



Friday, February 15, 2008 *Odds & Ends*

I apologize for sending out three messages all in one day, but it's a very busy time of year for Federal Relations and there is a lot of information to share with you. The Higher Education Act (HEA) reauthorization is on the move, the FY 2009 President's Budget Request was released last week, and many of you have been working on FY 2009 appropriations requests. Some of you have asked about the prospect for earmarks this year—and if last year's appropriations are at risk. The good news is that if your campus received a congressionally directed appropriation in FY 2008, it has not been rescinded. And, while anything can happen in the future, I thought you might like to see the opinion story, at the end of this email, by Stan Collender on the current earmark debate. The story ran in a widely-read Capitol Hill newspaper, *Roll Call*.

Below are some "odds & ends" that didn't fit neatly in my updates on the HEA and FY 2009 budget. As always, please just let us know if you have any questions.

Liz

- **"HOW TO GET YOUR PROPOSAL FUNDED" WORKSHOP APRIL 14, 2008 IN ALBANY**

[The Research Foundation of State University of New York](#) and the [University Faculty Senate](#) are sponsoring a workshop that will provide essential information to help you increase your chances of getting a proposal funded. A panel of experienced faculty members and administrators will provide their expertise, including an individual consultation based on your idea, abstract or full proposal.

Date: Monday, April 14, 2008

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Place: University at Albany

Cost: No cost to attend, but space is limited

Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Note that the workshop is being held in conjunction with a recognition dinner honoring SUNY faculty who extend the boundaries of human knowledge and drive economic development in New York. For more information and to register, visit the workshop [Web site](#). A flyer and agenda is attached.



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- **AAAS PUBLISHES ANALYSES OF FY08 R&D APPROPRIATIONS, INCLUDING R&D EARMARKS**

AAAS has published on its website a summary and analysis of the final FY08 appropriations for research and development (R&D), as well as a summary of the R&D earmarks in the federal research agencies. The three documents, "Agency Funding Updates of R&D in Final FY 2008 Appropriations," "Congress Wraps up Another Disappointing Year for Federal R&D Funding," and "R&D Earmarks Total \$4.5 Billion in 2008," are available at: <http://www.aaas.org/spp/rd>.

- **NHA CONFERENCE AND ADVOCACY DAY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 3-4**

The National Humanities Alliance (NHA) will hold its annual conference and humanities advocacy day on March 3-4, 2008, in Washington, D.C. .

The conference program features roundtable discussions with federal cultural agency representatives, policy briefings, advocacy training, and a luncheon keynote address by Charles M. Vest, president of the National Academy of Engineering and former president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The following day, March 4, will provide an opportunity for participants to visit congressional offices to discuss the importance of the humanities. A reception will be held that evening at the historic Sewall-Belmont House and Museum on Capitol Hill. Participants interested in bringing materials about their campus humanities research to display at that event are asked to contact Jessica Jones Irons at jirons@nhalliance.org. The preliminary agenda and registration information are available on the [Alliance's Web site](#).

- **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

As part of NEH's We the People program, the Landmarks of American History and Culture program supports series of one-week residence-based workshops for community college educators that use historic sites to address central themes and issues in American history, government, literature, art history, or other related subjects in the humanities.

The goals of the workshops are to: provide experience for community college faculty in the use and interpretation of historical sites and the material resources and archival documents of American history and culture, increase knowledge and appreciation of

places significant to American history and culture, and encourage historical sites to develop greater capacity and scale for professional development programs. Workshops should take place at or near sites important to American history and culture (e.g., presidential residences or libraries, Colonial-era settlements, major battlefields, historic districts, and sites associated with major writers or artists).

Link to Full Announcement: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/landmarksgcc.html>

- **IGERT PROPOSALS SOLICITED**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is soliciting proposals for the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program; preliminary proposals are due April 24, 2008. The program expects to award 21 new and renewal awards with a total funding amount of \$12 million for FY 09. Institutions that do not grant Ph.D.s may serve as collaborating organizations in a partnership proposal with Ph.D.-granting universities.

