FY17: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) in the U.S. Department of Agriculture is the premier competitive grants program for agricultural research in the United States. AFRI takes research and innovation beyond the development phase and into implementation through its competitively funded education and extension programs.

AAU supports $700 million for AFRI in FY17. This funding level would meet the program's authorization level of $700 million.

AFRI is the only competitive federal research program that addresses the unique needs of rural communities, including ways to revitalize rural economies.

A 2007 Report from the USDA's Economic Research Service found that agricultural research provides a return on investment to the U.S. economy of **$20 or more for every dollar invested**.

Source: http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/handle/95522

AFRI supports the highest quality science to address some of our nation's most pressing challenges, including:

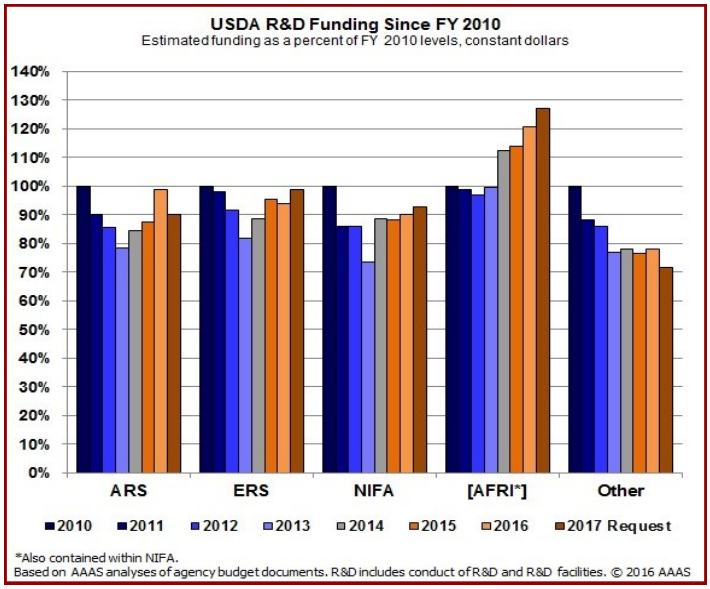
- Demand for cutting-edge biofuels;
- The need for a safe, sustainable, and nutritious food supply;
- Better understanding of climate-related effects on agriculture; and
- Global food security.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $700 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

Established in the 2008, AFRI is a competitive grants program that supports basic and applied research in the agricultural sciences and provides training funds to recruit and retain the next generation of agricultural innovators. AFRI is administered by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and funds research in the following areas:

- Plant health and production of plant products;
- Animal health and production of animal products;
- Food safety, nutrition and health;
- Renewable energy, natural resources and environment;
- Agriculture systems and technology; and
- Agriculture economics and rural communities.



FY17: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RESEARCH

Department of Defense (DOD)-funded basic research innovations have contributed significantly to our nation's economic and national security. DOD relies on technological innovation as a force multiplier, and cutting-edge advances have helped make our military the best-equipped and most effective in the world. Addressing complex military challenges requires innovation and new technologies. The new knowledge needed to develop such technologies depends on sustained investments in scientific and engineering basic research performed at U.S. universities.

AAU supports the 20/20 benchmark level for investments in Defense Science and Technology (S&T) and 6.1 basic research, in which investments in Defense S&T should constitute 20 percent of the total Defense RDT&E budget, and investments in 6.1 basic research should comprise 20 percent of the total Defense S&T budget (6.1, 6.2, and 6.3 programs). **AAU urges Congress to provide $2.53 billion for 6.1 basic research and $13.4 billion for Defense S&T, which are increases consistent with the 20/20 funding principle.**

AAU urges Congress to provide $2.9 billion, the same as the Pentagon's FY17 budget request, for DARPA. The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency historically has invested in high-risk, high-reward research that has led to extraordinary technological advances, such as the Internet and GPS.

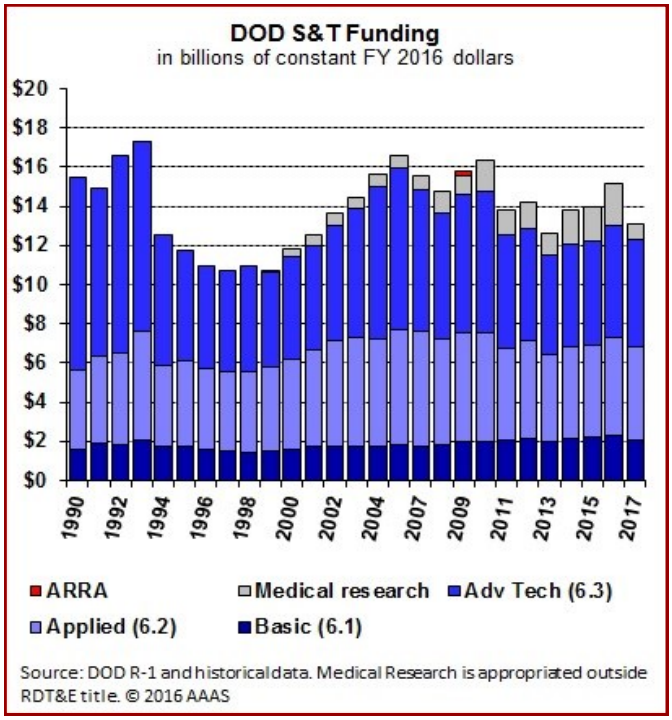
6.1 basic research programs help train the next generation of U.S. scientists and engineers. Research grants and contracts support not only cutting-edge research, but also graduate research assistantships. Undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships funded by the National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowships program help attract and retain top U.S. citizens for study in fields vital to addressing security-related challenges. AAU urges Congress to provide the following FY17 funding levels, as recommended by the Pentagon:

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $2.53 billion for Department of Defense 6.1 basic research

- $69.3 million for the National Defense Education Program (NDEP)
- $53.5 million for NDEP's Science, Mathematics & Research for Transformation (SMART) program.

