

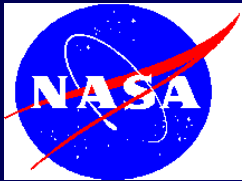
NASA Initiatives with Grants and Contracts for Universities and Colleges

Rex T. Elliott
NASA Sponsored Research
Business Activity
August 29, 2001



NASA FY 2000 Research Obligations to Educational and Non-Profits

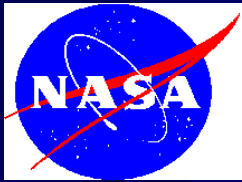
	Non-Profits (\$M)	Educational (\$M)	Total FY 2000 Obligations (\$M)		
NASA FY 2000 Research Dollars (obligations)	\$395.1	\$928.9	\$1,324		
	<u>Contracts</u> (\$M)	<u>Grants</u> (\$M)	<u>Cooperative Agreements</u> (\$M)	<u>Space Act Agreements</u> (\$M)	<u>Total</u> (\$M)
FY 2000 Educational Obligations	\$291.1	\$415.5	\$217.2	\$5.0	\$928.9
FY 2000 Non-Profit Obligations	<u>\$206.2</u>	<u>\$77.9</u>	<u>\$92.1</u>	<u>\$18.9</u>	<u>\$395.1</u>
TOTAL	\$497.3	\$493.4	\$309.3	\$23.9	\$1,324.1



Room for Improvement

- NASA performed internal assessment of grants management process in 1998

- Some suggestions for improving the process:
 - Improve information access
 - Communicate announcement/award schedules and stick to them
 - Reduce burden and shorten length of process
 - Present a common face within NASA and support interagency commonality
 - Establish a mechanism for grant management initiatives and innovations



Sponsored Research Business Activity (SRBA)

- SRBA is the common link among HQ Program Offices, Field Center Grant Offices, and the research business community

- Functions
 - Represent a "common face" to the research community
 - Build cross-program efficiency by acting as the catalyst for applying lessons learned

- Interactions
 - Grant Steering Committee - Headquarters Program Offices
 - Grant Working Group - Center Grant Officers
 - Interagency Groups - Grant-making Agencies



Solutions Implemented

- Formed Headquarters grants steering committee for program office buy-in
- Established inter-center grants working group with NASA grant officers
- Published guidance on property administration requirements for special purpose and general purpose equipment for universities and non-profits (March 29, 2001)
- Awarded consolidated closeout contract
- Awarded consolidated peer review support service contract for Headquarters program offices
 - Moving to one automated system: SYS-EYFUS



Consolidation of Grant Awards

Grant awards from these centers are now made by Glenn Research Center (GRC) in Cleveland, OH:

- Dryden Flight Research Center
- Kennedy Space Center
- NASA Management Office/JPL
- Stennis Space Center



GRC

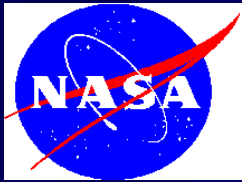
Grant award processes at these Centers are unchanged
(award at Center, delegate administration to ONR):

- Ames Research Center
- Goddard Space Flight Center
- Johnson Space Center
- Langley Research Center
- Marshall Space Flight Center



Grant and Cooperative Agreement Handbook Revisions

- Established a phase-in term for adoption of an automated system for the SF 272 - Federal Cash Transactions Report, that will eliminate the requirement for hard copies and quarterly forecasts
 - Quarterly Reports will be required
- Allowed the use of simplified acquisition procedures for awarding research grants (within the \$100K threshold)
- Developed a standard budget summary sheet to be used by all NASA Centers with grant-making authority
- Vest property with grant recipients



Grant and Cooperative Agreement Handbook Revisions

(continued)

- No longer require new budget proposals from Principal Investigators for changes of less than 20 percent (+/-) of the value of the grant or cooperative agreement
- Rewriting Section D of the Handbook regarding cooperative agreements with commercial firms (scheduled for publication in Fall '01)
- NASA's procedures for grants and cooperative agreements are described in the NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Handbook (NPG 5800.1)

<http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/grcover.htm>

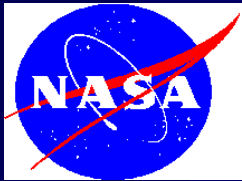


Methods of Obtaining Research Proposals

- - Broad Agency Announcements
 - NASA Research Announcement (NRA)
 - Announcement of Opportunity (AO)
 - Other Announcements
 - Request for Proposals (RFP)
 - Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN)
 - Unsolicited Proposals

For examples of NASA research opportunities, please see the following:

