

**President's Budget Proposal
Prioritizes Science and
Technology**

According to John H. Gibbons, assistant to the President for Science and Technology, President Clinton's FY 1996 Budget Proposal maintains science and technology as a priority investment, with total Research and Development funding increasing slightly. The largest percentage increase in the S&T budget is allocated to basic research (see Table). Support for academic research increased by 7%. The National Science Foundation budget for R&D activities shows an increase of 3.7%. The budget proposes increased funding for technology partnerships with U.S. industry. President Clinton emphasizes that the post-Cold War interests of the U.S. is to be able to compete economically with the global market.

The President's agency-specific initiatives highlight the following: The budget proposes \$491 million in 1996 for the Advanced Technology Program (ATP), which amounts to \$60 million, or 14%, more than the 1995 level. This proposal will fund 50 new projects and continue

280 projects. An increase of \$56 million over 1995 to a total of \$147 million is stipulated for Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEP), which will help support 90 MEP centers. Both ATP and MEP are essential programs of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The budget proposes a 13% increase over 1995 for the Technology Reinvestment Project (TRP), awarded competitively by the Advanced Research Project Agency (ARPA). (See Table.)

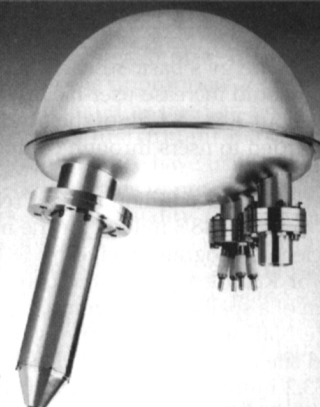
Among the highlights of the National Science and Technology Council initiatives are the cooperative research and development agreements (CRADAs), academic research, and merit reviewed research and performance measurement. The proposal recommends funding 723 more CRADAs than in 1995, to a total of 6,816, with a public and private value (in cash and non-cash contributions) of close to \$6 billion. An increase of \$863 million—7% over 1995—is proposed for university-based research, totalling \$12.5 billion for 1996. The budget further proposes \$29 billion of merit-reviewed research, an increase of \$890 million, or 3% (see Table).

**Table. Funding of Research and Development
(Budget authority, dollar amounts in millions)***

Agency	1993 Actual	1995 Estimate	1996 Proposed	Dollar Change 1995-1996	%Change 1995-1996
NSF	2,012	2,450	2,540	+90	+3.7%
Basic Research	13,362	13,975	14,467	+493	+3.5%
Applied Research	13,608	14,569	14,686	+117	+0.8%
Development	42,795	42,107	41,768	-339	-0.8%
Facilities	2,727	2,063	1,962	-101	-4.9%
Civilian	30,329	33,815	34,902	+1,087	+3.2%
Defense	42,164	38,898	37,981	-918	-2.4%
ATP	68	431	491	+60	+14%
MEP	18	91	147	+56	+62%
TRP	472	443	500	+57	+13%
No. of CRADA Partnerships	NA	6,093	6,816	+723	+12%
CRADA Value	NA	5,104	5,806	+702	+14%
Academic R&D	11,674	11,641	12,504	+863	+7%
Merit Reviewed R&D	NA	28,454	29,344	+890	+3%

*Taken from John H. Gibbons's "Science and Technology FY 1996 Budget Briefing," February 6, 1995.

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FY 1996 Budget Proposal Seeks Increase in DOE Funding

The FY 1996 Budget Proposal requests a \$100 million increase for the Department of Energy's basic research facilities, which would increase user-facility operations about 30%. A fifth of the funds is to be awarded to users through competitive grants.

Out of its \$17.8 billion budget request, DOE targets \$348.3 million for the materials sciences program, including \$8.0 million for R&D leading to the conceptual design of a spallation neutron source. Oak Ridge National Laboratory is the preferred site for this project. DOE is budgeting \$3.2 million to finish construction of Argonne's 6-7 GeV Synchrotron Radiation Source and \$2.0 million for the Sandia Laboratory's Combustion Research Facility, Livermore.

Annual Report Available from the DOE Energy Materials Coordinating Committee

The FY 1993 Annual Technical Report from the Department of Energy Energy Materials Coordinating Committee (EMaCC) was published in July 1994. This 477-page report contains brief summaries of the materials research projects supported by the DOE, including the work funded by Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Energy Research, Environmental Management, Fossil Energy, Nuclear Energy, Defense Programs, and Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. The report includes an introduction that summarizes the goals and objectives of each DOE office. It provides an abstract for each project that includes principal investigator and institution, budget, DOE contact, and key words. The projects are also

referenced by key words in an index. This report, and the annual program books compiled by the DOE Division of Materials Science, and the Small Business Innovation Research grant programs, provide a complete reference for all DOE-sponsored materials research for FY 1993. To request free copies of these reports, write to Cynthia Carter, EMaCC Committee, ER-16, GTN, US Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585; fax (301) 903-6067.

OpenNet Lists DOE Declassified Documents

Thousands of previously classified documents now available to the public have been listed on OpenNet, an Internet database accessed by entering DOE homepage: <http://www.doe.gov>. The on-line index will guide users through documents covering topics such as human radiation experiments, nuclear testing, radiation releases, and historical records. The bibliographic database contains references for all releasable documents declassified by DOE after October 1, 1994. In addition, it gives information on more than 265,000 documents from collections at the DOE facilities at the Hanford Site near Richland, Washington; the Coordination and Information Center, Las Vegas, Nevada; and the Office of Scientific and Technical Information, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. While not a complete listing of all the documents that are currently available to the public, this database will be continuously updated to include other documents as they are released. OpenNet provides the DOE site location and person to contact to obtain access to the referenced documents. □

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An activity at the 1995 MRS Spring Meeting is being planned centered on entrepreneurship in the materials community.

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