

THE POLICY SCIENCES CENTER, INC.

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February 5, 2013

Mr. Edward Perry Bass - Senior Fellow
Yale Corporation
c/o Office of the Secretary
P. O. Box 208230
New Haven, CT 06520-8230

Re: NSF's Cancellation of Peer-Review Scientific Merit Awards: Implications for Yale

Dear Mr. Bass and Corporation Members:

The National Science Foundation has confirmed its cancellation of the peer review Scientific Merit awards system. Its response posted on January 14, 2013 (included with the attached communication of January 24, 2013) confirms the shift to the national era of a Bureaucracy-Approved Social Science, and a similar shift to government-determined winners and losers across all other scientific fields within NSF's purview.

Background

The peer review Scientific Merit awards system was crafted, for all government scientific agencies, by Vannevar Bush and others in the early 1950s. Most scientists still believe that this system retains its former standing at NSF. NSF has encouraged this misperception by such misleading public assurances as the enclosed "America's Gold Standard" statement by the current NSF Director (for the leaders of about fifty leaders of foreign counterpart organizations) last year.^{1 2} The early erosion of Scientific Merit review for the social sciences apparently began in the Reagan years when the "disappearances" started, and the wider changes slowly began when NSF invented a substitute term "Merit Review."

The disclosures mean that people do not need to rely upon my word and analysis.

Implications for Yale

1.) It is unlikely that Yale can regain its earlier national leadership in the social sciences without a solution to these national-level problems. Selected topics like cognitive and happiness psychology have

been in good standing but any initiatives that might be socially unsettling or (in the imagination of a Washington bureaucracy) civically relevant and attacked from the political Right are unlikely to be approved for restarting.

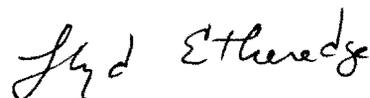
In an era of Big Data, the limitations on NSF-supported R&D data systems, notably in Economics, will continue to inhibit everyone's ability to do innovative or relevant research for rapid learning. Now, with accurate and more widespread knowledge in the academic world, there also is likely to be a further chilling effect on the application process.

2.) Applications from Yale may be at competitive disadvantages in all fields. The evolving NSF Other Benefits system and (partly undisclosed) rules and mandates appear to include an expanding number of lobbyist and special-interest provisions to secure competitive advantages at the Program Officer level and above. NSF has specifically refused a request to disclose a complete list and details of scoring practices.³ However, applications from Yale may continue to be at a competitive disadvantage unless the full list and scoring criteria can be obtained and fully understood in New Haven.⁴

For example, the recent (two-term) chair of the National Science Board is a former President of Texas A&M that (without a medical school) now receives a \$700 million+/year share of the national science budget. Yale may, or may not, wish to respond to coercive institutional requirements to create Partnership Centers with for-profit companies as a routine part of every NSF application from its faculty members. However, Yale and other universities have a right to know the competitive cost that their applicants have been paying.

Yale is one of our few universities whose cultures include a sense of moral responsibility for national policy. Without leadership at the level of the Yale Corporation, I do not believe that we can restore a system of peer review, Scientific Merit awards at NSF.

Yours truly,



Dr. Lloyd S. Etheredge (Ph. D. '74)
Director
Government Learning Project

Enclosures

- LSE letter to the AAAS Council, 1/4/2013, with an example of NSF's misleading public claims
- LSE message to the AAAS Council, 1/24/2013, with NSF's response of January 14, 2013.

Notes

1. The example of NSF's misleading statements is included as an attachment to the enclosed letter to the AAAS Council of January 4, 2013.
2. As a *quid pro quo*, scientists provide NSF with hundreds of thousands of hours of time, without compensation, each year to review up to 55,000 NSF applications/year.
3. The refusal is part of the response of the Suresh/Arvizu regime of January 14, 2013, cited above and attached.
4. There are further discussions of these issues at www.policyscience.net at II.A *et passim* and in my earlier correspondence with the Yale Corporation.

