



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION REGIONAL GRANTS CONFERENCE



Tempe, AZ • March 30-31, 2009

[Introduction](#) | [Agenda](#) | [Registration](#) | [Hotel Information and Directions](#)
[Airport Transportation](#) | [Area Information and Events](#) | [NSF Representatives](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Program Agenda

SUNDAY, March 29, 2009

2:00 – 5:00 p.m. **Pre-Conference Registration** (*Palm Ballroom Foyer*)

MONDAY, March 30, 2009

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Conference Registration** (*Palm Ballroom Foyer*) &
Continental Breakfast (*Courtyard*)

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks** (*Palm Ballroom*)

8:45 – 9:45 a.m. **Introduction & NSF Overview** (*Palm Ballroom*): This session will cover the National Science Foundation's purpose, mandate, enabling organizational structure, program and budget highlights (including current budget status), trends, areas of special emphasis, and other special initiatives.

Presenter: *Joanna Rom, Deputy Director - Planning, Coordination and Analysis, Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management*

9:45 – 10:05 a.m. **Refreshment & Networking Break** (*Courtyard*)

10:05 – 11:35 a.m. **Proposal Preparation** (*Palm Ballroom*): NSF Program Officers will review how and when to prepare a proposal, including discussion of what constitutes a project and a proposal of high quality. Presenters will discuss do's and don'ts, recent procedural changes, as well as the various sources of NSF programmatic opportunities.

Presenters: *Sankar Basu, Program Director, Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering*

Linnea Fletcher, Program Director, Directorate for Education & Human Resources

Ajit Subramaniam, Associate Program Director, Directorate for Geosciences

Judith Verbeke, Division Director (Acting), Directorate for Biological Sciences

11:35 – 12:50 p.m.

Luncheon

12:50 – 2:20 p.m.

Merit Review Process (Palm Ballroom): NSF Program Officers and administrators will discuss the philosophy of merit review and how it works, as well as *ad hoc* and multi-tiered reviews. Presenters will also cover the role of the Program Officer, timing of proposal submissions, reviewer selection, release of reviewer comments, and conflict-of-interest issues related to merit review.

Presenters:

James Lightbourne, Senior Advisor for the Integration of Research & Education, Office of the Director

D. Matthew Powell, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the Director, Office of General Counsel

Mark Weiss, Division Director, Directorate for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences

Charles Ying, Program Director, Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences

2:20 – 2:40 p.m.

Refreshment & Networking Break (Courtyard)

2:40 – 3:40 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions: Program Officers and administrative staff will talk about specific programs, initiatives and answer your pressing questions. In addition, sessions will be offered on the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program, Office of Integrative Activities (OIA), and NSF Grant Payment & Federal Financial Report (FFR) Processes.

Biological Sciences (BIO) (Jokake)

Judith Verbeke, Division Director (Acting), Division of Integrative Organismal Systems

Computer & Information Sciences & Engineering (CISE)

(Campanile)

Sankar Basu, Program Director, Division of Computing and Communication Foundations

Education & Human Resources (EHR)

(Ironstone)

Linnea Fletcher, Program Director, Division of Undergraduate Education

Engineering (ENG)

(Augustine)

Robert Smith, Program Director, Division of Civil, Mechanical & Manufacturing Innovation

Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program (Palm

Ballroom)

Sonia Esperanca, Program Director, Directorate for Geosciences, Division of Earth Sciences

Sonia

Geosciences (GEO)*(Colonnade)**Ajit Subramaniam, Associate Program Director,
Division of Ocean Sciences***Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS)***(Cavetto)**Charles Ying, Program Director, Division of Materials
Research***NSF Grant Payment & Federal Financial Report
(FFR) Processes***(Windflower)**Gisele Holden, Branch Chief, Financial Systems,
Division of Financial Management**John Lynskey, Deputy Director, Division of Financial
Management***Office of Integrative Activities (OIA): Major
Research Instrumentation (MRI) and Science &
Technology Centers (STC)***(Capistrano)**James Lightbourne, Senior Advisor for the Integration
of Research & Education, Office of the Director***Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences
(SBE) (Dolores)***Mark Weiss, Division Director, Division of Behavioral
and Cognitive Sciences*

3:40 – 4:00 p.m.

Refreshment & Networking Break (Courtyard)

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Award Management (Palm Ballroom): This session will address award requirements and conditions, and will outline the responsibilities of those involved in the award process – principal investigators, grantee institutions, Program Officers, research administrators, and agency grants officials.*Presenters:**Jean Feldman, Head, Policy Office, Division of
Institution & Award Support**John Grzechowiak, Head, Systems Office, Division of
Institution & Award Support**Karen Tiplady, Division Director, Division of Grants &
Agreements*

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Reception (Courtyard)**TUESDAY, March 31, 2009**

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

**Conference Registration (Palm Ballroom Foyer) &
Continental Breakfast (Courtyard)**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Challenges, Opportunities & New Directions (Palm Ballroom): This session will cover NSF relations with Congress and other stakeholders, future directions, strategies, and plans. Information will also be provided about NSF's integration with Grants.gov, Grants