DOD basic and applied research underpins the innovative health treatments and technologies that help save lives on the battlefield and speed recovery from injuries.



FACT SHEET:
Department of Defense Research

- **DOD relies heavily on universities to conduct research**. More than 350 universities and colleges conduct DOD-funded research. Universities receive more than 60% of DOD 6.1 basic research funding and substantial 6.2 applied research and 6.3 advanced technology funding.

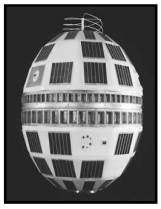
- **DOD supports academic disciplines vital to national security.** DOD is the leading federal sponsor of university engineering research. DOD sponsors over half of all university research in electrical, aeronautical, and aeronautical engineering. DOD also sponsors more university research in mechanical engineering and metallurgy and materials engineering than any other federal agency. (Source: NSF Higher Ed R&D Survey, 2014).

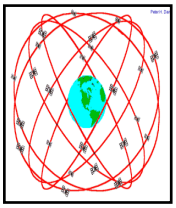
- **DOD basic and applied research underpins the innovative health treatments and technologies that help save lives on the battlefield and speed recovery times from injuries.** For injured warfighters, this includes high technology prosthetics and other life-enhancing technologies and therapies.

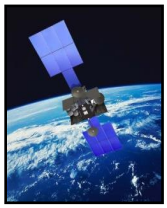
- **Since 2005, DOD's SMART** program **has supported 1,600 students.** Approximately 900 students have already transitioned into their service commitment. *84% of them have completed their service years and continue to serve beyond their commitment.*

Defense-Funded Basic Research Enabling Progress:









1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
Nuclear weapons	Digital computer	Satellite comms	Airborne GMTI/	GPS	Wideband	GIG
Radar	ICBM	Integrated circuits	Stealth	UAVs	Web protocols	Armed UAV's
Proximity fuse	Transistor	Phased-array radar	Strategic CM's	Night vision	Precision munitions	Optical SATCOM
Sonar	Laser technology	Defense networks	IR search and track	Personal computing	Solid state radar	Data mining
Jet engine	Nuclear propulsion	Airborne	Space track	Counter stealth	Advanced robotics	Advanced seekers
LORAN	Digital comms		C2 networks	BMD hit-to-kill	Speech recognition	Decision support

Source: Department of Defense Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense Research and Engineering (ASDR&E)

FY17: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESEARCH

The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science is critical to advancing U.S. science and energy frontiers. DOE is the leading source of federal investment in basic physical science research, providing nearly 47 percent of total federal funding. In fields such as high energy and nuclear physics, nuclear medicine, heavy element chemistry, plasma physics, and magnetic fusion, DOE is the primary government sponsor. In addition to the physical sciences, DOE plays a key role in ensuring continued U.S. leadership in other fields of scientific research including the biological sciences, computing, and engineering.

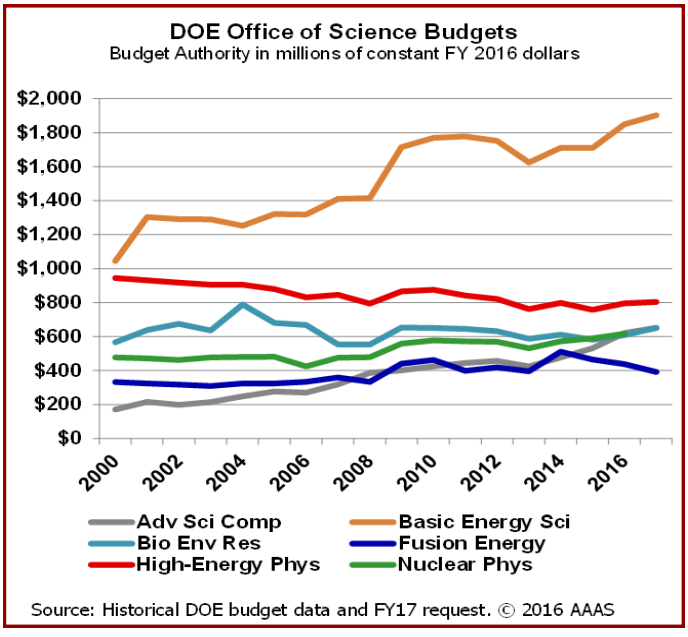
AAU urges Congress to provide $5.67 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science in FY17. This funding level is consistent with the federal research investment recommendation in the *Innovation: An American Imperative* call to action, which more than 300 business leaders, national organizations, universities, and scientific societies have endorsed. This level of funding will help increase the available run-time of major DOE scientific facilities, allowing increased access to and use of these facilities by researchers.