Date: Thu, 24 Jan 2013 15:38:23 -0500

To: "Dr. Phillip A Sharp - Chair, AAAS Committee on Council Affairs and AAAS President-elect" <sharppa@mit.edu>, "Dr. Bill Press - President, AAAS" <wpress@cs.utexas.edu>

From: Lloyd Etheredge <lloyd.etheredge@policyscience.net>

Subject: NSF's 1/14/2013 Reply: The AAAS Council and the No Confidence assessment

Dear Dr. Sharp, Dr. Press, and AAAS Council Members:

NSF has just published, on January 14, 2013, clarifications and revisions to its Merit Review system and I enclose excerpts. The Suresh, Arvizu *et al.*, regime has established the battle line for the AAAS Council meeting. This is a battle about power and the future: Merit Review Facts Question 3 makes clear that NSF's public answer is "No." At NSF, the peer reviews of 55,000 applications/year will not control whether grant applications are funded or rejected.

- Abandoning Runnymede, The Vannevar Bush system of "peer review," drawn from the legal system and the historic Runnymede achievement of an independent jury system that preserves human freedom and rights and checks government control, has been substantially neutralized and shifted to a smokescreen. This is unacceptable.

The documents clarify that the AAAS Council, acting on behalf of all of us, must make a finding of No Confidence and change the Suresh, Arvizu *et al.*, regime. Otherwise, at NSF, American scientists will have lost permanently the right of Scientific Merit peer review award competitions. And American society will have lost a vital guarantee of an independent, evidence-based role for its universities.

People with sharp elbows and remarkable arrogance have gained control of \$7 billion/year. The Suresh, Arvizu *et al.* regime increasingly views the nation's research scientists as contract employees of the government. NSF is stonewalling on behalf of a confidential, multi-stage process run by people with top-down, management and bureaucratic sensibilities. [My perception is that the National Science Board safeguard also has declined from the Vannevar Bush "eminent scientist" standard to educational bureaucrats/administrators and interest group representatives.]

NSF v. the AAAS Council

The 1/14/2013 clarification also establishes (Question 2 under Broader Impacts) that Suresh, Arvizu *et al.*, - while presenting their regime as running fair and honest competitions - will not disclose to applicants the full (confidential) list of judging criteria that the NSF higher bureaucracy will use to decide the competitive ranking of applications. And [Question 1 under Broader Impacts} they also acknowledge that they have withdrawn the more detailed public advisory document giving examples of what criteria and features of an application (e.g., Partnership relationships with for-profit companies) different Program Officers and Division

heads use. [Presumably, Texas A&M will continue to win?] Rather than become more forthcoming, Suresh, Arvizu *et al.* have decided to become more opaque.

-NSF's problem of fairness and consistency. I am not aware of evidence from audited decision records, training manuals for NSF staff, nor other evidence to show that applicants are judged fairly and consistently. [NSF should not be allowed to operate its national competitions - i.e., as *competitions* - unless it can show that the varied criteria and *de facto* weights applied confidentially by different Division Directors and Program Officers for the 55,000 applications/year have met or currently meet this ethical and legal requirement.] Nor is there evidence on the revised Website that Dr. Suresh's Program Officers and Division Directors should be accepted as trusted judges who meet serious standards of the scientific community for evaluating the several dozen Other Societal Benefits and implied theories for which Dr. Suresh claims them to have reliable expertise.

- Politicization and the Rule of Law. It is deeply alarming, in their response to concerns, that Suresh, Arvizu *et al.* stonewall a fundamental and legitimate rule-of-law question about their stewardship of a government agency and an apparent abuse of power: They have not disclosed, for independent legal analysis by affected scientists, how missing rules in the ["non-inclusive and non-definitive"] lists or other devices, are used - and probably are misused - to kill independent, honest-broker scientific evaluation of Republican and other ideological truth claims, studies of racism and its effects, and of hierarchical psychology and the potentially transformative Primate Subordination Syndrome theory of human behavior and unsolved societal problems, and other topics. It is criminal to accommodate Republican political agendas and kill strategic plans to update an NSF Economics program whose theories and data systems have been allowed to lose their grip on a changing reality. It is unacceptable for any government agency to wield this kind of power over American universities, in secret, across 30+ years, and hateful that the Suresh, Arvizu *et al.* regime does so by misleading the press and by the propaganda device of invoking the credibility of the scientific community and the implication that Scientific Merit review has dumbed-down the social sciences and civic role of our universities.

