTAL:** $1 BILLION -- To support four (4) major activities/accounts, bringing NASA to a level of roughly $18.2 billion.
  - Science -- $400 million;
  - Aeronautics -- $150 million;
  - Cross-Agency Initiatives -- $50 million;
  - Constellation Systems -- $400 million.

**Science Account -- $400 Million**

-- To be used to accelerate "Tier 1" Earth Science/Climate Research Missions recommended on the Decadal Survey, as well as to enhance the **Supercomputing capability**.

-- To support NASA Science portfolio in earth science, heliophysics, astrophysics, and to accelerate critical climate research objectives.
Aeronautics -- $150 Million
-- System-level development and demonstration activities related to aviation safety, environmental impact mitigation, next generation needs.

Constellation Systems -- $400 Million
-- Development funding to address gaps in U.S. human space flight between the 2010 "retirement" date of the Space shuttle and 2015 launch target for replacement.

Agency Cross-Cutting Needs -- $50 Million
-- While generally this would mean inter-disciplinary research this account is presumed to be the source of some of the funding needed to undertake still-not-finished repair/restore/upgrade of NASA facilities damaged during natural disasters over the past few years.
Implementation

-- Just as this much-needed increase is provided, NASA is still without a new Administrator.

-- A major focus this year is the reauthorization of the Agency. Last year Congress completed only a one-year extension, wanting the new leadership that would come with the Election to lead a longer term rewrite.

-- Now, still without that new leadership, they have to integrate $1 billion in to their plan as well.

-- There is still a debate ongoing internally as to how to determine the right balance between -- rebuilding/building exploration and science;

-- And between using these funds to generate some new ideas and applications, or just applying it to existing awardees and/or unfunded but approved applications.
STATE ECONOMIC STABILIZATION FUND -- $53.6 BILLION
-- 81.8% of Total Allocation must be spent on Elementary, Secondary Schools/Districts, as well as Institutions of Higher Education, versus "other critical public safety or other government services."
-- To restore aid to LEAs to 2008 or 2009 levels;
-- To restore State aid to public institutions of higher education

-- 18.2% can be utilized for public safety and other government services, including education, and including "modernization" of educational facilities -- schools and institutions of higher education. Modernization activities must be consist with State law, ESEA, IDEA, et.al.
Re: Higher Education Institutions
-- Funding is to be utilized to help mitigate the need to raise tuition and fees, OR
-- For Modernization, renovation, repair facilities for instruction, for research, for student housing.
-- Funds cannot be used for endowments or sports facilities/stadium.

Re: Other Funding Activities
-- Teacher Quality Enhancement -- $100 Million
-- $650 Million for Education Technology

Re: State Application, Maintenance of Effort Language
-- M-O-E is pegged at FY2006 levels of State support, including ihes.
-- State Implementation Application Required -- to focus on four arenas:
  (1) Achieve equity re: teacher distribution
  (2) Data Systems Development to track, assess
  (3) To perform academic assessment of English language teachers and students with disabilities
  (4) Improve State academic content standards and student academic achievement
- **ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION -- $13 Billion**
  -- $10 billion through formula
  -- $3 billion for targeted School Improvement Grant Activity
  -- $720 of SIG Funds set aside for
    (1) Education Technology -- $650 Million
    (2) Education for the Homeless -- $70 Million
  -- $100 Million for special Innovation and Improvement Grants

- **IDEA**
  -- $13 Billion
  -- $680 Million for Rehabilitation and Disabilities Services -- including
    $140 Million for Independent Living

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
  -- $200 Million through Corporation for National and Community
    Services/Americorps
  -- $200 Million through College Work Study