The DOE Office of Science supports the operation of the world's largest collection of major scientific user facilities at national laboratories and universities across the country. Annually, DOE supports more than 33,000 researchers from industry, universities and federal agencies at 28 user facilities. These facilities include particle accelerators, experimental reactors, high-precision instruments, synchrotrons and light sources, supercomputers, and high-resolution mass spectrometers. Nearly half of the DOE facility users are university and federal researchers working to answer fundamental science questions.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $5.67 billion for the Department of Energy Office of Science

ARPA-E is working to ensure the nation's energy security. Modeled after DARPA, ARPA-E supports high-risk, high-reward research that private industry will not conduct. ARPA-E has funded more than 450 projects totaling approximately $1.3 billion through 29 focused and open funding solicitations—45 percent of these awards have been made to universities, and another significant portion has supported research at university-based startups. **AAU supports $350 million for ARPA-E in FY17.** This funding level will allow the agency to continue making awards to university-based researchers for high-risk projects that are too far from product development to be supported by industry.



FY17: Department of Education — Education Research

High-quality research on the science of teaching and learning is critical to the nation's educational institutions ability to deliver students high-quality education. Just as we invest federal resources in biomedical research to identify better ways to treat disease, so too must we invest federal resources in education research that can improve our understanding of how students learn and what makes an effective teacher. Education research investments lead to improved teaching practices and student achievement. Both are essential to our nation's economic competitiveness.

AAU supports $694 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) in FY17. IES is the primary federal agency charged with supporting research for education practice and policy. Since its creation in 2002, IES has transformed the quality and rigor of Department of Education research and increased the demand for scientific-based evidence of effectiveness in education. Within IES, AAU recommends $210 million for Research, Development, and Dissemination and $71.1 million for Research in Special Education.

AAU supports $50 million in FY17 for Advanced Research Projects Agency for Education (ARPA-ED). Modeled on the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), ARPA-ED is designed to aggressively pursue technological breakthroughs with the potential to improve the effectiveness and productivity of teaching and learning. While not currently funded, ARPA-ED has the potential to leverage cutting edge R&D to spur education innovations, conduct targeted research to respond rapidly to immediate educational needs, and ensure the results are widely available to educators.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $694 million for the Institute of Education Sciences

AAU supports $100 million for the First in the World Initiative under the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education. This is an evidence-based program that supports the development and evaluation of innovative strategies designed to improve college completion, particularly for high financial need students. This program was funded at $200 million in FY15, but was not funded in FY16. AAU urges Congress to restore partial funding for the program.

The accomplishments of IES, and the researchers and innovators supported by IES funding are numerous and will continue to have positive impacts on the lives of students as well as many other parts of our society.

Source: IES Director's Biennial Report to Congress FY 2011-2012

FY17: Department of Education — International Education

The Department of Education's Title VI/ Fulbright-Hays programs are the federal government's most comprehensive programs for developing national capacity in international and foreign language education. These programs support instruction in less-commonly taught languages—particularly from regions of national strategic importance—and research on issues of importance to our national security. They also provide American students with global learning experiences that are valuable in the workplace. These programs educate the individuals whose abilities help ensure the successful international engagement of the U.S. education, government, and business sectors. **AAU supports $76 million for Title VI international education programs in FY17.**

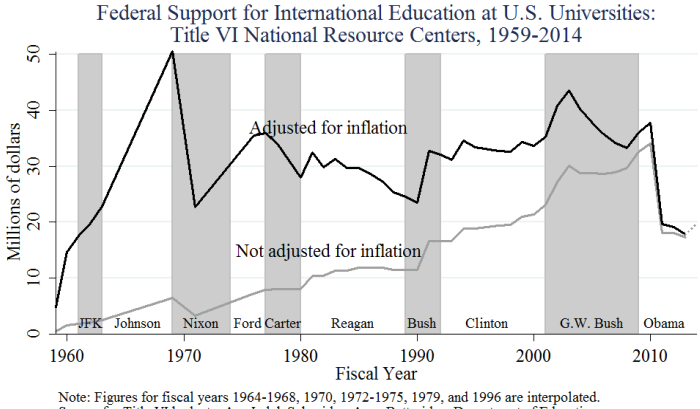
Title VI National Resource Centers (NRC) and Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships provide students from around the country with world-class opportunities for intensive study of world areas and foreign languages, particularly less-commonly taught languages, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. In 2010-2011, 1.6 million students enrolled in language and area studies courses offered by the 100 NRCs.

NRC and other Title VI programs have created an unrivalled technical training system producing linguistically proficient, area-savvy graduates who go on to successful careers in government, military, academia, and the private sector. These graduates educate thousands of students, teachers, policy makers, military and diplomatic officials, faculty, and the general public over the course of their careers, as well as engage in diplomatic missions in areas of strategic importance to the nation.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $76 million for Title VI International Education programs

Restoring Title VI to its historic level of funding is vital to ensuring its programs can continue to contribute effectively to our nation's long-term security, global leadership, and economic competitiveness. As a result of steep cuts in FY11 and stagnant funding since, universities have been forced to eliminate international programs, classes in less-commonly taught languages, and other foreign language and area studies opportunities, including graduate fellowships. Rebuilding the number of NRCs to the past level and restoring funding to Fulbright-Hays fellowships is critical in maintaining a high level of global engagement in the future. The nation needs a steady supply of graduates with expertise in less commonly taught languages, world areas and transnational trends.