The "Null Hypothesis" Test and Trustworthiness

Suresh and Arvizu *et al.*, have been challenged by scientists and the scientific standard of the null hypothesis. They have not yet disclosed audited data to show that their stewardship merits the confidence of the AAAS Council by the rules of science and the expectations of the scientific community

Restoring the Vannevar Bush Safeguards

We need a better future. Without the Vannevar Bush safeguards, the increasingly top-down and arrogant Suresh, Arvizu *et al.* regime is creating anger and demoralization, undermining voluntary participation in the peer review system that must work, exceeding its authority and outrageously neutralizing the civic role we expect of our universities, misdirecting funds, and making things worse.

Thank you for engaging these issues.

Yours truly,
Lloyd Etheredge

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[The Policy Sciences Center, Inc. is a public foundation that develops and integrates knowledge and practice to advance human dignity. It was founded by Harold Lasswell, Myres McDougal, and their associates in 1948 in New Haven, CT. Further information about the Policy Sciences Center and its projects, Society, and journal is available at www.policysciences.org.]

Downloaded from http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/merit_review/facts.jsp on January 24, 2013]

Merit Review Facts

3. FACT: NSF Program Officers make recommendations to fund or decline a proposal.

DISCUSSION: Reviewers do not make funding decisions. The analysis and evaluation of proposals by external reviewers provide information to NSF Program Officers in making their recommendations to award or decline a proposal. See Phase II: Proposal Review and Processing.

Downloaded from http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/merit_review/mrfaqs.jsp#1 on January 24, 2013}

Merit Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - dated January 14, 2013 - Broader Impacts

Broader Impacts

1. What happened to the document that contained examples illustrating activities likely to demonstrate broader impacts

The list of examples illustrating activities likely to demonstrate broader impacts has been removed as of January 14, 2013. NSF does not want to provide undue influence to proposers regarding what their likely broader impacts activities might be or imply that the exemplary activities are in any way proscriptive.

2. Where can I find text that defines broader impacts?

The Grant Proposal Guide, Chapter II.C.2.d contains information regarding broader impacts; however the list of outcomes is not all inclusive nor definitive. Broader impacts may be accomplished through the research itself, through the activities that are directly related to specific research projects, or through activities that are supported by, yet are complementary to the project. The Foundation's goal is to encourage thoughtful development of ideas in the community so that strong activities addressing broader impacts are brought forward in proposals. Hence, the PI is responsible for proposing what broader impacts may result from a project.

3. What are some elements of a well-written broader impacts section?

A well-written broader impacts section should include activities that are clearly described; have a

well-justified rationale; and demonstrate creativity or originality, or have a basis in established approaches. The proposer should have a well-organized strategy for accomplishment of clearly stated goals; establish the qualifications of those responsible for the activities; and demonstrate sufficient resources for support. A plan should be in place to document the results.

4. What is the PI's responsibility for developing metrics to assess their broader impacts outcomes and provide those at project report time?

PIs are expected to be accountable for carrying out the activities described in the funded project. Individual projects should include clearly stated goals, specific descriptions of activities that the PI intends to do, and a plan in place to document the outputs of those activities. The annual and final project reports should address progress in all activities of the project, including any activities intended to address the Broader Impacts criterion that are not intrinsic to the research.

Merit Review Principles, Criteria, and Elements

5. How are merit review principles to be used by Principal Investigators, reviewers, or Program Officers?

The Merit Review Principles help explain NSF's overall mission and describe concepts that the Foundation considers when ascertaining progress toward its mission as outlined in the NSF Strategic Plan. Consequently, they provide context for the Merit Review Criteria (Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts), to help proposers, reviewers and NSF staff fully understand their intent. As the community uses the criteria in the development and evaluation of NSF proposals, the principles should be used as a guide. PIs and organizations should understand what the principles are to ensure that their proposed activities align with them and help NSF achieve its goals. NSF program staff should consider the principles when determining whether or not to recommend proposals for funding and while overseeing awards.

6. What does "in the aggregate" mean in the second merit review principle?

The second merit review principle states, "NSF projects, in the aggregate, should contribute more broadly to achieving societal goals. These 'Broader Impacts' activities may be accomplished through the research itself, through activities that are directly related to specific research projects, or through activities that are supported by, but are complementary to, the project."

