

## THE NSF STATUTORY MISSION

To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health,  
prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense

*– From the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (P.L. 81–507)*



## THE NSF VISION

Advancing discovery, innovation and education beyond the frontiers of current  
knowledge, and empowering future generations in science and engineering.

*– From the National Science Foundation Strategic Plan FY 2006–2011*

**About the cover:** Convection patterns in the interior of the Sun. This still image is from computer models that simulate the flow of plasma in the deep interior of the Sun in unprecedented detail. This model was developed by researchers at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and other institutions. NCAR is supported by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies to provide facilities and support for a wide range of studies in the atmospheric and related sciences. NSF supports a range of activities that expand our understanding of the Sun and its role in the Earth's climate. For more information visit: [www.nsf.gov/news/mmg/mmg\\_disp.cfm?med\\_id=65466&from=img](http://www.nsf.gov/news/mmg/mmg_disp.cfm?med_id=65466&from=img) and [www.ncar.ucar.edu](http://www.ncar.ucar.edu).

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