



A Message from the Director of the National Science Foundation

As summer begins, you may be heading to the shore, cruising on a sailboat, fishing off a pier or doing ocean research. Consider how many ways the ocean touches our lives. Since June is National Oceans Month, I want to share some of the wonderful work National Science Foundation (NSF)-supported scientists are pursuing through the agency's ocean research programs.

Since its inception, NSF has led major efforts to advance ocean science. In 2003 NSF funded the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, an international program to study Earth's seafloor geology. This program began a new 10-year phase of ocean exploration and led to the International Ocean Discovery Program. These efforts have taken scientists to some of Earth's most challenging environments to collect data and samples of sediment, fluids and living organisms below the seafloor.

Advances in technology are allowing NSF-funded scientists to explore deeper and wider than before. They're taking advantage of remotely operated vehicles including submersibles and self-propelled technologies; the academic research fleet of oceanographic ships; and strategically positioned platforms and sensors around the globe. One of the most data rich, cyberconnected efforts is the recent Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI). Research from the OOI will extend understanding of the dynamics of coastal processes, continental shelves and air-sea interfaces.

Long-term NSF investments have transformed ocean science into a powerful tool to advance basic understanding of the oceans and their inhabitants. These investments are also improving the economic outlook for ocean-related industries and enhancing the capacity to anticipate events like hurricanes, tsunamis and earthquakes. Increasing knowledge of the forces at work in the oceans allows us to sustain the rich resources they provide today and in the future.

On a slightly different note, I'd like to share some exciting news that is vital to NSF's mission. This month, the agency is rolling out new logo and visual identity guidelines for use by staff and our external partners - awardees as well as stakeholders. The goal of this effort is to bolster recognition of NSF and the critical support the agency provides to advance basic research and education across all scientific and engineering disciplines. A unified approach to NSF's visual identity will add value to the organization and its position in the research community. Visit NSF's [visual identity site](#) to learn more.



Happy Summer!



Dr. France A. Córdova
Director, National Science Foundation
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Where Discoveries Begin...



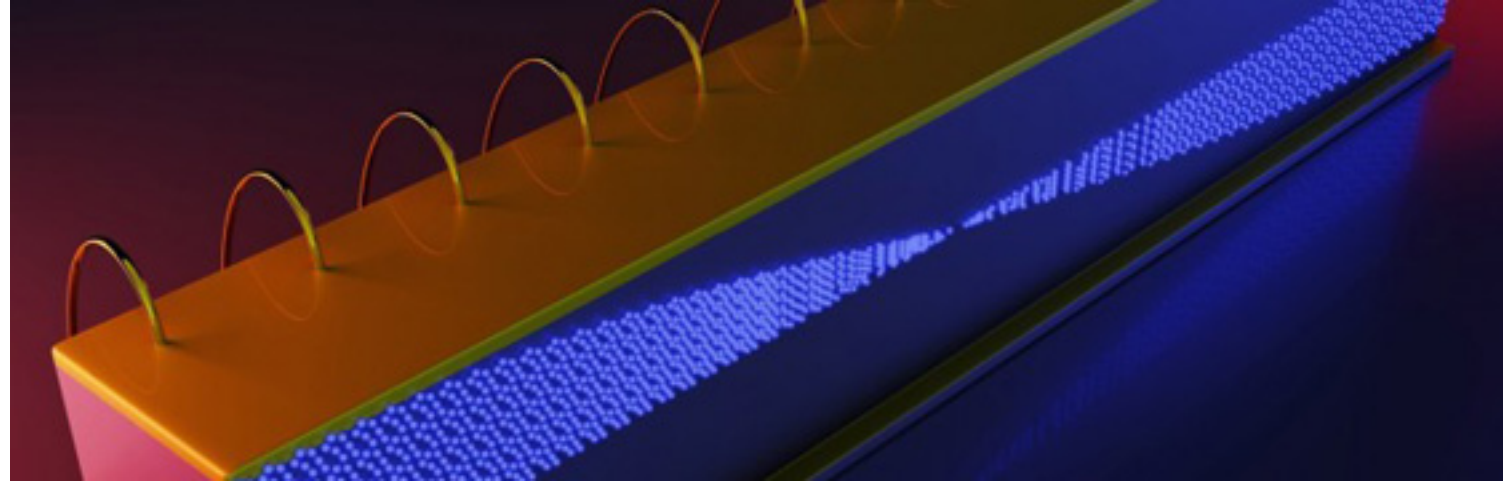
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What's Next

June 22 – Dr. France Córdoba will deliver the keynote, NSF's Ten Big Ideas for Future Scientific Innovation, at the [2018 AAAS Forum on Science & Technology Policy](#).

June 25-26 - Dr. France Córdoba will speak on the importance of STEM education in America today at the White House State-Federal STEM Summit.

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