

# Water Dynamics Workshop

Under development for Nov. 9-11, 2008

Burlington, VT

Hosted by Vermont EPSCoR

Reporting for the Organizing Committee:

Judith Van Houten, VT EPSCoR PD

Beverley Wemple, Co-PI on Workshop Proposal

## Paraphrased From the NSF EPSCoR Workshop Proposal RFP:

Workshops should address multi-jurisdictional efforts that need collaboration for optimal success.

Workshops should address regional to national themes of relevance to EPSCoR's goals and NSF's mission.

The goal of the workshop should be to develop high quality collaborations that are capable of competing for major funding from non-EPSCoR sources in NSF.

Workshops should address multi-disciplinary perspectives that are now common to major initiatives in science and engineering.

Workshops should have appropriate representation from under-represented groups.

## Why a Water Dynamics Workshop??

Fundamental studies of water are important to *all NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions, even if not a current RII theme.*

Fresh water is in jeopardy in many parts of our nation and soon will be across the country.

NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions have *talented* faculty who are involved in water research and these jurisdictions are uniquely *positioned to collaborate on broad multi-disciplinary* projects of national importance.

Water research offers opportunities for *collaborations* among faculty in NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions to become *competitive for NSF funding outside EPSCoR.*

Water research offers wonderful opportunities for outreach: *community based research, STEM education* enhancement, outreach to *under-represented groups, and service to the state.*

Fresh water science and engineering has been made an *initiative at the NSF* and the funding is pervasive across the Foundation.

*"Although the movement of water links natural systems and human social systems, there are many gaps in our basic scientific understanding of water dynamics. We still know very little about the effects of climate change and resulting changes in human interventions and land use on the availability and quality of fresh water.*

*One of the greatest environmental and economic challenges we face this century is to ensure an adequate, high-quality water supply for human use while maintaining the integrity of ecosystems. While humans can survive without petroleum, they can't survive without water.*

*NSF will initiate a program, Dynamics of Water Processes in the Environment, to increase fundamental understanding of the Earth's freshwater systems, and our ability to predict dynamic changes in freshwater resources."*

*A. Bement, Feb. 4, 2008*

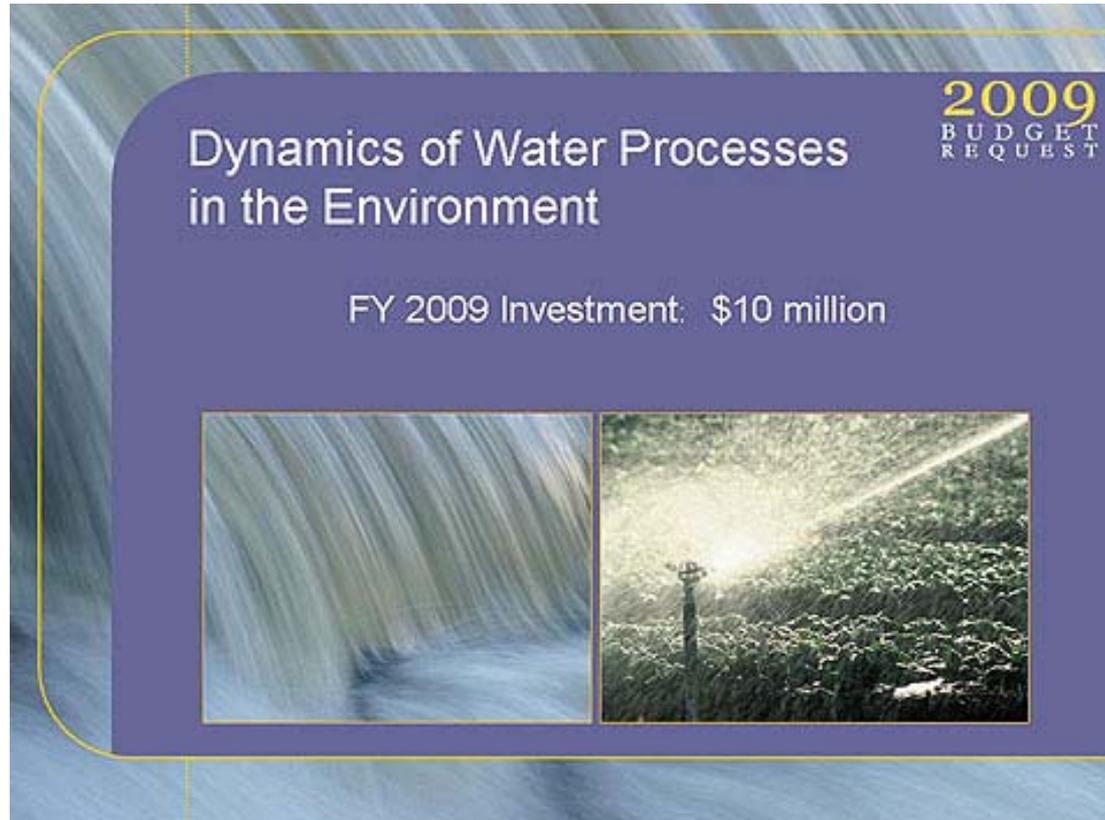
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Just the beginning of a funding initiative?



**2009**  
BUDGET  
REQUEST

## Dynamics of Water Processes in the Environment

FY 2009 Investment: \$10 million



From Arden Bement's budget  
roll out slides, 2008

# Save the Date

## Water Workshop: Water Dynamics

**November 9—12, 2008**

**Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center  
Burlington, Vermont**

**[http://www.uvm.edu/EPSCoR/Water\\_Conference](http://www.uvm.edu/EPSCoR/Water_Conference)**

- ◇ **W**ater is a topic that should be of high priority in this century. Fundamental studies of water are important to all the NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions, and, indeed, are sponsored across many of the directorates at NSF
- ◇ We ask you to save the date for an important workshop on research on water dynamics to be hosted by Vermont EPSCoR and featuring research on water across the NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions
- ◇ The goals of the workshop will include sharing of information, exploration of collaborations and learning about the opportunities for research on water through the NSF

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# The Process of Developing the Workshop

- 1. Asked all NSF EPSCoR PDs to nominate people to the workshop organizing committee**
2. Committee decided on the themes, format, co-chairs and speakers for the workshop through a series of conference calls and e-mail requests.
3. Balanced talks on science and broader impact (e.g. STEM education and outreach), included women and members of under-represented groups, and included talks on strategies for inclusion of under-represented groups in water research.
4. Allowed time for networking, and descriptions of current research on water dynamics in EPSCoR jurisdictions.
5. Allowed for the inclusion of many NSF Directors and Program officers to make presentations and network with the faculty.

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## **6. Wrote workshop grant proposal (pending)**

7. Invited speakers and co-chairs for a balance of broad representation among NSF EPSCoR jurisdictions, disciplinary areas, and high profile speakers.

8. Developed a Template through which all jurisdictions will provide information on their water research; will be posted on the web for examination before and after the meeting.

9. Developed a web site that will remain in place long term as a resource for posting publications, notices and collaborations after the meeting.

10. Developed an assessment plan that will follow up on the outcomes of the meeting for at least two years.

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# Yet to do!

Finalize the speakers and co-chairs.

Produce a television episode based on the workshop!

Coordinate with Alaska EPSCoR on the follow-on conference on the social dynamics of the human-hydrologic system.

Evaluate, evaluate, evaluate!

**Y'all Come!!**

**November 9-11**

