

## TALKING POINTS

Funding for mathematics and science research and education is essential to building the nation's capacity to innovate, which in turn supports economic well-being and national security.

The House has voted for an FY 2013 NSF budget level of \$7.333, The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved an NSF budget of \$7.273 billion, \$60 million below the House.

The system of peer review for evaluating grant proposals has worked well over the years. This process has helped to foster many seminal discoveries throughout all science, engineering, and mathematics disciplines and has contributed to the development of a significant cadre of first-rate researchers in all disciplines.

During consideration of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) bill on the House floor, several amendments were introduced and passed. Two of the passed amendments prohibited NSF from spending funds on several of its programs: the Political Science program and the Climate Change Education program. NSF programs should be evaluated by experts from the relevant scientific fields before decisions to cut funding are made. Program critiques should not be a political process.

## THE "ASK"

Ask your Members of Congress to **“support funding the FY 2013 NSF Budget at \$7.333 billion, the House level.**

**Always explain why federal support for research and education is important in terms of your locale. Give examples of how it has helped your community, the state.**