Each year ASU’s Office of Federal Relations prepares a document articulating ASU programmatic priorities for that Congressional session. Below are those priorities for the FY15 appropriations cycle as of March 26, 2014. Many additional items will come into play throughout the legislative session that require focused effort and attention. The below does not capture authorization and policy issues that are also high priorities for ASU. For example, ASU’s support of the Dream Act/Kids Act is not captured in this document. The priorities below are organized by appropriation subcommittee and designed for congressional office use.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at Stu.Hadley@asu.edu
PRIORITIES FOR THE FY15

LABOR/HHS/EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

ASU REQUESTS FOR FY2016 = $?

FY16 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST = $?

FY2015 Omnibus appropriations = $29.9B

*FY13 pre-Sequester Estimate = $29.001B

FY2012 = $30.64B

ASU supports an FY15 funding level of $32 billion for NIH which is about $2 B more than the President’s Budget Request at $30.2 billion. NIH is the nation’s primary agency for supporting biomedical research. The NIH competitively awards grants to scientists at universities across the country including Arizona State University. Over a recent 12 month period, ASU submitted competitive research proposals to HHS/NIH totaling over $342 million. ASU was awarded about $52.6 million during that same period. NIH/HHS was the second leading federal source of research funding for ASU during this period just behind NSF. The $32B for FY15 would allow the NIH to continue to educate the next generation of scientists and fund leading-edge research with the goals of improving health and saving lives through medical discovery and scientific leadership.
PELL GRANT PROGRAM (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)

ASU REQUEST FOR FY2015: $4860 (from approps...with total maximum amount at $5830

FY15 President’s Budget Request: $4860 from approps with total amount at $5830.

FY2014 Omnibus: $4860 from approps with total amount at $5730.

FY13 pre-Sequester Estimate = $4860 with total amount at 5,645

FY2012 = $4860 with total amount at $5550

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to financially disadvantaged students. The grants are the foundation of low-income students’ aid packages, to which other forms of aid are added. The Pell program is the largest federal source of college aid to students, and nationally it is anticipated that almost 12.8 million students to participate in the program in FY2015.

At Arizona State University roughly 40% of our undergraduate students receive Pell grant support totaling roughly $95 million. Pell grants are very important to ASU and the state of Arizona.
TEACHER QUALITY PARTNERSHIP (TQP)
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)

ASU SUPPORTS FOR FY2015: $43 million
FY15 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST: $0

FY14 omnibus appropriations = $43 million
FY12 FUNDING FOR TQP = $43 million
FY2011 FUNDING FOR TQP = $43 million

ASU competitively won the largest TQP award and the program has made a significant contribution in advancing teacher preparation at ASU. Our TQP award is called “NEXT” which aims to update the curriculum and education of teacher candidates while providing continuing evaluations and educational resources and opportunities for in-service teachers to increase student effectiveness. More than 40 schools in 12 districts around Arizona are currently involved in the NEXT grant. The President’s FY15 Budget request once again has zeroed out this important program and we are hopeful Congress will continue to fund it at a level of $43 million as it did for FY14. We anticipate the next an RFP for the next competition to be coming out in March/April and ASU will compete for those FY14 funds.

FIRST IN WORLD COMPETITION

First in the World Competition
ASU supports FY15 = $100 million

Presidents FY15 Budget Request = $100 million

FY 14 omnibus appropriation = $75 million

The FY15 BR included $100 million to enable colleges and nonprofit organizations to develop, validate, or scale up innovative and effective strategies for increasing college access and completion, particularly for minority and low-income students, through an evidence-based competition. The plan includes a $20 million set-aside for minority-serving institutions. The competition would be administered through the Fund for Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). The Department of Education does not need Congressional authorization to move forward on this initiative.
ASU Supports funding for the First in the World Competition at $100 million as per the included in the FY15 budget request.

**College Opportunity and Graduation Bonus grant program.**

FY15: Budget request includes $647 million in mandatory funding

This program is to reward colleges that successfully enroll and graduate a significant number of low- and moderate-income students, focusing on Pell Grant recipients. Overall it is described as a new start at $7 billion over 10 years. Waiting for additional information on this program.

**FEDERAL WORK STUDY (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)**

ASU supports FY2015 Request: $976 million

FY15 President’s budget request = 975 million

FY14 omnibus appropriation = $975 million

*FY13 pre-sequester Estimate = $926 million

FY2012 = $976 million

FY2010 = $980 million

Work Study awards are increasingly significant for high-need students as enrollments increase reflecting a growing trend toward those returning to college seeking new skills to become more employable in the depressed job market. Work Study funding is very important to ASU. Total federal amount of work study dollars paid to ASU students is around $2.75 million. The Work-Study program provides grants to participating institutions to pay up to 75 percent of the wages of eligible undergraduate and graduate students working part-time to help pay their college costs. The school or other eligible employer provides the balance of the student's wages.
ASU FY15 REQUEST FOR CPB = $445 million (for FY17)

PRESIDENT’S BUDGET FY15 REQUEST = $445 million (for FY17)

FY 14 Omnibus appropriations: $445 million for FY16

FY12: $445 MILLION (FOR FY14)
FY11: $445 MILLION (IN THE CR) FOR FY13
FY10: $445 MILLION (FOR FY12)
FY09: $430 MILLION (FOR FY11)

CPB appropriations are for “forward funded.”

