AAAS REPORT XXXVIII

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FY 2014

Intersociety Working Group

American Association for the Advancement of Science
1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005

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Printed in the United States of America

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Intersociety Working Group

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Federation of Animal Science Societies
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Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-USA
Institute of Food Technologists
Materials Research Society
Soil and Water Conservation Society
Soil Science Society of America

Contents

List of Tables

Overview Tables

Agency Tables

Note: Tables within chapters are not included in this list.

Historical Tables

Preface

Scientific research and development (R&D) continue to be of vital importance to the United States in the 21st century, and the federal role in supporting the national science enterprise remains substantial. The President's annual budget submission and the congressional debate that ensues are the mechanisms through which that role is defined and embellished. Since 1976, AAAS has published an annual report analyzing federal R&D in the proposed budget, to make timely and objective information about the Administration's plans available to the scientific and engineering communities and to policymakers. It originally began in-house at AAAS, under the auspices of the Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy (Appendix 5). Shortly thereafter, it became a collaborative effort, and it now involves contributors from more than two dozen scientific, engineering, higher education, and industrial associations known collectively as the Intersociety Working Group (see the Directory at the end of this report for contact information for each association). This year marks the 38th in the series.

Ordinarily, this report is issued at the annual AAAS Forum on Science and Technology Policy, held in Washington, DC in late April or early May. However, the late release of the President's budget has necessitated a delay in our own publishing schedule. Still, we hope that a late release will not prevent readers from finding these analyses useful, especially given the recent trend towards (very) late appropriations.

The timing of the President's budget is not the only victim of late appropriations. The FY 2014 request does not adjust for either the final FY 2013 appropriations or sequestration, and compares the request to FY 2012 estimates. What this means is that the FY 2013 figures presented by the Administration are unusually imprecise. Rather than simply report those numbers as they are, we have taken the unusual step of generating rough estimates of R&D funding in FY 2013, incorporating adjustments from the final appropriations bill and accounting for sequestration. These estimates are certainly subject to revision, and may already be outdated by the time of publication. Nevertheless, we felt it important to present readers with at least a rough idea of where FY 2013 funding might end up at the time of this writing.

The structure of this report parallels recent editions. Part I provides an

overview of the budget, the political context of FY 2014, and analyses of major funding trends, as well as funding for science, engineering, and mathematics education. Part II examines the proposed R&D budget by agency and department, and key congressional debates surrounding each. Finally, Part III includes cross-cutting analyses that cover the R&D budget by discipline. Tables are interspersed through the volume.

Two notable additions are included this year. A new set of tables in Part II show agency R&D funding since FY 2004. Second, a new appendix provides a basic summary of the federal budget process for budget neophytes.

Readers should be aware that chapters have been prepared largely independently of one another and under extremely tight deadline pressure. Although every effort has been made to assure a high quality product, some overlap and inconsistencies among the chapters are, unfortunately, inevitable.

Many of the chapters reuse a substantial amount of text from prior editions of this report. When this is the case, and authorship changes significantly, acknowledgment is given at the end of the chapter. In most cases, the authorship of the chapters is relatively consistent from year to year and this acknowledgement is not given explicitly. For those cases, the Intersociety Working Group hereby acknowledges the efforts of past authors and contributors to this annual report.

On behalf of the members of the Intersociety Working Group, we would like to express our appreciation to the officers, members, and staffs of the participating organizations for their support and assistance in preparing this report. Thanks also to the AAAS Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy, which initiated the R&D Program and periodically reviews it and provides guidance to it. We are very grateful to individuals in the Office of Management and Budget, in agency budget offices, on congressional staffs, and elsewhere who aided us in collecting the information and advised us on its interpretation.

Matt Hourihan
May 2013