



A Message from the Director of the National Science Foundation

This month, I'd like to bring to your attention the important work NSF is pursuing to help discover solutions to some of the most pressing challenges we face as a global community. In both FY 2016 and 2017, NSF is drawing on skill sets across directorates to better understand the human brain, to deepen awareness of and preparation for extreme environmental events such as tornadoes and earthquakes, and to improve the fundamental knowledge of three critical interconnected resources: food, energy and water.

Resolving these and other critical issues will require the talents of many individuals. To achieve the very best solutions, diversity of thought, perspective and experience is essential. At NSF, we want to strengthen these qualities throughout the U.S. STEM enterprise. To do this, the foundation recently launched INCLUDES ([Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science](#)).



With your help, NSF can build the needed alliances and frameworks to encourage STEM participation from all groups in society and, in doing so, create a nimble STEM ecosystem that responds to critical domestic and global issues.

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

[Engineering a spinal cord repair kit](#)



A nerve “toolkit” developed by NSF-funded researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology aims to restore movement in those with paralysis.



[Computer science is for all students](#)

NSF is the lead federal agency in the White House initiative Computer Science for All. NSF support is creating computer science curricula throughout the U.S.



[Rescued history](#)

Social scientists, humanities scholars and digital researchers are using “Big Data” to better understand the historical experiences of black women over 200 years, beginning in the 18th century.

What's Next?

[What is Engineering?](#)

A video about engineers solving problems that make our lives better and more enjoyable.

[NSF Day: University of Alaska, Anchorage – April 8, 2016](#)

NSF Day provides insight and instruction on how to compete for NSF funding. This day-long workshop will provide background on the Foundation, its mission, priorities and budget.

[Generation Nano: Small Science, Super Heroes Competition – Public Voting – April 7-15](#)

Cast your vote for one of the eleven high school students who are semifinalists in this competition. They were asked to create a superhero and nanotechnology-driven gear.

Did You Know...

Check out highlights of [NSF's FY 2015 performance results and financial review](#).

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