At least one additional proposal will also be funded for a “resource center” for which full proposals are also due by April 24th; total funding of up to \$600,000 will be granted. The IGERT resource center is intended to provide the overall program and individual IGERT projects with a web-based ability to disseminate and implement best practices on issues such as curriculum advancements.

A webinar will be held on February 28th to assist institutions interested in applying for the resource center award. To register for the webinar or an in-person workshop, go to: www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12759

The full program solicitation is available at: www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08540.htm

- **THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD RELEASES 2008 SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING INDICATORS**

On January 15, members of the National Science Board presented *Science and Engineering Indicators 2008* (SEI'08), the 18th volume of the Board's biennial report on the state of science and engineering research in the United States. The report provides in-depth information about both U.S. and international science and engineering trends. The entire report is available at the following link: www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind08.

- **THE 33RD ANNUAL AAAS FORUM ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The AAAS Forum on Science and Technology Policy, held in Washington each spring, provides a forum for discussion and debate about budget and other policy issues facing the S&T community. **The next S&T Policy Forum will be 8-9 May 2008** at the Ronald

Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Registration will begin soon, but mark your calendars now and make plans to attend. More information will be provided in future emails and at the Forum web site: (<http://www.aaas.org/spp/rd/forum.htm>)

- **WEBSITE CREATED BY AAAS TO TRACK PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE POSITIONS**

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has launched a website that is designed to track the views of the presidential candidates on science and technology issues. Statements the candidates make on issues affecting universities, such as competitiveness, science and math education, and scientific research, would be some of the highlighted topics on the website. The following is a link to the website: <http://election2008.aaas.org/>.

- **POLITICAL CLIPPINGS:**

- Alexander “Sandy” Treadwell, Republican, who is challenging first term incumbent Kirsten Gillibrand in New York’s 20th District, has raised the most money of all House candidates who are running against incumbents from the opposite party. Treadwell is the former NY state GOP chairman. He has raised \$620,000 and matched it with \$620,000 of his own money. Gillibrand defeated incumbent John Sweeney in 2006 and is considered one of the top targets by the National Republican Congressional Committee.

<http://www.cqpolitics.com/wmspage.cfm?parm1=5&docID=news-000002670731>

- A former Aide to Senator Hillary Clinton has entered the race for NY's 21st Congressional District. Congressman McNulty recently announced that he will be retiring at the end of the 110th Congress. The heavily Democratic 21st District is expected to stay with the Democrats.

<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newyork/ny-bc-ny-brf--house-21st0208feb08,0,7142297.story>

- Dan Maffei, a former aide to Ways and Means Committee Chairman Charlie Rangel, is the front runner in the Democratic race to replace Rep Walsh. Maffei narrowly lost to Walsh in 2006.

<http://www.cqpolitics.com/wmspage.cfm?parm1=5&docID=news-000002670731>

- **CALL FOR CAMPUS PHOTOS***

**This message has already been sent to SUNY campus-based federal relations representatives.*

During this year's SUNY congressional reception in Washington, DC, scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, 2008, we will be running a continuous video loop highlighting images of SUNY's 64 campuses. In order to keep it fresh and up-to-date, we are asking for your help. If you would like your campus to be included in our video loop, please send photos via email that are at least 300 dpi in quality to Beth Kempter. The higher the dpi, the better the image will be when portrayed on a large screen. Each campus will be identified with a single slide with your logo and name before your campus photos begin to run. It can be anything that you want to highlight on campus—from buildings and labs to students and anything in between. Send us your best 10-15 campus photos for inclusion. We will include each campus that sends photos regardless of whether you are able to join us in Washington, DC for this year's event. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Beth directly at 518-320-1123.

Photos should be downloaded to a CD Rom and mailed to:

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Earmark Debate Sounds Good, but It's Mostly Nonsense

February 12, 2008

By Stan Collender,

Roll Call Contributing Writer