Note: Figures for fiscal years 1964-1968, 1970, 1972-1975, 1979, and 1996 are interpolated.
Source for Title VI budgets: Ann Imlah Schneider, Anne Betteridge, Department of Education Office of International and Foreign Language Education, and other sources.
2014 budget proposal: The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, Appendix.
Deflator for government grants (2013 dollars): Office of Management and Budget, Historical Tables.
Chart by Charles Kurzman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, http://kurzman.unc.edu.
Updated June 27, 2013.

FY17: Department of Education — Student Aid

Federal student aid is an investment in our nation's future. Americans recognize that a college education is an essential part of the American dream and that everyone who qualifies should have the opportunity to pursue a higher education. The Department of Education projects there will be 19 million students enrolled in undergraduate programs by the year 2019, representing a nearly 16 percent increase in enrollment from 2008. Recent polls show that Americans believe helping students pay for college is an important and desirable federal investment.

AAU urges Congress to maintain the discretionary base of $4,860 for the Pell Grant to support the scheduled increase in the maximum award to $5,935, which comprises both discretionary and mandatory funding. We urge Congress to protect the future of the Pell Grant program by ensuring that any funding surplus remains in the program.

AAU urges Congress to maintain at least pre-sequester funding levels for other federal student aid programs that provide grants and work-study to low- and middle-income students, as well as the programs that help at-risk students enter and stay in college. **For FY17, AAU recommends the following:**

- **Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants—**$757 million,
- **Work-Study—**at least $990 million,
- **TRIO—**$980 million), and
- **GEAR UP—**$343 million.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to maintain the *discretionary spending* base of $4,860 for the Pell Grant to support a maximum award of $5,935

For FY17, AAU urges Congress to provide at least the pre-sequester (FY12) funding level of $31 million for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program. The GAANN program helps ensure a strong pipeline of talented experts and educators who will help to meet the demands of our 21st century workforce. We support including the arts, humanities, and social disciplines as eligible fields for grant competition in FY17.

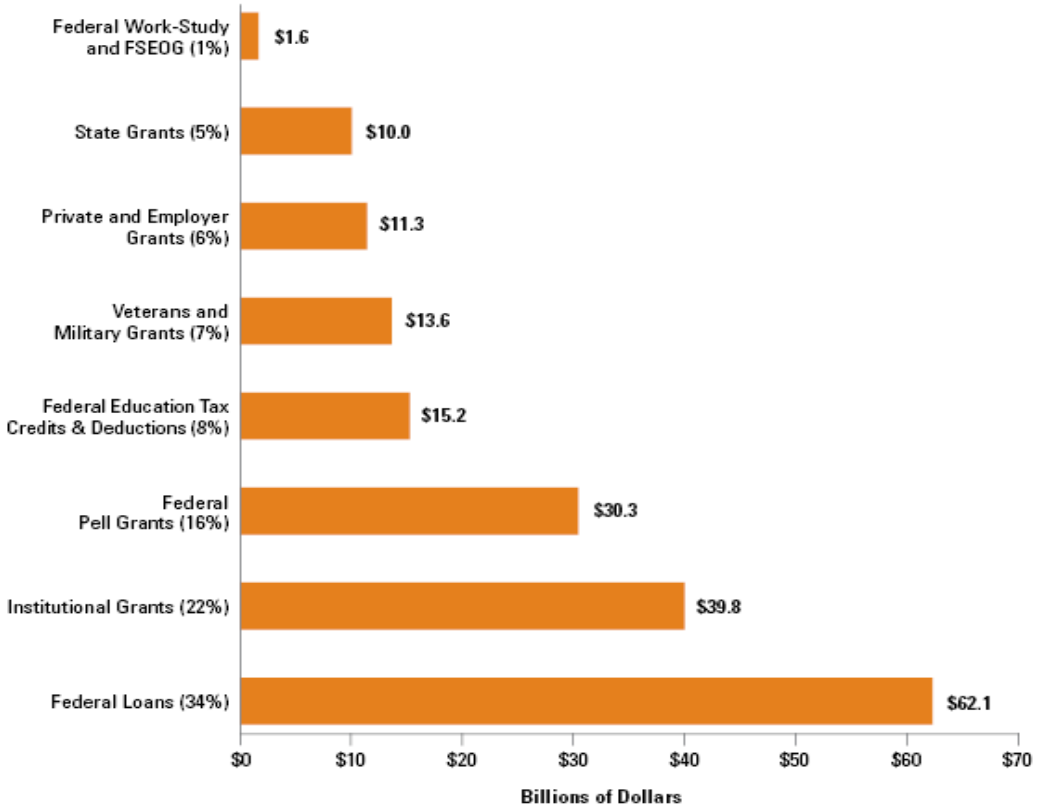
Student Loans: AAU is committed to working with Congress to sustain the **Perkins Loan** program, an important campus-based loan program that helps undergraduate and graduate students meet immediate financial needs. AAU is concerned about the erosion of benefits in the federal student loan programs, particularly for graduate and professional students and wants to work with Congress and the Administration on a long-term, sustainable strategy for federal student loan programs.

