



# NASA Update Federal Demonstration Partnership

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# Items for Update

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- NASA's NRA Guidebook
- Grants.gov
- Funding (i.e., money)?



# Guidebook

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NASA will issue a revised guidebook  
for preparing proposals for NASA's  
research announcements before  
February 1, 2010



# Grants.gov

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NASA will resume accepting applications  
from grants.gov beginning April 1, 2010



# Funding (i.e., money)?

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Congress fears NASA leaves too much unspent for too long . . .



“While the conference report does not adopt the position proposed by the House to limit appropriations available to NASA to one-year while providing an allowance of ten percent for two-years to reflect the research and development nature of the work performed, the conferees will continue to monitor NASA’s efforts **to improve its obligation rate with commensurate improvements in accrual of costs and outlays** to determine if the House’s proposal warrants further consideration.” (FY10 budget)

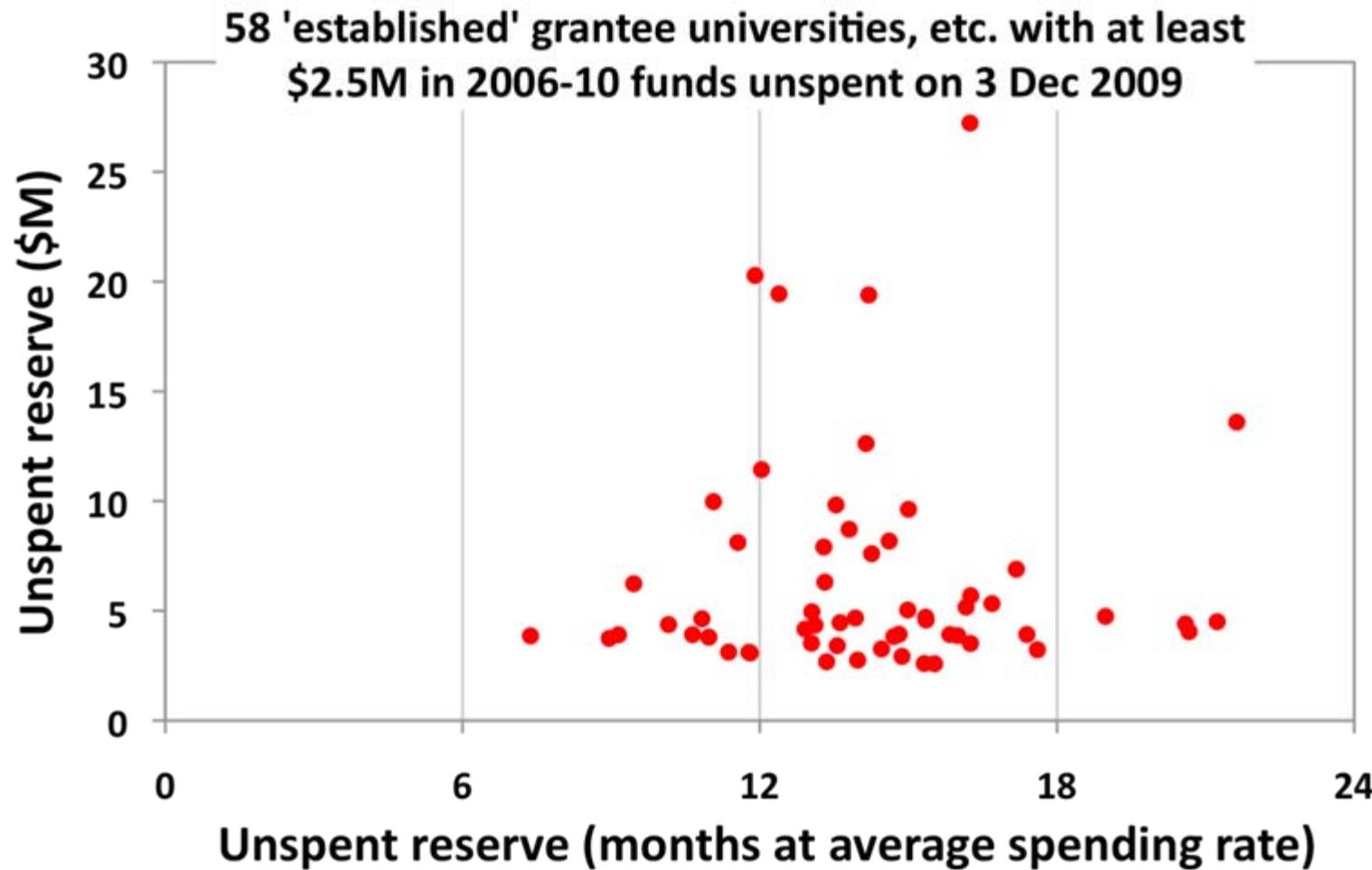
**In program years 2006 through 2008**, NASA awarded \$687M more than was reported spent by 30 Sept 2009.

