

Feedback

You asked, I listened!



Input: Concern about “**balance of portfolio**” and maximize impact of ceramics. Appreciation that there is thought to reach good balance between priority areas, yet not neglect other areas. General belief that umbrella is already broad, but sense that there may be possibilities to expand areas of interests. Materials science related to CO₂, biofuel, photosynthesis. Also linked to concerns about how to deepen research in areas perhaps not covered in Frontier Research Centers.

Verbal Response

Input: Funding rate and funding amounts are challenging to participate in NSF proposal requests

Response:

Rates: Ceramics doing well on an NSF-wide basis.

*Amounts: increased in **FY 2011** –*

e.g., CAREER at \$90K/year cf. \$80K previous years;

Non-CAREER awards: several support 2 graduate students

***Plan for FY 2012:** increase CAREER to \$100K/year*

Input: Faculty salary budgeted originally, but then cut out to meet NSF targets?

Response:

NSF : “As a general policy, NSF limits salary compensation for senior project personnel to no more than two months of their regular salary in any one year. This limit includes salary compensation received from all NSF-funded awards.”

CER:

*Typically in FY 2011, up to 10% of total budget.
10% is better for junior faculty than 1 month.
RUI proposals may request 2 summer months.*

Input: Timeline is long? Reduce the submission, review, decision cycle?

Response:

In FY 2011, budgets arrived for programs in early July. Targeted spend-out date (zero program budget) by end of July. Part of the issue is out of our hands.

~80% of FY 2011 CER recommendations made within 6 months;

93% were made within 6 months in FY 2010.

+ Verbal response

Input: Make it consistent that you can add **equipment for less than 100K.**

Response:

Yes!

Noted also by Committee of Visitors

Input: We like the PI meeting. **Have PI meeting with mixture of unfunded early career and funded PIs.**

Response:

~25% here do not presently have active awards in CER.

Input: Suggestion made to **extend funding by one year** (unrestricted scope) with \$'s for successful projects.

Response: *Original projects often 4 years in CER; 5 years as dictated for CAREER. There are limitations to extensions without additional review.*

However, within this limitation, we have a mechanism called a Creativity Extension. It is initiated by the Program Director (always! A Requirement). Several of these made in the past 3 years as part of the ACI Fellows recognition.

+ Verbal Response

Feedback

Keep your ideas coming!

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