The Impact of the 2014 Midterm Elections on Campus Sustainability

Webinar
Hosted By
Johnson County Community College

Speaker
Dr. Sudeep Vyapari
Associate Executive Director
The National Council for Science and the Environment
The Federal Budget is Kind Of a Big Deal

“Politics is who gets what, when, and how.” - Harold Lasswell

“Budgeting is about values, and it’s about choices.” – Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Put another way: budgeting is a manifestation of politics
Negotiation between competing interests (and their proxies) in a decentralized system

Major impact for R&D and innovation: most basic research, and most university research, is federally funded

Data and Original Presentation Source: Matt Hourihan, Director of the R&D Budget and Policy Program, AAAS
Composition of the Proposed FY 2015 Budget
Total Outlays = $3.9 trillion
outlays in billions of dollars

- Net Interest: $252
- Defense Discretionary: $555
- Other Mandatory: $699
- Medicaid: $336
- Medicare: $526
- Social Security: $897
- Nondefense Discretionary: $500
- [Nondefense R&D]: $62
- [Defense R&D]: $69

Source: Budget of the United States Government FY 2015. Projected deficit is $564 billion. © 2014 AAAS

Data and Original Presentation Source: Matt Hourihan, Director of the R&D Budget and Policy Program, AAAS
Total R&D by Agency, FY 2015

budget authority in billions of dollars

- Commerce, $1.6
- USDA, $2.4
- NSF, $5.6
- NASA, $11.6
- DOE, $12.3
- HHS (NIH), $31.1
- All Other, $6.2

Total R&D = $136.5 billion
(OGS Initiative is an extra $5.3 billion)

Source: OMB R&D data, agency budget justifications, and other agency documents and data. R&D includes conduct of R&D and R&D facilities. © 2014 AAAS
R&D Change by Budget Function, 2010-2014
Percent change from FY 2010 in constant dollars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commerce (NIST)</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Energy Programs</td>
<td>-12.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Science (NSF, DOE SC)</td>
<td>-3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health (NIH)</td>
<td>-6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Agencies</td>
<td>-8.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>-12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense Activities</td>
<td>-23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>-15.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: AAAS analysis of historical data and current R&D data, agency budget justifications, and other budget documents. Select DHS programs, now in Justice, were categorized in Defense and General Science in prior years; the above data have been adjusted for comparability. © 2014 AAAS

Data and Original Presentation Source: Matt Hourihan, Director of the R&D Budget and Policy Program, AAAS
R&D in the FY15 Base Budget
percent change from FY14, constant dollars

- DOE Defense: 12.7%
- DOE Energy Programs: 10.5%
- US Geological Survey: 3.8%
- NIST: 1.8%
- NOAA: 1.7%
- Transportation: 1.2%
- DOD Other: 0.2%
- DOE Science: -0.4%
- Agriculture: -0.5%
- National Institutes of Health: -0.8%
- NASA: -1.1%
- Veterans Affairs: -1.3%
- National Science Foundation: -1.5%
- Environ Protection Agency: -1.8%
- DOD S&T: -12.0%
- Homeland Security: -16.8%
- TOTAL: -1.0%

Source: AAAS analysis of the FY 2015 President's Budget. Does not include additional funding proposed via Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative. NOTE: Inflation is 1.7%. © 2014 AAAS
Spending:

Two Spending Categories: Discretionary vs. Mandatory

Mandatory Spending (aka Direct Spending)
Mostly entitlements, mostly on “autopilot”
Potential for high political sensitivity = “third rail”

Discretionary Spending:
Adjusted annually
Easy (nondefense) targets? i.e. Sequestration
Vast majority of federal R&D is discretionary
Budget Process:

A Typical Federal Budget Process: Three Years, Four Phases

Phase 1: Planning within Agency w/ OMB and OSTP oversight

Phase 2: OMB Review

Phase 3: Congressional budget and appropriations

Phase 4: Execute the fiscal year’s budget (not shown)

Arranged by fiscal year (October to September)

Data and Original Presentation Source: Matt Hourihan, Director of the R&D Budget and Policy Program, AAAS
President’s R&D Budget:

What Drives Presidential R&D Budget Formulation?

- Top-down and bottom-up priorities and politics
- OMB oversight and OSTP input
- Technical and political judgment
- Expert and community input
- Congressional legislation
- Big (fiscal) picture
- Incrementalism

"Is not every day you have robots running through your house," Barack Obama quipped last week at the White House stump last week, a showcase of local student exhibitors that also gave the US president a chance to re-engage his favorite theme: science and technology. He said, "In what’s going to be a difference in this country, over the long haul." Obama would clearly like to see many more robots, as well as researchers and engineers running around in the future, a wish reflected in his budget request for fiscal year 2013, released on 13 February. The document’s message is one of big ambitions with fewer resources.