Federal Student Aid

Investments in federal student aid are essential to maintaining and strengthening the nation's skilled workforce and promoting our innovative capacity and economic competitiveness. A 2013 study by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce concluded that by 2020, 65 percent of all jobs in the economy will require postsecondary education and training beyond high school and 35 percent of jobs will require at least a bachelor's degree. At the current rate of production, the nation will face a shortage of five million workers with the necessary postsecondary credentials.

Between 2009-10 and 2014-15, the largest increase in aid to undergraduate students, both in dollars and in percentage terms, was in institutional grant aid, which increased by $9.6 billion or 32%

-Source: College Board



Total Undergraduate Student Aid by Source and Type (in $Billions) - 2014-15 Source: College Board

FY17: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

For nearly 60 years, NASA has captivated the public with accomplishments that have revolutionized our understanding of earth and space sciences, the life sciences, and aeronautics, and have led to new technologies. **For the U.S. to remain the global leader in space, the nation must continue to make robust investments in NASA's Science, Aeronautics, and Space Technology directorates**

AAU urges Congress to appropriate $5.9 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD). This funding level is consistent with the federal research investment recommendation in the *Innovation: An American Imperative* call to action, which more than 300 business leaders, national organizations, universities, and scientific societies have endorsed.

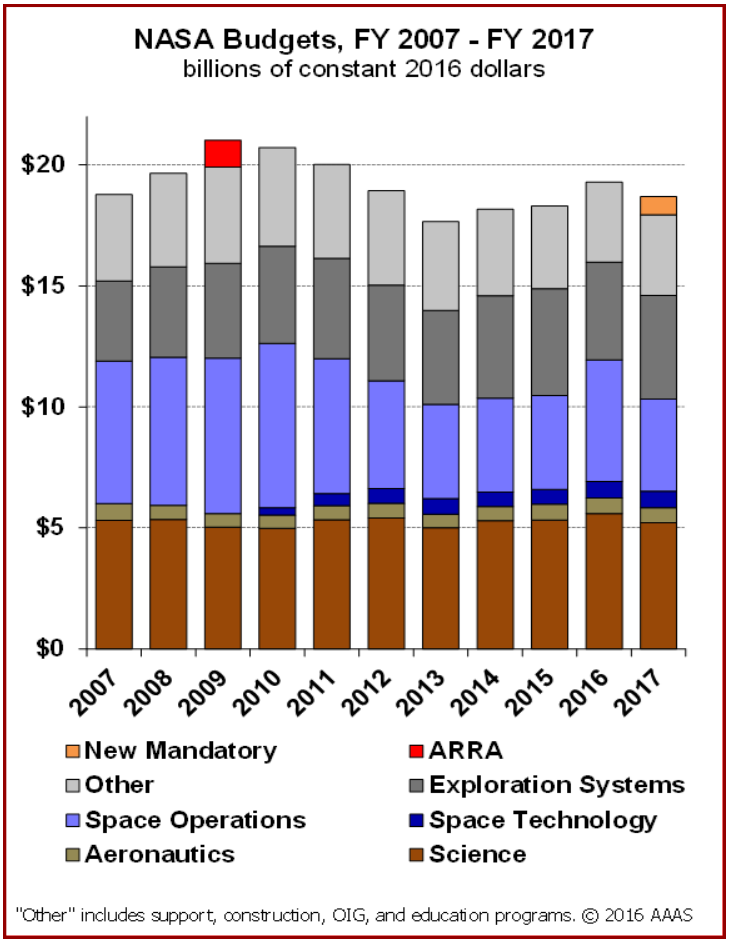
SMD includes Earth Science, Planetary Science, Astrophysics, Heliophysics, and the James Webb Space Telescope. Funding SMD at $5.9 billion in FY17 would support:

- the formulation of WFIRST and the Jupiter Europa mission;
- continued operation of Juno and New Horizon missions;
- the next New Frontiers mission selection;
- continued operations of Mars Opportunity, Mars Odyssey, and Mars Express missions;
- full funding for SOFIA;
- increased funding for CubeSat projects which support small satellite proposals addressing all SMD science disciplines; and
- increased support for Research and Analysis grants, which support hands-on training for undergraduate and graduate students.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