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting provides critical support to local public television stations to serve America’s communities on-air, online and on the ground with uniquely high-quality programming and services. By statute, over 70 percent of funds appropriated to CPB reach the stations in the form of Community Service Grants (CSGs). Public television plays a key role in educating our children, keeping Americans healthy, and providing job training. At only $1.35 per person per year, this funding provides an enormous return on investment for all Americans. At ASU, CPB funding provides roughly 18% of KAET Channel 8’s operating budget.
FY15 ENERGY APPROPRIATIONS
PROGRAMMATIC REQUESTS

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) OFFICE OF SCIENCE

ASU SUPPORTS FY15 FUNDING FOR OFFICE of SCIENCE AT: $5.223 BILLION
FY15 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST FOR EERE: $5.111 BILLION

FY14 Omnibus Appropriations: $5.152 Billion
FY13 Pre-Sequester: $4.875 Billion
FY12: $4.875

ASU supports a funding level of $5.223 billion for FY15. At this funding level there would continue to be leading-edge energy research and educating the next generation of scientists. Strong, sustainable and predictable funding levels for research, including the Office of Science, are also necessary to ensure we build a better America by remaining a global leader in science and technology. In these challenging budget times, funding scientific research should be a priority. Science and technological advances, like those funded by DOE, are the foundation of our nation’s economic growth and aid in our national defense.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (EERE)

ASU SUPPORTS FUNDING OF EERE AT: $2.317 Billion
FY15 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST FOR EERE: $2.317 Billion
FY14 Omnibus appropriations: $1.9 Billion

FY12 EERE: $1.8 BILLION

FY11 EERE: $1.77 BILLION

ASU supports continued EERE funding at the level of $2.317 billion. ASU is committed to translating basic scientific breakthroughs into commercial products that results in meeting the energy reductions goals. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) supports clean energy research, development, demonstration, and deployment activities on technologies and practices that helps meet national security, environmental, and economic goals. Technologies supported through the Bioenergy Technology Office, for example, further these goals by reducing dependence on oil, minimizing the emissions associated with energy production and use, and stimulating economic growth and job creation in the US through the reduction of energy costs and investment in next generation renewable energy and manufacturing. The EERE portfolio emphasizes work areas where the potential impact is largest, and where federal funds are most critical. It balances investments in high-risk early-stage research with partnerships with private firms that speed the translation of innovations into practical business opportunities. The diverse set of technologies supported by EERE helps ensure that the US has many options for meeting its energy goals. Program management is designed to identify the best groups in the country to address these challenges and supports work in universities, companies, national laboratories, and consortia.

ARPA-E

FY15 ASU REQUEST: $325 million

FY15 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST LEVEL: $325 million

FY14 omnibus: $280 million

FY13 pre-sequester: $265 million

FY12: $275 million

ASU supports ARPA-E funding at the FY2015 budget request level of $325 million. ASU has been particularly successful in securing ARPA-E grants and very active in pursuing ARPA-E awards. Specifically, ASU has secured three ARPA-E awards in the areas of fuels to sunlight, battery technologies and energy
storage and most recently efficient and cost-effective carbon capture technology using an innovative electrochemical technique.

ENERGY FRONTIER RESEARCH CENTER (EFRC) PROGRAM

FY15 ASU APPROPS REQUEST = $100 million
FY15 PRESIDENT’S BUDGET REQUEST = 100 million

FY14 Omnibus: $100 million
FY13 pre-sequester:

The Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRCs) support multi-year, multi-investigator scientific collaborations focused on overcoming hurdles in basic science that block transformational discoveries.

ASU supports continued funding in FY2015 budget request for the Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRCs) program. ASU has been successful in competing for EFRCs in the past. We won a $14 million grant to establish an EFRC for Bio-Inspired Solar Fuel production. Funding at this level would allow for continued support for multi-year grants for these competitively awarded research centers. The ERFCs focus on the grand energy challenges identified by the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee.
ASU has two items we urge your support for in the FY14 DoD appropriations cycle. The first is support for the U.S. Army’s Flexible Display Center located at ASU. And the second is support for basic research at DoD referred to as 6.1 funding.

