

# *Research.gov Update*

May 5, 2011



## For discussion today

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- Overview of Research.gov
- Service updates and enhancements
- Status of pilot services
- Research.gov web trainings and feedback

## Research.gov

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- Supports the needs of institutions and researchers
  - Modernization of FastLane providing next generation grants management capabilities to meet the unique needs of the research community
  - Provides a menu of grants management and information services for multiple Federal agencies in one place
  - Intuitive, easy-to-use environment to conduct business with the Federal Government
- Increases transparency of Federal research spending and outcomes
- Provides the public, scientific community, and Congress with easy access to information about:
  - How Federal research funds are being spent
  - What outcomes are being achieved
  - How those outcomes benefit society
- Leverages government-wide standards

## Research.gov Partnerships

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- Partnerships with the research community to identify, prioritize, and test services
- Partnerships with other Federal agencies to streamline access to services and information for the research community
- Partnerships with Federal community to leverage government-wide standards





# Grants Management Environment



## Government-wide Grants

- “FIND” Grant Opportunities
- “APPLY” for Grants



## NSF Community

- **NSF-oriented services for:**
  - Institutions and researchers
- **Prepare and submit:**
  - Proposals
  - Financial Transactions and Reports
  - Project Reports
  - Requests related to awards



## Research Community

- **Partnership of research agencies providing research-focused services for:**
  - Institutions and Researchers
  - Key Stakeholders
  - NSF Staff/Program Staff
  - General Public
- **Mission-focused services to:**
  - Plan programs
  - Accept proposals
  - Conduct merit review
  - Manage awards
  - Publish results
  - Find policies, news, and events
- **Leverages government-wide standards**

# Research.gov grantee and informational services



- Public-facing Information Services:
  - Research Spending & Results
  - Policy Library (Government-wide)
  - SEE Innovation (New!)
  - Research Headlines & Events
- Grants Management Services:

## Reporting Services

- Project Outcomes Report for the General Public (New!)
- Federal Financial Reports
- Research Performance Progress Reports (planning stage)

## Application Services

- Grants Application Status
- Application Submission Web Service (now in pilot)

## Login Services

- InCommon (now in pilot)
- Single-sign on with FastLane to PI and co-PI functions

A screenshot of the Research.gov homepage. The header features the "Research.gov" logo and the tagline "POWERING KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION". The date "January 25, 2011" is in the top right. A search bar and "Advanced" search link are on the right. The left sidebar has a "LOG IN AS" dropdown set to "NSF Visitor" with a "Login" button. Below it are links for "Home", "Contact Us", "Site Map", and "Help". A vertical menu on the left includes "Who We Are", "Service Offerings", "News", "SEE Innovation", "APPLY FOR GRANTS", "Grants.gov", "NSF FastLane", "NASA Horizons", "FEEDBACK", and "Tell Us What You Think". The main content area has a banner for "New! Discover the Outcomes of NSF's Science, Engineering &amp; Education Innovation" with a "Click here to SEE Innovation &gt;&gt;" link. It also features a "RECOVERY.gov" section with a "Learn More About the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" link and a "Events" section for the "March 4-6, 2011, NASA Financial Research Administration (FRA) 12 Conference".

# Update on new services and enhancements to current services

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- InCommon Federation
- Single sign-on to FastLane PI and co-PI functions
- Federal Financial Report
- The Project Outcomes Report for the General Public
- Application Submission Web Service
- Personalization features
  - RSS Feeds
- Research Progress Performance Report

## Partnership with InCommon

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- NSF joined the InCommon Federation in 2009 to provide NSF's research and education community easier access to online services using Research.gov
- InCommon leverages technology developed under an NSF-funded grant that enables researchers and sponsored programs offices to securely access Research.gov using the institution user ID and password
- Benefits for researchers include:
  - Secure exchange of information and access to web-based resources
  - Capability of using the same login credentials with other federal agencies
  - Reduced number of user IDs and passwords

