Proposal Policies and Procedure Guide (20-1) Update

Research Security and Strategy Update

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Strengthening Integrity and Security of the U.S. Research Enterprise

“This important [JASON] report underscores the need for a robust, coordinated approach to strengthen the integrity and security of the U.S. research enterprise.”

Risks to U.S. Science and Security in a Global Research Ecosystem

Research Integrity:
- Conflicts of interest / commitment
- Confidentiality of merit review process
- Protection of pre-publication data
Science and Security Goals at NSF

• Maintain the vibrant science and engineering community which relies on collaborations both globally and domestically
• Promote the norms, principles, and values of openness, transparency, and reciprocal collaboration
• Balance the open environment with the needs of security
• Better understand the risks, including the scale and scope
• Take action to mitigate risks
• Share knowledge and best practices
NSF Actions to Ensure the Integrity of Federally-Funded Research

• Creation of new NSF position, Chief of Research Security Strategy and Policy (CRSSP)
• Improved transparency/clarification for disclosure
• Changes to NSF Employment Requirements and mandatory science and security training for NSF employees
• Risk assessment and analysis through JASON independent advisory group
• Communication and awareness with the scientific community
• Coordination with USG interagency partners
Next Steps for NSF in Research Security

• Continue outreach and collaboration with the academic research community, federal science agencies, and the law enforcement/intelligence community

• Consult with the research community on the type of guidance and tools that might be helpful to put in place for NSF reviewers

• Share and collect feedback from the research community on NSF’s enhanced research security policies and procedures

• Develop external training for the academic research community

• Leverage data and analytics to support research security

• Release the revised Term and Condition for International Collaborations on Major Facilities
NSF Supports International Collaborations

FY 2019 NSF Awards Involving International Activity
Top 25 Partners Countries with Award Numbers
NSF’s Collaboration with China

• China is one of the top countries for international collaboration with NSF-funded U.S. researchers.

• In FY 2019 China was #5 on NSF’s list of top partner countries, collaborating in 196 NSF-funded awards.

• NSF has 3 active programs with NSF-China:
  • Dimensions of Biodiversity which has leveraged >$2.5M from China since 2010
  • Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases which first accepted proposals in 2019
  • Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems

• NSF has also partnered with China’s Ministry of Science and Technology through:
  • International Ocean Discovery Program as a member of the JOIDES Resolution Consortium
  • 3 active awards through NSF’s Partnership on the Partnership for International Research and Education (PIRE)
  • Nearly 500 U.S. students from 44 states conducted 8 weeks of research in China thru NSF’s Partnership on the East Asia Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students program