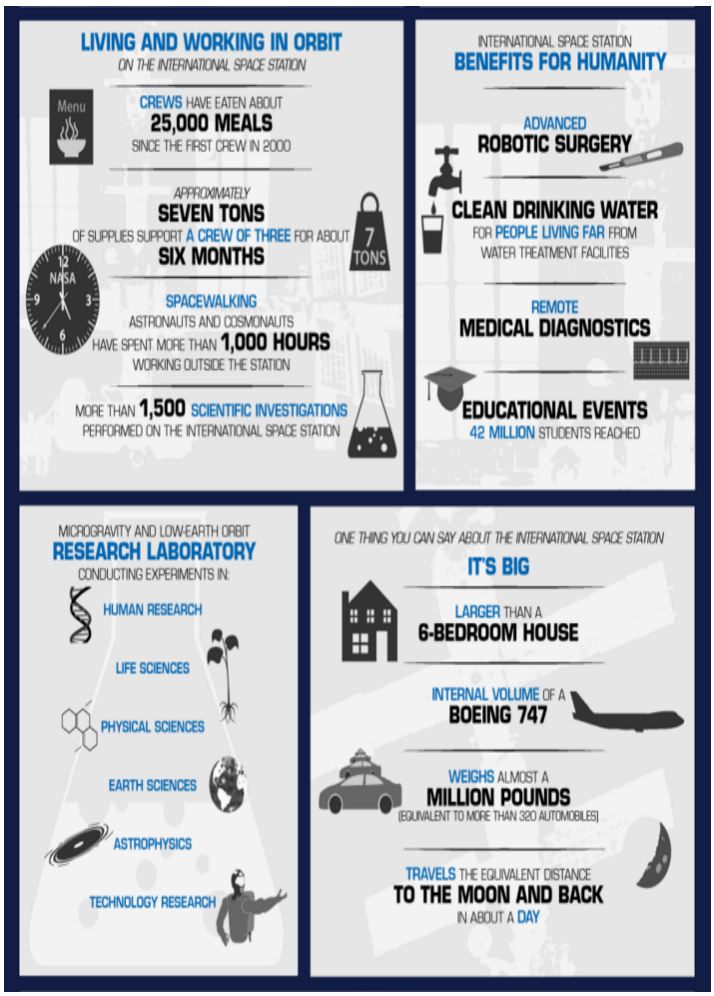
AAU urges Congress to provide $5.9 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate

AAU recommends $677 million for Aeronautics. NASA-sponsored aeronautics research is integral to the nation's research enterprise and has led to advances in the safety, capacity, and efficiency of the air transportation systems that we use on a daily basis.



NASA Research

AAU recommends $796 million for the Space Technology Directorate. This directorate funds partnerships among the federal government, industry and academia to stimulate the development of innovative and transformative technologies. Over 600 awards have been made to small businesses, private innovators, and universities, which has sparked new ideas that have benefited U.S. aerospace and high technology industries.



Source: NASA.gov (2013)

> In 2016, NASA will award more than 3,000 competitively selected research awards to scientists located at universities, NASA field Centers, and other government agencies.

AAU supports the Administration's plan to extend the life of the International Space Station to at least 2024. This extension will allow scientists, researchers, and engineers to conduct the fundamental and applied research necessary to develop spacecraft and human life support systems for deep space exploration.

NASA's University-based programs help educate America's future scientific workforce. An important component of NASA's mission is the education of young scientists and engineers. These individuals will support future NASA activities and provide the expertise the U.S. needs to maintain its technological edge and economic competitiveness. University-based NASA activities have a double pay-off: the development of instruments and software for missions and the education of students who will one day be part of the nation's technological and scientific workforce.

AAU recommends $40 million for the Space Grant program. This program has enabled 24,000 undergraduate and graduate students to receive scholarships, fellowships, and internships. This program not only continues to provide inspiration to young people, but provides them with a real opportunity to participate in space– and aeronautics-related research.

FY17: NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

A robust humanities education is critical to cultivating a broadly educated workforce ready to compete in the knowledge-based, global economy of the 21st Century. From the basic building blocks of early education, to the highest levels of academic attainment, humanities fields provide individuals from all disciplines, including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), with skills, competencies and the expertise needed by the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

AAU supports $155 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities in FY17. As the leading federal support for humanities research and related activities, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) provides critical grant funding for the activities of hundreds of educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and individual scholars nationwide.

A funding level of $155 million would allow the agency to rebuild its capacity to support peer-reviewed humanities research and education programs. Currently funded at $148 million, NEH is at one of its lowest funding levels, in constant dollars, since 1971.

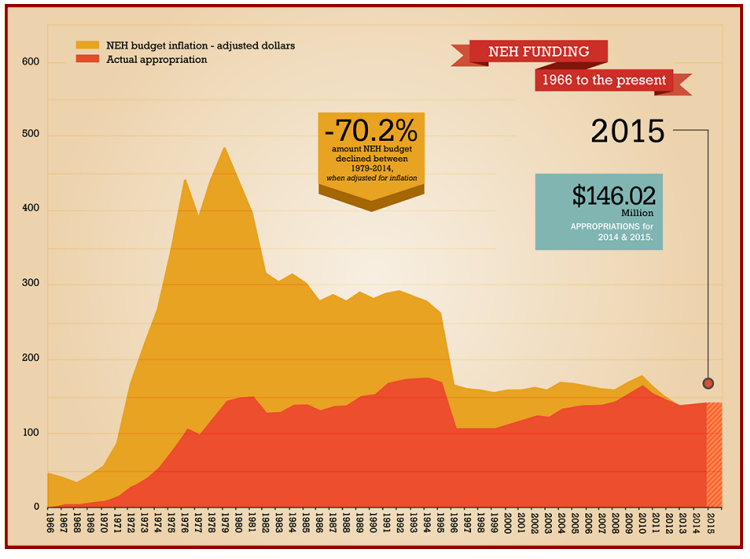
AAU supports the continuation of current policy allowing graduate students to participate in select NEH programs. This provides opportunities for collaboration among students and faculty, similar to those in the sciences, and helps sustain the pipeline of young humanities researchers and scholars. Since 2010, graduate students have been eligible to participate in college-level Summer Seminars and Institutes sponsored by NEH.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $155 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities

AAU remains concerned about the long-term erosion of funding for NEH competitive grant awards for nonprofit institutions and scholars. NEH competitive grants are known for their quality and ability to leverage non-federal funding. NEH grants are at one of the lowest funding rate in NEH's almost 50 year history. This includes grants in the following divisions:

- Research
- Education
- Preservation & Access
- Challenge Grants
- Public Programs
- Digital Humanities



Source: www.neh.gov

FY17: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Biomedical research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and performed at research universities helps assure U.S. leadership in the life sciences revolution of the 21st Century. **AAU supports at least $34.5 billion for NIH in FY17.** Putting NIH on a sustained pathway to restore its purchasing power after a decade worth of loss to inflation and budget cuts is critical to sustaining the extraordinary progress in the improvement of human health of the past decades.

Investment in NIH will continue to create jobs, improve the lives—and quality of life—of millions of current and future patients, and help assure continuing U.S. economic and national security.

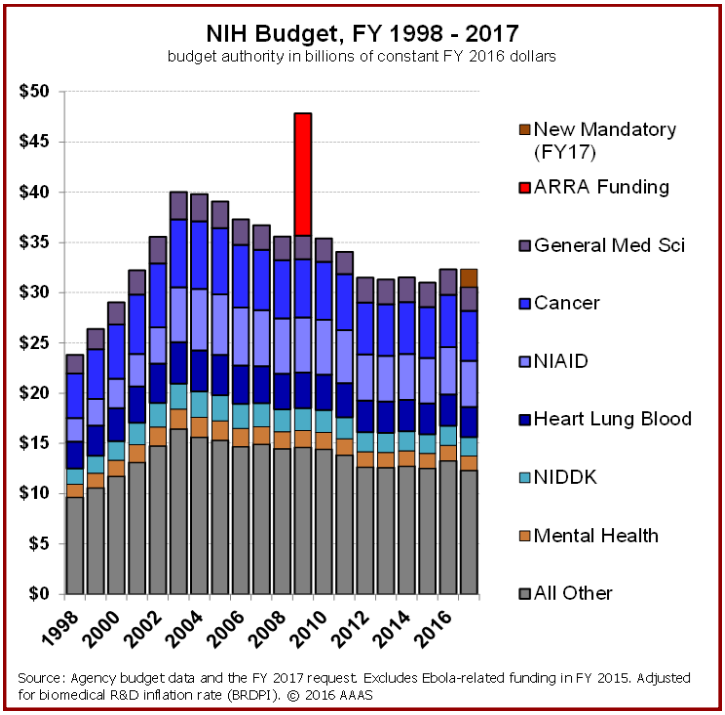
Sustained investment in biotechnology and genomics is crucial to the development of novel therapies for diseases, including: cancer, Alzheimer's, autism, and diabetes. Improved understanding of the molecular causes of disease is being used to screen thousands of chemicals for potential drug candidates and to generate less toxic cancer therapies tailored to the specific genetic profile of each patient's cancer. The "cancer moonshot" effort will accelerate this research.

NIH responds rapidly to public health emergencies and in support of biodefense. NIH's swift response to the Ebola outbreak helped to speed vaccine development. Similarly, NIH is working to address the Zika outbreak. Researchers supported by NIH are on the brink of a universal influenza vaccine, which would provide long-lasting protection against any strain of the virus, removing the uncertainty and burden of making and administering seasonal flu vaccinations.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide at least $34.5 Billion for the National Institutes of Health

The U.S. is in danger of squandering opportunities and losing global leadership in the life sciences. As the federal investments in biomedical research have languished over the past decade, countries such as China, Germany, and the United Kingdom have increased their financial commitments to the life sciences. The U.S. is on the brink of losing a generation of talented life scientists unless it reverses the downward trend of the NIH budget. The $2 billion funding increase in FY16 was the first step and Congress can take another step forward in FY17.



NIH Priority Themes

Translating Discovery into Health: NIH is heavily invested in translating its basic scientific discoveries into fruitful health applications. Translational sciences turn observations in the laboratory and clinic into effective interventions that improve the health of individuals and the public, from diagnostics and therapeutics to medical procedures, behavioral changes, and disease prevention strategies. All of NIH's 27 Institutes and Centers are involved in this effort.

The Precision Medicine Initiative (PMI) will collect health data from one million volunteers, by utilizing data analytics, improvements in medical treatment will be discovered such as matching a cancer patient with the best treatment. The ***Cancer Moonshot*** will be reinforced by the learnings from PMI. NIH has made treating disease at an individual level a priority in its FY17 budget.

Unraveling Life's Mysteries through Basic Research: Basic research is a major driver of progress across the biological and behavioral sciences. Advances in fields such as genomics, proteomics, stem cells, the microbiome, imaging, and other technologies have transformed our understanding of how life works, have led to the discovery of more than a thousand risk factors for disease, and have yielded inestimable benefits to public health. Basic research often paves the way for unexpected scientific advances and |unanticipated health applications.