DoD RESEARCH

6.1 RESEARCH
FY2015 REQUEST: $2.230 Billion

FY2014 President’s Budget Request: 2.017 Billion

FY2013 pre-sequester amount: $2.130 billion
FY2012 = $2.112B

The 6.1 portion of the DoD budget includes all basic research programs funded under the Office of the Secretary of Defense and basic research at DARPA, also known as Defense-wide, as well those supported by the respective military services: the Navy, Army, and Air Force.
FLEXIBLE DISPLAY CENTER

ASU requests continued support for the ongoing appropriations for the U.S. Army’s Flexible Display Center located at ASU. It is not an earmark. The Army’s Flexible Display Center was competitively awarded.

Background

The U.S. Army competitively awarded the Flexible Display Center at ASU in February 2004 to spearhead the next revolution in information displays. The Center is a partnership where academia, industry, and government collaborate on rapid technology development, innovation and integration to create a new generation of innovative displays that will be flexible, lightweight, low power, and rugged. These revolutionary displays will usher in a new era of powerful real-time information sharing through ubiquitous commercial and military application in everything from portable pocket-held and vehicle-mounted devices to permanent and temporary conferencing/command rooms. The work is consistent with the Director, Defense Research and Engineering Strategic Plan, the Army modernization strategy, and the Army Science and Technology Master Plan.


Budget Detail

It is my understanding that there are again two PE funding streams for the Army’s Flexible Display Center located at Arizona State University for FY15.

a) One line in the FY15 Budget Request is for $.571 million for the Flexible Display Center (FDC). As found in Volume BA 2, page 149, R-1 Line item #18: PE 0602705A Electronics and Electronic Devices. H17: Flexible Display Center.

b) Another line that includes some funding for the Flexible Display Center is found in in BA 7, page 465, R-1 Line #194 in the End Item Industrial Preparedness Activities section, E25 the Manufacturing Science and Technology Section. Command, Control and Communications Systems contains multiple directives and is funded at $15.009 million. The PE 708045A would involve FDC. The exact amount from this line that would be for the FDC is not spelled out in the BR, but we anticipate perhaps $2.5 – 3.0 million of the $15.009 million would be for the FDC.
ASU Requests for NSF for FY2015: $7.5 Billion

FY15 President’s Budget Request = $7.255 Billion

FY2014 Omnibus = $7.172B

*FY13 pre-Sequester Estimate = $6.9B

FY2012 = $7.033B

ASU supports a request of $7.5B for FY2015 for the National Science Foundation, an agency key to the development of new innovations and our national economic competitiveness, and move toward the goals outlined in the bipartisan America COMPETES Act. The NSF funds merit-based research and supports science, math and engineering education across the country, including at ASU. In a recent 12 month period, ASU had expenditures totaling about $56.7 million from NSF. During that period of time it was the largest source of federal research dollars for ASU. NSF investments are also necessary to ensure we build a better America by remaining a global leader in science and technology. In these challenging budget times, funding scientific research should be a priority. Science and technological advances, like those funded by NSF, are the foundation of our nation’s economic growth and aid in our national defense.
NASA is an important funding agency for ASU. In a recent 12 month period, ASU submitted proposals totaling about $84.7 million and received roughly $23.2 million in awards over that same period. Areas that are of particular interest to ASU stretch across NASA’s portfolio.

Details of the potential impact from the President’s FY15 budget request are still being analyzed but here are several immediate areas of concern.

- Proposed cancellation of Mars Rover program.
- Lack of funding for the Next Frontiers (medium class) program.
- Lack of funding for the actual new start of the Europa mission.
- Cancellation of the SOFIA program—unless funding from Germany materializes.
- Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter: (see below)

**Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO):** ASU strongly desires to see continued FY15 funding for the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter work underway at ASU. LRO is devoting the capabilities of the seven LRO instruments to five science investigations: the bombardment history of the Moon; the lunar geologic processes and their role in the evolution of the crust and lithosphere; the processes that have shaped the global lunar regolith; the types, sources, sinks, and transfer mechanisms associated with volatiles on the Moon; and how the space environment interacts with the lunar surface, in order to advance our understanding of the origin and evolution of the Moon. It is up for review in 2014 to determine if continuation funds would be provided.

**Mars Rover Opportunity**

ASU is actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity, which is now in its 10th year of continuous exploration of Mars. The rover's Panoramic Camera (Pancam) color imaging investigation and Miniature Thermal Emission Spectrometer (Mini-TES) investigation are both run from the Tempe campus. The mission is currently exploring the rim of an ancient impact crater which contains clays and other water-formed minerals, providing exciting new evidence about the past climate and habitability of Mars. Evidence that the mission is still exciting and relevant comes from,
example, the recent publication last month in Science magazine of a new peer-reviewed article describing the latest results on the discovery of clay minerals. In addition to Bell and Christensen, nearly a dozen staff and students are actively involved in this mission, which also utilizes the Mission Operations facility on the ground floor of the new ISTB4 building.