Both the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 and the NSF Strategic Plan emphasize the value of broader impacts of scientific research, beyond the intrinsic importance of advancing scientific knowledge. NSF recognizes that broader impacts activities may vary from project to project. Such activities may be tied to scientific outcomes inherent to the research or societal outcomes that are complementary to the project. NSF also recognizes that individual

projects by themselves are not likely to achieve societal goals. However, there is strength in numbers, and so in the aggregate, NSF projects that address similar goals should help make a difference in achieving those goals. Thus, NSF programs, divisions, and directorates/offices must ensure that their portfolios of funded projects fulfill this principle.

7. The third review element asks whether the plan is well-reasoned and incorporates a mechanism to assess success. Does this mean that PIs will want to lay out plans for assessment of their Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts activities? Will reviewers be expected to comment on whether the proposal includes plans for assessment of these activities and whether they are sound?

NSF expects PIs to be accountable for carrying out the activities described in the funded project, i.e., there is an expectation that within individual projects, there are clearly stated goals, specific descriptions of the PI's intended activities, and a plan in place to document the results. Reviewers are asked to consider what the proposers want to do, how they plan to do it, how they will know if they succeed, and what benefits could accrue if the project is successful.

8. There seems to be a tension between the third merit review principle and the third review element. Although there is not a need for individual project assessment, the PI must have a plan to assess success. Can NSF explain this apparent discrepancy?

PIs are expected to be accountable for carrying out the activities described in the funded project. Individual projects should include clearly stated goals, specific descriptions of activities that the PI intends to do, and a plan in place to document the outputs of those activities. A distinction should be made between such an accounting of outputs (the third review element) and an assessment of outcomes (the third merit review principle). PIs may propose to include funds for evaluation of individual projects, although individual project evaluations are not required for every project. NSF is exploring ways in which it may support assessment and evaluation at a higher level, e.g., at a program or institutional level.

9. In the new list of elements to consider in the review, there are 1(a), 1(b), 2, 3, 4, and 5. Are these intended to mean that in evaluation of the Intellectual Merit of the project, elements 1(a), 2, 3, 4, and 5 are to be used, and in evaluation of the Broader Impacts of a project, elements 1(b), 2, 3, 4, and 5 are to be used? Or does this mean that in evaluation of the Broader Impacts of a project, only 1(b) need be considered?

Five elements are to be considered in the review of each of the two criteria. For Intellectual Merit, element 1(a) applies, and for Broader Impacts, element 1(b) applies. For both Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts, elements 2-5 also apply.

10. Review element #2 asks: "To what extent do the proposed activities suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?" How does this apply to Broader Impacts?

The PI should describe the broader impacts derived directly or indirectly from the proposed project (see #2 above), including any “creative, original, or potentially transformative” approaches and/or expected outcomes. For example, if a PI proposed to engage students in a massive open online course (MOOC) – an approach – and evaluate the resulting student learning – an outcome, the broader impact could be better understanding how technology can be used to improve STEM education.

11. The second merit review principle states that, “The project activities may be based on previously established and/or innovative methods and approaches, but in either case must be well justified.” How does this relate to the second review element regarding “creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?”

NSF seeks to support projects that have the potential to advance, if not transform, the frontiers of knowledge. Although a project may appear to have the potential to transform knowledge at the time it is being proposed, it’s not always possible to know which projects will have transformative outcomes. Transformative results may not be evident until after the project is completed. Regardless of whether or not a proposed project has the potential to be transformative, NSF projects should be of the highest quality, including methods and approaches that are well justified. Also note that the second review element says, “creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts.” Not all projects are expected to include all three characteristics.

12. Are there weights assigned to the review criteria?

No. Weights have not been assigned to the review criteria. Both criteria are important and should be given full consideration during the development of the proposal, its review, and the decision-making process.

Project Description

13. The Project Description now requires separate sections with a discussion of the broader impacts of the proposed activities and Results from Prior Support, if applicable. Is the lack of these explicit sections cause for return without review?

Yes. Proposals that are not in compliance with these requirements will be returned without review.

Certification Regarding Organizational Support

14. What does the new organizational support certification mean for our organization?

The organizational support certification addresses a requirement described in Section 526 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, specifically that there must be evidence of

institutional support for the proposal's broader impacts activities. Because the merit review criteria are intertwined, NSF expanded this certification to include evidence of organizational support for intellectual merit activities. The certification does not imply an organizational commitment beyond what is already anticipated at the time of proposal submission, that is, if funded, an organization will provide the support necessary to ensure that the proposed activities will be implemented successfully.