Job Creation and Economic Growth: The nation's biomedical research enterprise is not only the world's biggest and best, it also is an economic powerhouse. NIH funding helps support 300,000 scientists at research institutions in all 50 states. According to NIH, each research grant creates or sustains six to eight jobs. Biomedical research jobs are also high-skilled and high-wage; the estimated average annual salary for an NIH-funded research job is more than $50,000.

The Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative is a multi-agency initiative involving NIH that was launched in 2013 and continues to advance our understanding of the human brain. This fundamental knowledge will provide the foundation for better diagnostics and treatments for devastating neurological disorders, ranging from Parkinson's disease and autism to Alzheimer's and epilepsy.

A recent report by United for Medical Research showed that in 2014, NIH funding generated more than 400,000 jobs and nearly $60 billion in economic output

Harnessing Data and Technology to Improve Health: Innovative research methods stimulated by technological advances are facilitating the development of new strategies to diagnose, prevent, and treat a host of diseases. As technologies related to genomics and computational biology have rapidly expanded, scientists are generating valuable data at an unprecedented rate. The Big Data to Knowledge Program (BD2K) supports efforts to facilitate data sharing, develop and disseminate tools for data analysis, enhance training of scientists in data management fields, and establish centers of excellence focused on biomedical analytics, computational biology, and medical informatics.

Preparing a Diverse and Talented Biomedical Research Workforce: NIH is strongly committed to maintaining a diverse biomedical workforce. Attracting and retaining creative individuals in the biomedical research workforce requires a stable funding environment and opportunities for career growth. Without this, young scientists and even well-established investigators may become discouraged and pursue other career options.

FY17: NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is the cornerstone of America's basic research enterprise. NSF is committed to the fundamental, interdisciplinary, high-risk, and transformative research and education needed to ensure that the U.S. remains competitive in the decades ahead. NSF competitively awards grants to support research and education, as well as scientific equipment and infrastructure. NSF is also a leader among federal agencies in its support of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education.

AAU urges Congress to provide $8 billion for NSF in FY17. This funding level is consistent with the federal research investment recommendation in the *Innovation: An American Imperative* call to action, which more than 300 business leaders, national organizations, universities, and scientific societies have endorsed.

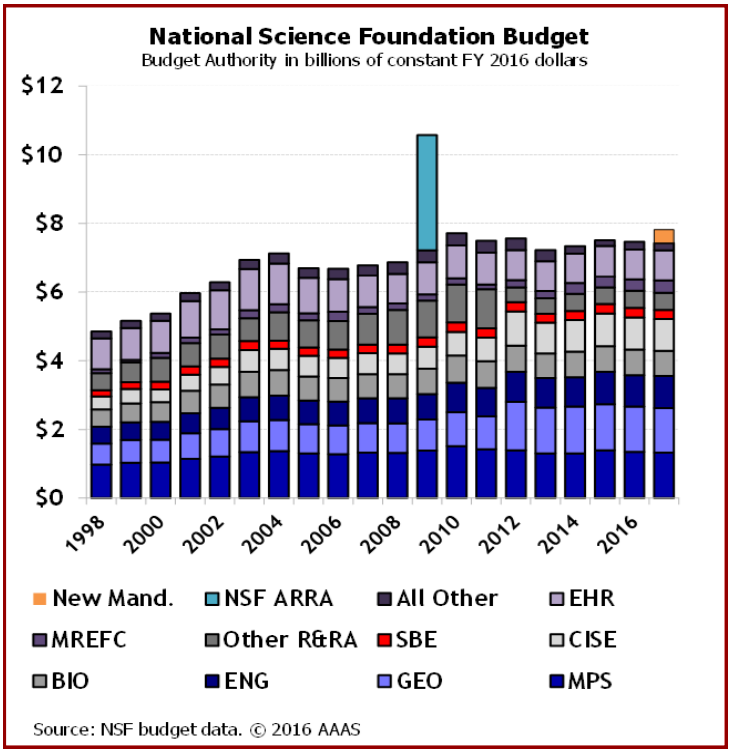
NSF's Research and Related Activities supports merit-reviewed research across the agency's directorates and in all fields, including: biological sciences, mathematical and physical sciences, social and behavioral sciences, and engineering. **AAU encourages Congress to make strong investments across the agency's directorates**, especially the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) directorate, which has been flat-funded in recent years. SBE supports long-term research in fields such as economics, psychology, sociology, geography, neuroscience, anthropology, political science, statistics, and linguistics.

AAU supports NSF's continued support of Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction Directorate and encourages Congress to support the Regional Class Research Vessel, the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope, and the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope.

FY17 RECOMMENDATION:

AAU urges Congress to provide $8 billion for the National Science Foundation

AAU strongly supports NSF's mission of developing a STEM-capable workforce and a STEM-literate citizenry that can successfully compete in the global marketplace. AAU encourages Congress to support vital STEM programs such as: Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE); Graduate Research Fellowships (GRF); and NSF Research Traineeships (NRT); and Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU).



Source: AAAS, 2016