

CBMS Washington Update

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With thanks to Steve Pierson (ASA) and Miriam Quintal (Lewis-Burke)



Big Picture: Worrisome Trends

- **Structural loss** of the science and research evidence-base throughout the federal government
- **Fatigue** on the part of the research community, advocates, and Congress
- **Neglect**—Science and technology is still not, and likely will never be, a priority for the Trump Administration
- **Direct Interference** with research and the use of evidence in policy making
- **Chilling Effect** of Administration policies on research and higher education enterprise

Funding for research at colleges & universities

- FY 2016, HHS the top funder, DOD 2nd, NSF 3rd, DOE 4th, NASA 5th
For the 5 preceding years, DOD and NSF swapped*
- ~60% of funding for mathematical sciences research comes from NSF

More on NSF EHR (Jim Lewis) and DMS (Tie Luo/Hank Warchall) coming later this afternoon.....

* https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2018/nsf18303/?WT.mc_id=USNSF_178

Appropriations: Where We Stand Today

	FY 2017 Enacted*	FY 2018 Pres Request vs. FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Senate vs. FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 House vs. FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Enacted
NSF R&RA**	6.03	-11.1%	-1.9%	--	?
NSF EHR	0.88	-13.6%	-2.0%	--	?
DOE Science	5.39	-17%	2.9%	--	?
NIH	34.08	-21%	8.5%	3.2%	?
NASA Science	5.76	-0.9%	-3.3%	1.6%	?
Dept of Ed	68.2	-13.5%	.04%	-3.5%	?

*In billions of \$

**Congress does not typically appropriate funding by directorate, but provides a lump-sum appropriation for Research & Related Activities

Appropriations Outlook

- Currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) until December 8, likely to be extended into January and perhaps longer
- Discussions have just begun on bipartisan budget deal
 - Goal to raise sequestration caps for both defense and non-defense spending
 - Both House and Senate bills currently exceed caps
 - If no deal comes together most likely outcome is full-year CR
- Priority Issues Complicate Final Spending Resolution
 - Tax Reform
 - DACA fix
 - Obamacare subsidies
 - Debt Ceiling

Looking ahead: FY2019 Appropriations

Major points memo ([M-17-30](#), issued August 17)

- Increased Focus on Defense
- Reliance on Private Sector R&D
- Small, Efficient Government
- Many Potential Connections with Math
 - emphasis on basic research, machine learning, autonomy, quantum computing, cybersecurity, and high performance computing

Compare to past memos

- echoes past memos in supporting STEM education programs, but the memo is first to support them on the grounds that they will be able to fill new technical jobs, rather than improve America's education system
- First to not mention climate change whatsoever; first to place military development as first priority

Other Issues We Are Monitoring

- Higher Education Act reauthorization – House version introduced Dec 1. Watch in 2018.
- Rand Paul hearing and bill – attacks on science (“Broken Beaker” hearing)
- Taxes “in conference” – attacks on students and colleges and universities
- Open Access Legislation and Activities
- Redistricting Supreme Court Case – role of mathematical sciences
- Immigration (including J-1 and H1-B visas) and DACA

Discussion

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