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January 4, 2013

Dr. Phillip Sharp, Chair - AAAS Committee on Council Affairs
Dr. William Press, Chair - AAAS Council
1200 New York Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: The AAAS/NSF Accountability Process: A Background Document by Dr. Suresh

Dear Dr. Sharp, Dr. Press, and AAAS Council Members:

As background to the AAAS Council's Accountability process with the current NSF Director and NSB Chair, I enclose a reference copy of Dr. Suresh's coauthored claim about NSF and America's Scientific Merit, peer review system: "Merit Review: Assuring Gold Standard Science Around the Globe." The testament was uploaded to the White House Website on May 14, 2012. It was intended to promote America as an exemplar for an international conference of nearly 50 leaders of science-supporting agencies from around the world. Without Scientific Merit review, Dr. Suresh warned: "science funding is ever at risk of falling prey to social biases or political agendas."¹

However, as the truth has emerged, Dr. Suresh and NSF - albeit claiming that they are "renowned for strict adherence" - actually have rewritten the rules and artfully lowered the standards they claimed in public. They quietly - without telling most of America's scientists - shifted control, and the original (Vannevar Bush) "Gold Standard" Scientific Merit peer review system to "advisory only" status. "Merit" review - rather than being a shorthand term - obfuscates a cornucopia of expanding and mandated political and interest group re-weightings and costly giveaways and the real, higher and later, decision processes of science funding that decide program and budget issues and individual and institutional awards behind closed doors.² America's National Science Foundation has turned itself into a controversy-avoiding *de facto* political ally of the Republican Party, with behind-closed-door rules and pressures that have, for 30+ years, suppressed relevant social science. For example, Dr. Suresh still blocks any honest broker testing of Republican theories (e.g., the recent "47%" claim by Governor Romney) and rapid tests of neuroscience theories about societal problems involving Blacks and lower status populations apparently remain forbidden. How can our nation's scientists retain credibility on university campuses when the "47%" claim cannot be tested?

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The Center was founded in 1948 by Myres S. McDougal, Harold D. Lasswell, and George Dession in New Haven, CT

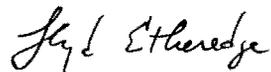
URL: <http://www.policyscience.net>

The core of Suresh's claim is right: America's strength *is* in the scientific agencies (e.g., NIH, NASA, FDA) that maintain the Gold Standard. But Suresh's NSF is in serious trouble, with falling rates of innovation and a degree of growing politicization and mismanagement that is beyond the capability of any single individual in the governance structure to reverse. If the AAAS Council wants to see Suresh and the future clearly, it can look to the stewardship of the social sciences, and notably the destruction of Economics. How would responsible, eminent scientists like Vannevar Bush has responded to a catastrophic breakdown of theories and data systems, and a scientific failure - in a vital area of stewardship - to be in contact with reality?³

- Concerning Dr. Suresh's (blocked) studies of neuroscience and hierarchical psychodrama (with a rationale about racism that I do not understand and that Dr. Leshner did not address in his Report) may I bring to your attention a JAMA editorial by Dr. Michael Lauer, MD, Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Sciences at the (NIH) National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute: "[D]espite 50 years of epidemiological knowledge and despite numerous therapeutic advances, risk factor burdens among minority populations are unacceptably high and consequential."⁴ One of the important hypotheses about these, and many other societal problems affecting lower status populations, is the exciting and potentially transformative suggestion of a Primate Subordination Syndrome that apparently cannot be rapidly evaluated by social scientists until Dr. Suresh and the NSF governance structure are replaced. We should be deeply grateful that trustworthy scientists like Dr. Lauer serve in government, and in agencies that are committed to rapid learning. There are human challenges that have nothing to do with whether academic scientists are perceived as "too liberal."

At this point, I view a No Confidence resolution as a simple communication of fact. And I thank you for your attention to these concerns and problems.

Yours truly,



Dr. Lloyd S. Etheredge

Merit Review: Ensuring Gold-Standard Science Around the Globe

Posted by John P. Holdren and Subra Suresh on May 14, 2012 at 09:00 AM EST. White House OSTP blog.

Three years ago, President Obama spoke at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., and called upon American scientists and engineers to work more closely with the international science community, even as he committed to boosting investment in domestic science and technology to new heights. That call for international collaboration resonated with U.S. researchers and research institutions for a number of reasons.