	Management Line of Business and Research.gov opportunities.
<i>Presenters:</i>	<i>Joanna Rom, Deputy Director - Planning, Coordination and Analysis, Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management</i> <i>Erika Rissi, Staff Associate, Division of Institution & Award Support</i>
9:30 – 9:50 a.m.	Refreshment & Networking Break (Courtyard)
9:50 – 10:50 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions: Program Officers and administrative staff will talk about specific programs, initiatives and answer your pressing questions. In addition, a session on Compliance Issues and a Research.gov demo will be offered. Biological Sciences (BIO) (Jokake) <i>Judith Verbeke, Division Director (Acting), Division of Integrative Organismal Systems</i> Compliance Issues (Xavier) <i>Carol Orlando, Team Leader for Indirect Cost and Cost Analysis, Division of Institution & Award Support</i> <i>Harinder Singh, Financial Review & Cost Analyst, Division of Institution & Award Support</i> Computer & Information Sciences & Engineering (CISE) (Campanile) <i>Sankar Basu, Program Director, Division of Computing and Communication Foundations</i> Education & Human Resources (EHR) (Ironstone) <i>Linnea Fletcher, Program Director, Division of Undergraduate Education</i> Engineering (ENG) (Augustine) <i>Robert Smith, Program Director, Division of Civil, Mechanical & Manufacturing Innovation</i> Geosciences (GEO) (Colonnade) <i>Ajit Subramaniam, Associate Program Director, Division of Ocean Sciences</i> Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS) (Cavetto) <i>Charles Ying, Program Director, Division of Materials Research</i> Research.gov Overview & Demonstration (Palm Ballroom) <i>Erika Rissi, Staff Associate, Division of Institution & Award Support</i> Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences (SBE) (Dolores) <i>Mark Weiss, Division Director, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences</i>
10:50 – 11:10 a.m.	Refreshment & Networking Break (Courtyard)

- 11:10 – 11:40 a.m. **Office of the Inspector General (OIG)** (*Palm Ballroom*): Staff from the Office of Inspector General will discuss the roles and responsibilities of the OIG, as well as how it serves the NSF customer communities. Issues arising from current audit and investigations will also be covered.
- Presenters:*
- Kenneth Busch, Investigative Scientist, Office of the Inspector General*
- Laura Hansen-Rainey, Audit Manager, Office of the Inspector General*
- 11:40 – 12:10 p.m. **Office of International Science & Engineering (OISE)** (*Palm Ballroom*): Staff from the Office of International Science and Engineering will discuss the role of the office in funding international projects.
- Presenter:*
- Elizabeth Lyons, Program Coordinator, Office of International Science & Engineering*
- 12:10 – 12:40 p.m. **Transformative & Interdisciplinary Research at NSF** (*Palm Ballroom*): The NSF Merit Review Criterion was revised in 2008 requiring proposals to address “potentially transformative research.” This session will provide further insight to this revised criterion and how NSF is implementing the change.
- Presenters:*
- Sonia Esperanca, Program Director, Directorate for Geosciences, Division of Earth Sciences*
- Judith Verbeke, Division Director (Acting), Directorate for Biological Sciences, Division of Integrative Organismal Systems*
- 12:40 – 1:40 p.m. **Luncheon**
- 1:40 – 2:40 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions:** Program Officers and administrative staff will talk about specific programs, initiatives and answer your pressing questions. In addition, sessions will also cover the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program and the Office of Integrative Activities.
- Biological Sciences (BIO)** (*Jokake*)
Judith Verbeke, Division Director (Acting), Division of Integrative Organismal Systems
- Computer & Information Sciences & Engineering (CISE)** (*Campanile*)
Sankar Basu, Program Director, Division of Computing and Communication Foundations
- Education & Human Resources (EHR)** (*Ironstone*)
Linnea Fletcher, Program Director, Division of Undergraduate Education
- Engineering (ENG)** (*Augustine*)
Robert Smith, Program Director, Division of Civil, Mechanical & Manufacturing Innovation

Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER)**Program (Palm Ballroom)***Sonia Esperanca, Program Director, Directorate for Geosciences, Division of Earth Sciences***Geosciences (GEO) (Colonnade)***Ajit Subramaniam, Associate Program Director, Division of Ocean Sciences***Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS) (Cavetto)***Charles Ying, Program Director, Division of Materials Research***NSF Policy – the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act & the America COMPETES Act***(Xavier)**Jean Feldman, Head, Policy Office, Division of Institution & Award Support***Office of Integrative Activities (OIA): Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) and Science & Technology Centers (STC) (Capistrano)***James Lightbourne, Senior Advisor for the Integration of Research & Education, Office of the Director***Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences (SBE)***(Dolores)**Mark Weiss, Division Director, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences*

2:40 – 3:00 p.m.

Refreshments & Networking Break (Courtyard)

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Crosscutting & Special Interest Programs (Palm Ballroom): This session will emphasize programs of interest to faculty and researchers from all disciplines, such as ADVANCE, CDI, GOALI, IGERT, REU, and RUI to name a few.*Presenters:**Sankar Basu, Program Director, Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering**Linnea Fletcher, Program Director, Directorate for Education & Human Resources**James Lightbourne, Senior Advisor for the Integration of Research & Education, Office of the Director**Judith Verbeke, Division Director (Acting), Directorate for Biological Sciences*

4:00 p.m.

Conference Wrap-up & Adjournment (Palm Ballroom)