

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science

Testimony on the National Science Foundation's Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations

March 29, 2016

**Submitted by
The American Chemical Society**

The American Chemical Society (ACS) urges Congress to provide, at a minimum, \$8 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF) for FY17, a 7.2 percent increase over the FY 16.

NSF investments in research and education have returned exceptional dividends to the American people as globalization has amplified the worldwide competition for ideas, science and engineering talent, and leadership in turning new technologies into real world applications. The United States has held a commanding position in all three areas. Now, other nations are implementing new policies and stepping up investments in research and training new talent. These global initiatives pose new challenges for America's innovation enterprise.

Sequestration and inflation have eroded NSF's ability to innovate. Increased investment will allow for the development of new technologies, stronger national security, energy self-sufficiency, and improvements in our nation's health.

Research

Increases in the NSF research budget should primarily support a greater number of highly rated core research proposals. Supporting the best ideas and exploring new frontiers across research disciplines have been the hallmark of NSF and the backbone of the American research system. A commitment to core basic research is essential to meet the enormous promise of scientific innovation; to better train future scientists, engineers, and technicians; and to promote the success of multidisciplinary initiatives, including biotechnology and nanotechnology. ACS also notes that NSF plays a central role in supporting chemistry, physics, mathematics, and other key research areas at colleges and universities

Green Chemistry

ACS recognizes the Sustainable Chemistry Program (SusChEM) is slated to transition as the Science, Engineering, and Education for Sustainability [SEES] program is scheduled to sunset in fiscal year 2017, but encourages NSF to robustly fund and maintain SusChEM. ACS believes sustainable and green chemistry will only become widespread practice throughout industry and academia through strong support by federal agencies. Furthermore, ACS supports including sustainability as a basic aspect of grant application. ACS supports NSF developing a long term vision for sustainable and green chemistry as establish in provisions in the 2010 America COMPETES reauthorization (Pub. L. 111-358).

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science

Testimony on the National Science Foundation's Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations

March 29, 2016

**Submitted by
The American Chemical Society**

The American Chemical Society (ACS) urges Congress to provide, at a minimum, \$8 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF) for FY17, a 7.2 percent increase over the FY 16.

NSF investments in research and education have returned exceptional dividends to the American people as globalization has amplified the worldwide competition for ideas, science and engineering talent, and leadership in turning new technologies into real world applications. The United States has held a commanding position in all three areas. Now, other nations are implementing new policies and stepping up investments in research and training new talent. These global initiatives pose new challenges for America's innovation enterprise.

Sequestration and inflation have eroded NSF's ability to innovate. Increased investment will allow for the development of new technologies, stronger national security, energy self-sufficiency, and improvements in our nation's health.

Research

Increases in the NSF research budget should primarily support a greater number of highly rated core research proposals. Supporting the best ideas and exploring new frontiers across research disciplines have been the hallmark of NSF and the backbone of the American research system. A commitment to core basic research is essential to meet the enormous promise of scientific innovation; to better train future scientists, engineers, and technicians; and to promote the success of multidisciplinary initiatives, including biotechnology and nanotechnology. ACS also notes that NSF plays a central role in supporting chemistry, physics, mathematics, and other key research areas at colleges and universities

Green Chemistry

ACS recognizes the Sustainable Chemistry Program (SusChEM) is slated to transition as the Science, Engineering, and Education for Sustainability [SEES] program is scheduled to sunset in fiscal year 2017, but encourages NSF to robustly fund and maintain SusChEM. ACS believes sustainable and green chemistry will only become widespread practice throughout industry and academia through strong support by federal agencies. Furthermore, ACS supports including sustainability as a basic aspect of grant application. ACS supports NSF developing a long term vision for sustainable and green chemistry as establish in provisions in the 2010 America COMPETES reauthorization (Pub. L. 111-358).