A year ago, Obama proposed bold increases for science agencies, but a Congress intent on cutting government spending refused to back many of them. This time, the White House has scaled back in several areas but boosted overall funding for non-defense research and development by 5%, pushing it up to $73.65 billion.

"Overall, the budget maintains an upward trend," says John Holdren, director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy in Washington, D.C. "Because of fiscal constraints, it’s not the rate we preferred."

With an election coming this November, House Republicans are unlikely to be generous with the president’s request. As in previous years, Congress could delay acting on the budget, especially if it deadline to wait for votes to weigh in on Obama’s position before making a decision. A just-released report across the board and angles over the government because of an act introduced last year that aims to clip $2.9 trillion from spending, starting in January 2013. Here is an overview of how the president’s request would mean in key science decisions (see "Fiscal Decisiones").

Obama shoots for science increase

US president wants to make room for research to grow in 2013 — but faces an uphill battle.

The National Institute of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland, the largest US research agency, sees its budget hold level at $30.7 billion — a rise from the $30.7 billion rise (Obama’s proposal, a difference over the ceiling, Lawrence Tabak, the NIH's...
## Budget Process:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1: Planning within Agency w/ OMB and OSTP oversight</th>
<th>Phase 2: OMB Review</th>
<th>Phase 3: Congressional budget and appropriations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phase 1: Internal agency discussions and planning**
- Strategic plans, staff retreats, program assessments
- More bottom-up than top down

**OMB is present throughout**
- Early spring: guidance memo
- Science & Tech: Joint guidance memo from OMB / OSTP (midsummer)

**Agencies deliver budget justifications to OMB (early fall)**

Data and Original Presentation Source: Matt Hourihan, Director of the R&D Budget and Policy Program, AAAS
Not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the scientific basis of environmental decision-making. It seeks to be a bridge that spans the divide between science, its applications, and policy.

NCSE specializes in programs that foster collaboration between the diverse institutions and individuals creating and using environmental knowledge to make science useful to policies and decisions on critical environmental issues.

25th Year celebration in 2015

Over 200 Institutions of Higher Education Affiliate Members
National Council for Science and the Environment

*Improving the scientific basis for environmental decisionmaking*

- **CEDD** | Council of Environmental Deans and Directors
- **CCAP** | Community College Affiliate Program
  A Program of the National Council for Science and the Environment
- **CEREL** | Council of Energy Research and Education Leaders
- **CEER** | Center for Environmental Education Research
  A Program of the National Council for Science and the Environment
- **EnvironMentors** | Explore Your World

**Energy & Climate Change**
15th National Conference and Global Forum on Science, Policy and the Environment
January 27-29, 2015
National Council for Science and the Environment
Improving the scientific basis for environmental decisionmaking

January 26, 2015
Pre-Conference National Energy Education Summit
Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Washington DC at Reagan National Airport

January 27 - 29, 2015
National Conference and Global Forum on Science, Policy and the Environment Energy and Climate Change
Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Washington DC at Reagan National Airport

January 29 - 30, 2015
Winter Program Conferences
Council of Environmental Deans and Directors Community College Affiliate Program
Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Washington DC at Reagan National Airport

April 13 - 14, 2015
Academic-Federal-Foundation Dialogue
In Collaboration with GW Sustainability Collaborative
Milken Institute School of Public Health The George Washington University Washington, DC

April 15, 2015
Congressional Visit Day
United State Congress Washington, DC

April 22 - 24, 2015
Summer Program Conferences
Council of Environmental Deans and Directors Community College Affiliate Program
Hosted By Scripps Institution of Oceanography University of California, San Diego

June 22 - 24, 2015
Summer Program Conferences
Council of Environmental Deans and Directors Community College Affiliate Program
Hosted By Scripps Institution of Oceanography University of California, San Diego
Community College Affiliate Program (CCAP) founded in June 2013 (6 Founding Members)

January 2014 to Date: Membership grew from 12 – nearly 30


CCAP Elected its inaugural CCAP Executive Committee in October 2014

CCAP and CEDD (2- and 4-year colleges) working together on many initiatives and issues of common concern. Some issues being addressed are: Curriculum, Gateway courses, Career Pathways, Workforce / Training, Credit vs. Non-Credit Programs, Diversity, STEAM, and Professional Development for Faculty
Thank You!

Dr. Sudeep Vyapari
Associate Executive Director
The National Council for Science and the Environment

svyapari@ncseonline.org
www.ncseonline.org

(202) 207-0007