

**American Mathematical Society  
Grassroots Advocacy Network  
August 2008 Congressional Office Visits**

**Talking Points**

As you know, FY 2009 begins October 1, 2008. It is unlikely that appropriations bills that include the NSF and Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science (SC) will be passed by the Congress and signed by the President by October 1. This means Congress will have to pass (and the President sign) before October 1, a Continuing Budget Resolution (CR) to keep the government running until a final budget is passed. The prevailing thought is that the CR will last until after the new president takes office January 20, 2009. More than likely, this means no budget increases for the NSF or SC until February or March of 2009.

Usually continuing resolutions establish spending rates at current year levels or less. Waiting until February or March to receive new budgets (and increased spending levels) for the NSF and SC will again create shortfalls in science funding.

**We want to advocate that at least half the increases provided for the NSF and SC in the FY 2009 Budget Request should be included in any CR. This will allow the two agencies to move ahead with planned funding profiles and avoid delays in current obligations.**

**FY 2008 Funding**

- Point out that science did not fare well in the FY 2008 Federal Budget.  
NSF received only a 2.5% increase,  
The Office of Science (SC) of the Department of Energy only a 2.6%

The House and Senate treated the NSF well during the FY 2008 appropriations process:

House increased the FY 2008 NSF by 10% over FY 2007,

Senate increased the FY 2008 budget by 10.8%

### **DOE Office of Science**

The House increased the FY 2008 SC budget by 18 % over FY 2007.

The Senate increased the FY 2008 SC budget by 18.4% over FY 2007.

However, these levels were not realized.

- The recent **Supplemental Appropriations Bill** passed in June 2008 provided an additional \$62.5million to the current (FY 2008) NSF budget and \$62.5 million to the current SC budget.

For NSF, \$22.5 million goes to Research and Related Activities and \$40 million is designated for the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program.

The \$62.5 million to the SC is to be used to eliminate all furloughs and reductions in force, which are a direct result of budgetary constraints. Funding for research efforts shall not be allocated from these funds until the SC has fully funded all personnel requirements.

**Thank Members of Congress for this supplemental funding.**

### **FY 2009 Funding**

- FY 2009 Budget Request is putting science back on a doubling track over a 10 year period.

#### **NSF**

#### **Administration Budget Request**

The FY 2009 Budget Request has an increase of 13.0% for the NSF over FY 2008.

MPS is increased by 20.2%

DMS is increased 16%

#### **Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees**

Each of the House and Senate Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees has passed FY 2009 appropriations bills. In each bill, the total NSF budget is the same as the FY 2009 Budget Request, \$6.854 billion.

## DOE

### Administration Budget Request

The FY 2009 Budget Request has an increase of 18.8% for the SC over FY 2008.

Advanced Scientific Computing Research is increased by 5%

Mathematical, Computational, and Computer Science Research is increased by 13.2%

Applied Mathematics is increased by 17%

Scientific Discovery through Advanced Computing is increased by 3.8%

### Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittees

Each of the House and Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittees has passed FY 2009 appropriations bills. The SC total in the Senate bill is \$4.64 billion while the SC total in the House bill is \$4.9 billion. The Budget Request total for the SC is \$4.72 billion.

### Authorization Bill of 2007

- The America Competes Act (Authorization) (Public Law 110-69 passed in August, 2007):
  - Law has bipartisan support, and doubles NSF and SC in seven years.

Since this is an authorization bill, the increases outlined in this bill cannot happen unless funds are appropriated.

- Talk about how NSF and SC support impacts your institution, department, local district, and/or state. Give examples of projects. You might want to do a listing of major project support. See the AMS Grassroots Webpage for an example for Alabama. The Alabama information was used during meetings with Alabama congressional offices and left behind along with the "ASK."

**Use the first through fourth bullet points to give context and to introduce the last bullet point. The last bullet point is the most important since it relates to your state and district.**