Grants and cooperative agreements are **5%** of NASA’s budget, but account for **half** of these unspent funds.

**NASA promised Congress we will do better in 2010...**



# Typically, 14 months of funds remain unspent





# How can we do better, **WITHOUT** damaging research?

**Can universities help** to reduce unspent grant balances?

Does the way NASA sends out funds make it hard for PIs to start spending right away, or for you to report it promptly?  
Are grant costs reported accurately each month or quarter?

What is the impact for universities **if NASA delays further funds until a PI has spent money already awarded**?

Suppose I call you with a list of PIs who seem to have a year's money remaining, and say that I will defer sending more on those grants till I see only 6 months unspent?

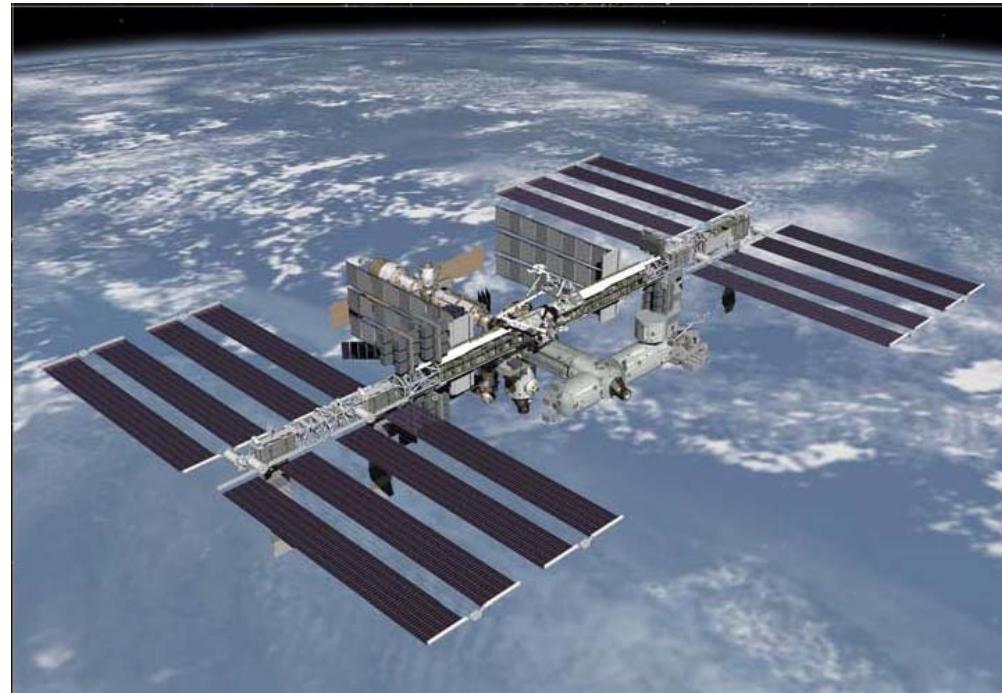
What is the impact for universities **if NASA turns down almost all requests for no-cost extensions** to grants, beyond the initial grantee-approved 12-month extension?



# Concluding Remarks

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- Please Help NASA to Help You





# Questions?

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