New Frontiers

NASA’s New Frontiers program allows scientists to propose to conduct medium-class (about $1B total cost) planetary exploration missions. Current New Frontiers missions include the New Horizons mission that will fly by Pluto next year, the Juno mission that will orbit Jupiter in 2016, and the OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission, which carries a spectrometer instrument being built on the Tempe campus by ASU Professor Phil Christensen and his group. ASU Professor Jim Bell submitted an outer solar system asteroid rendezvous mission proposal to the last call for missions in 2009, and intends to re-submit that ~$1B-class mission proposal again for the next opportunity. The next AO is due soon based on the recommendations of the recent National Academy of Sciences Planetary Science Decadal Survey. The President’s FY15 budget does not contain funds for such a fourth New Frontiers mission AO, however, not even in the out years through FY19. If that positions stands, more than a decade would pass before another such opportunity is offered to the community.

Europa

The National Academy of Sciences Planetary Science Decadal Survey calls for a large (Flagship, ~$2.5B-class) mission to Jupiter’s large ice-covered moon Europa as the next highest large mission priority after the already-approved Mars-2020 rover mission. The community is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to propose instruments and science investigations for this opportunity to explore what may be the largest ocean in the solar system. This includes ASU Professor Jim Bell, who this year received a ~$1M NASA grant to mature some of the technologies needed to operate high resolution digital imaging detectors in the high radiation environment of Jupiter and Europa. Other ASU professors and groups are also seriously considering proposing instruments for this mission. Congress has expressed strong support for the start of such a new and exciting mission of exploration in previous NASA authorization bills. While the President’s FY15 budget proposal acknowledges the importance of more detailed exploration of Europa, inadequate funds are requested to truly support the new start of a mission.

ASU continues to look for opportunities to connect with new entrepreneurial space companies and we are encouraged with the FY15 NASA budget request of $848M for its Commercial Crew Program and $705M for Space Technology.
NASA’s **Science Mission Directorate** (SMD)

ASU Request: $5.5254 B
FY15 President Budget Request: $4.972 billion. Below is a breakdown of the programs within SMD:

- **Earth Science**: $1.777 billion (includes funding for the Joint Polar Satellite System and the Landsat program)

- **Planetary Science**: $1.280 billion (a 4.8% cut from FY14) (within this amount is funding for the Asteroid mission, support for the fall 2013 launch of the MAVEN mission, and development of a new Mars Rover)

- **Astrophysics**: $607 million (a 9.1% cut from FY14)

- **Heliophysics**: $669 million

- **The James Webb Space Telescope**: $645 million for the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), which is $13.2 million, or two percent, below the FY14 amount of $658 million.

**The Space Technology Mission Directorate**
FY15 Budget Request: $706 million.
FY14 Omnibus appropriations: $576 million

**The Aeronautics Mission Directorate**
FY15 ASU Request: $577 million
FY15 Presidents Budget Request: $551 million.

**NASA Education**: $89 million for NASA’s Office of Education. According to FY15 budget materials, NASA “proposes to restructure the Agency’s education efforts to better align to the principles of the Administration’s STEM reorganization and the Five-Year Federal Strategic Plan on STEM Education.”

In addition, NASA plans to consolidate and transfer to the Office of Education the education funding and programs currently in the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, the Aeronautics Directorate, and the Cross-Agency Support account. Education and Public Outreach programs and funding will remain under the auspices of the Science Mission Directorate. (Potential ASU impact being analyzed)
International Space Station
ASU is very active in pursuing research on the International Space Station. Our work particularly in the area micro-gravity-based R&D is highly competitive. The President’s Budget Request for Space Operations FY15 includes 3.051 billion for the ISS. We are encouraged that the number of spaceflight experiments and their resulting benefits to human health and quality of life are increasing dramatically. Consistent and appropriate funding for the ISS is needed and the link between the ISS and commercial spaceflight is needed for future success.

OGSI Funding for NASA-related: Under the Administration’s proposed Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative, NASA would receive an additional $885.5 million. The funding would be allocated as follows:

$187 million-Science
$43.9 million-Aeronautics
$100 million--Space Technology
$350 million--Exploration
$100.6 million-Space Operations
$10 million--Education
$94 million – Construction of Facilities and Environmental Compliance Restoration
FY15 NATIONAL NETWORKS OF MANUFACTURING INSTITUTES

1) National Network of Manufacturing Institutes

FY15 President’s BR =

Funding to expand the NNMI program to include 45 institutes over 10 years is included in the Presidents Opportunity, Growth, Security Initiative (OGSI) with funds coming from tax increases. We are hopeful dome NNMI could be funded thru regular FY15 appropriations – with or without tax increases. If the administration stays on track to fund some new NNMIs utilizing agency funds we are hopeful flexible electronics would be the theme for at least one.