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The credit for the discoveries highlighted in *America's Investment in the Future* belongs to the thousands of scientists, engineers, educators, universities, and research centers that the National Science Foundation has supported since 1950. Just as advances in science and engineering are the result of collaboration, so, too, is this book celebrating the Foundation's first fifty years.

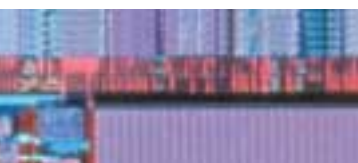
America's Investment in the Future was developed by NSF's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs (OLPA), under the guidance of Acting Director Michael Sieverts. Ellen Weir, acting head of OLPA's Communications Resources Section, is the project director.

The book reflects the vision of former OLPA Director Julia A. Moore, currently a public policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Stacy Springer, former head of the Communications Resources Section, oversaw the project through much of its development.

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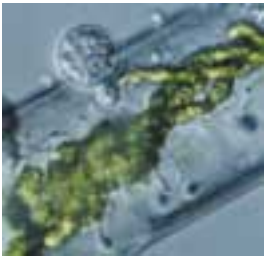
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Internet

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Manufacturing

- Page 50: At the NSF-supported Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity at MIT, researchers have developed a three-dimensional printing (3DP) process for the rapid and flexible production of parts and tools. 3DP works by building parts in layers from a computer (CAD) model. In the part shown here, a surface texture was defined in CAD and then mapped onto different solids. Such surface textures can be used to enhance heat transfer or create a prescribed surface roughness, among other things.
Emanuel M. Sachs/MIT

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- Page 115: Close-up of a chytrid, a little known group of fungi linked with frog deaths in Australia and Panama. Martha J. Powell/University of Alabama

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Page 123: The head-on collision of two neutron stars. This is an extract from a more complete analysis of the changes in pressure and density that occur from the collision and eventual coalescence of two stars that have reached the final phase in their evolution. Charles Evans, California Institute of Technology; Visualization by Ray Idaszak and Donna Cox, Illinois Supercomputer Center.

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