First, as the President noted, science, technology, and innovation often proceed more rapidly when creative minds from varied backgrounds share their insights. Second, especially in these economically trying times, more can be done when costs and risks are broadly shared. And third, a growing number of the challenges being addressed by science and technology—energy independence, better healthcare at lower cost, and improved food security, among others—are global in character.

Yet international collaboration poses unique challenges. Among the most important is the uneven commitment among nations to the highest standards of “merit review”—the gold-standard practice by which research proposals are judged by researchers’ peers to determine in a fair and evidence-based manner whether those proposals are worthy.

Without merit review, science funding is ever at risk of falling prey to social biases or political agendas. Experts simply can’t be beat when it comes to assessing the likelihood that a proposed experiment will deliver the intellectual and material goods it promises.

That’s why it is so significant that, for the first time ever, the heads of the primary science-funding agencies from nearly 50 countries will gather in Arlington, Va., on May 14 and 15 to craft and release a common set of merit-review principles and to create a Global Research Council to develop additional best practices for collaboration. The six principles they will initially agree to—which assert the essential value of expert assessment, transparency, impartiality, appropriateness, confidentiality, and integrity and ethics—are critical to putting the global research enterprise on a shared foundation that will not only enhance the quality of science but also bolster public trust in that science.

Merit review is not a uniquely American practice. But U.S. research-funding institutions such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), the nation’s largest funder of non-biomedical research in all fields of science and engineering and the convener of this week’s Merit Review Summit, are renowned for their strict adherence to it. The process depends upon thousands of subject-matter experts volunteering a few days per year to sit in modest meeting rooms and rank in a fair, transparent, and competitive manner the quality of various research proposals—more than 40,000 of which are submitted every year to the NSF alone. It is a painstaking endeavor but the result is clear: basic research selected for funding by the NSF has led directly to cell-phone technology, MRI scanners, and the Google search engine, to

name just a few outcomes that today are valued in the billions of dollars, generating entirely new industries and countless jobs.

Why should Americans care if other nations commit to the principles of merit review? For one, U.S. researchers competing for global funds risk losing their fair share if other governments do not ensure merit-based review of U.S. proposals. For another, U.S. collaborators are put at risk if their partners are not committed to ethical standards and scientific integrity. And U.S. economic interests can be seriously harmed by colleagues or competitors who do not respect confidentiality and intellectual property.

By contrast, with broad agreement on the principles underlying merit review, American scientists can take full advantage of the free exchange of information that has long fueled scientific progress, even as they collaborate with colleagues in far-flung nations that—ready or not—are investing more and more in science and technology. We already know that the global scientific community's appetite for international collaboration is strong: 32% of U.S. research articles in 2010 were internationally coauthored, up from 23% in 2000. And the number of science and engineering articles in which U.S. researchers shared authorship with foreign researchers more than doubled between 1995 and 2010.

There is no better time for the world's nations to agree on common standards for merit review. In today's global economy, good science anywhere in the world is good for science—and good for people—everywhere in the world.

John P. Holdren is Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Subra Suresh is Director of the National Science Foundation.

Notes

1. This is the kind of lie by a public official that unfairly damages the social sciences, institutions, individual careers, and the nation. Our nation's university administrations, undergraduates, and faculties, Trustees, news media and the public are led to believe that the irrelevance and stagnation of the social sciences arise from the operation of a peer-judged Scientific Merit review process of their best ideas.
2. Any statistical claim of "typical" adherence is not the "strict" adherence that NSF publicly advertises.

3. A standard, status-invoking, NSF defense is to claim that criticism has come from scientists with lesser scientific standing. However, these defenses are not available to Dr. Suresh and the NSB governance structure. Dr. Suresh *et al.* cannot claim Scientific Merit decisions when they have received warning letters about Economics written by Dr. Reischauer, currently Chair of the Harvard Corporation's Executive Committee. And when (concerning the national dependency hypothesis) an eminent psychiatrist, David Hamburg, MD (former President of the Institute of Medicine and of AAAS) also has supported the scientific merit of investing in reality-connected, national capabilities for rapid learning.

4. Quoted, Amina Khan, "Blacks Twice as Likely to Die of Coronary Heart Disease as Whites," Los Angeles Times, November 8, 2012. Online at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/news/spokespeople/lauer-michael.html>.