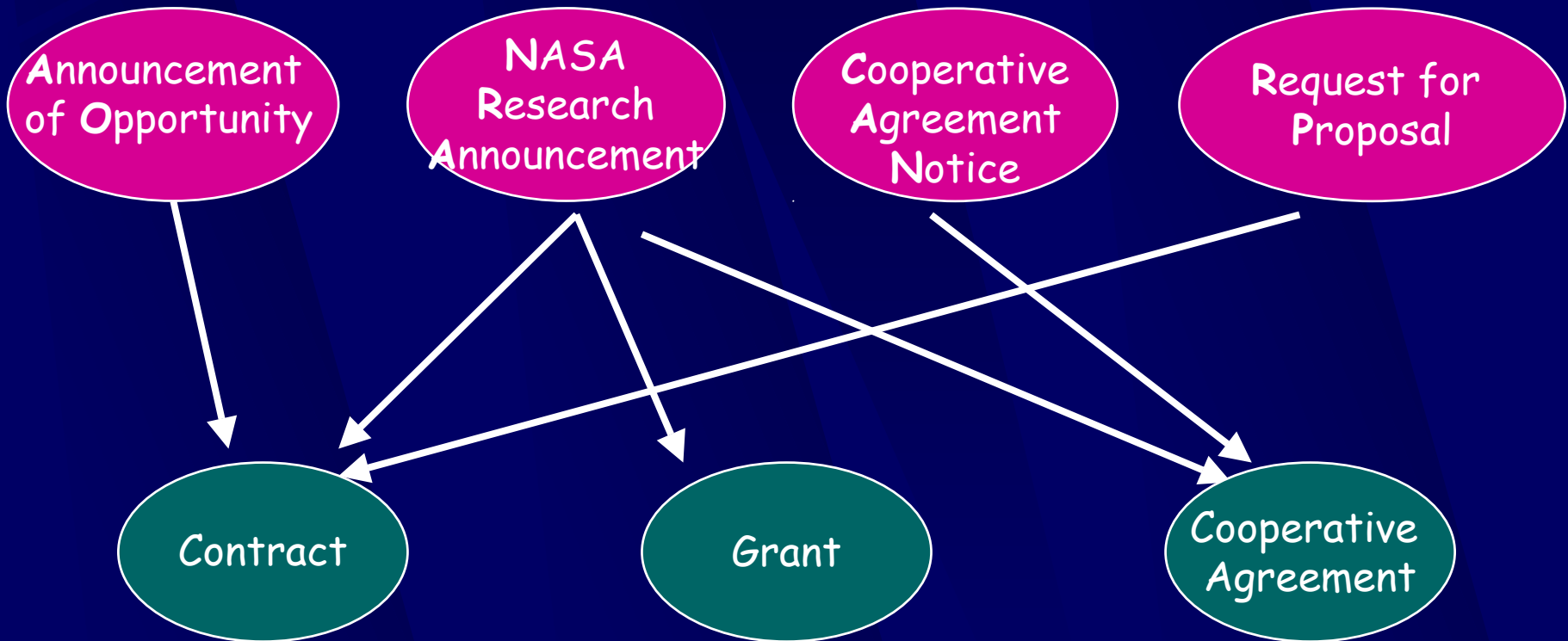
<http://procurement.nasa.gov/>

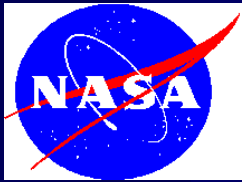


Research Announcements

Broad Agency Announcements

Other Announcements





Standard NRA Timelines

- NRA Release to Selection Notification (includes 90 days for proposal receipt/ 150 days for selection announcement) 240 Days
- Notification of Selections to Award Package Submittal 29 Days
- Award Package Submittal to Grant Office to Award of Funding 17 Days
- TOTAL

 286 Days



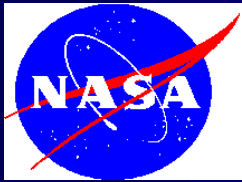
NRA Proposal Evaluation

- Evaluation Factors (unless otherwise specified)
 - Relevance to NASA's objectives,
 - Intrinsic merit, and
 - Cost
- Peer Review
 - Scientific review by discipline specialists in the area of the proposal
 - May be in-house, external, or combination (with due regard for conflict-of-interest and protection of proposal information)
- Selection Decision
 - NASA program representative serves as the selecting official in determining whether to fund proposals



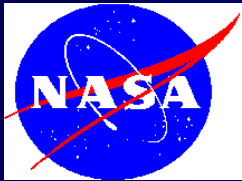
What Else Is New?

- Developed a standard NASA Research Announcement (NRA)
- Developed NRA Proposers' Guide
- Now permit single certification on NRA proposal cover page
- Revising ONR Delegation to reflect closeout contract (will include revision to NF 1674)



NASA's Commitment to the Research Community

- In February 2000, Gen Sam Armstrong was appointed as Senior Advisor to NASA's Administrator
- Focus is to expand NASA's partnerships with the university community and with other Federal agencies
- NASA-University Webcasts
 - October 2000 Research Activities
 - March 2001 Focus on Procurement/Grants
 - June 2001 Information Technology (IT) Security



Internet Resources

- Business Opportunities with NASA
 - <http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/common/biz.html>
- Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and NASA FAR Supplement
 - <http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/library/v-reg.htm>
- Guidance for the Preparation and Submission of Unsolicited Proposals
 - <http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/library/unSol-Prop.html>
- NASA Acquisition Internet Service (NAIS)
 - <http://procurement.nasa.gov>



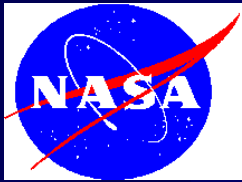
Internet Resources

(continued)

- NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Handbook (NPG 5800.1)
 - <http://ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/grcover.htm>

- NASA Research Announcement (NRA) Proposers Guide
 - <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/nraguidebook/gdbkcvr.html>

- NASA Research Opportunities
 - <http://research.hq.nasa.gov>



Questions ??

- Diane Thompson, Manager
NASA Sponsored
Research Business Activity
202-358-0514
diane.thompson@hq.nasa.gov
- Rex T. Elliott
202-358-4418
relliott@hq.nasa.gov
- Eugene Johnson
202-358-4703
ejohnson@hq.nasa.gov
- Rita Svarcas
202-358-0464
rsvarcas@hq.nasa.gov