## InCommon Pilot Expansion

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- NSF has been conducting an initial InCommon pilot with three institutions to ensure that the feature meets user needs before it is expanded to other InCommon members in the NSF community
- Beginning May, the InCommon integration on Research.gov will be open to all NSF InCommon member institutions
- Institutions can request to join by emailing [feedback@research.gov](mailto:feedback@research.gov)

## The Federal Financial Report

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- The Federal Financial Report (FFR) is an online service that allows organizations to prepare and submit the government-wide standard financial report to NSF
- NSF will completely transition FFR Preparers and Certifiers from FastLane to Research.gov this calendar year
  - After this time, users will no longer be able to log into FastLane to complete the FFR
- If FFR Preparers and Certifiers complete additional financial functions (such as cash requests) through FastLane, they will have seamless access to FastLane through Research.gov
- Beginning in June, FastLane financial users will be able to access all FastLane functions through Research.gov via single sign-on

# The Federal Financial Report

- Navigate easily through user-friendly financial management forms with the FFR service on Research.gov
- With the FFR service on Research.gov, organizations can:
  - Submit multi- and single-award financial reports using the new government-wide form
  - Adjust financially closed awards
  - Access web-based forms prepopulated with organization and grant information
  - Download and upload information in Microsoft Excel format

**Federal Financial Report (FFR) Dashboard**

## Financial Report Dashboard

[Federal Financial Report \(FFR\) : 3 total FFRs](#)  
Requires Your Action (0) | Pending Agency Action (1) | Ap

**Federal Financial Report**

## Federal Financial Report History

[FFR Help](#)

45 FFRs found  
PAGE: 1 of 2 | 1 [2](#) [NEXT PAGE >>](#)

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Quarter Ending	Status	Required	FFR Type
<a href="#">12/31/2008</a>	Unsubmitted	Required	FFR
<a href="#">09/30/2008</a>	Unsubmitted	Required	FFR
<a href="#">06/30/2008</a>	Approved	Required	FFR
<a href="#">03/31/2008</a>	Approved	Required	FFR

# The Project Outcomes Report for the General Public

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- Submit the new NSF reporting requirement, the Project Outcomes Report for the General Public on Research.gov
  - Fulfills America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act requirement specific to NSF
- Report serves as a brief summary prepared by PIs/co-PIs specifically for the public, describing the nature and outcomes of the project
- Effective for new awards and funding increments to existing awards made on or after January 4, 2010
- Required in addition to final project reports which will continue to go through FastLane

# Example of a Project Outcomes Report on Research Spending & Results



## Research Spending & Results

[Back to Results](#)

### Award Detail

Awardee:	UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Doing Business As Name:	University of Chicago
PD/PI:	Trevor D Price (773) 702-5176 pricet@uchicago.edu
Award Date:	01/29/2007
Funds Obligated to Date:	\$ 365,400 FY 2010=\$19,400 FY 2008=\$5,000 FY 2007=\$341,000
Award Start Date:	02/01/2007
Award Expiration Date:	08/31/2010
Transaction Type:	Grant
Agency:	NSF
Awarding Agency Code:	4900
Funding Agency Code:	4900
CFDA Number:	47.074
Primary Program Source:	490100 NSF RESEARCH
Award Title or Description:	Analysis of regional
Federal Award ID Number:	0640139
DUNS ID:	005421136

### Project Outcomes Report

#### Disclaimer

This Project Outcomes Report for the General Public is displayed verbatim as submitted by the Principal Investigator (PI) for this award. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this Report are those of the PI and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation; NSF has not approved or endorsed its content.

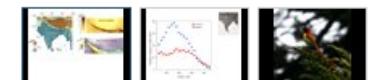
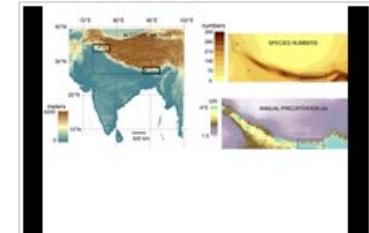
One of the most basic of ecological questions asks: why are more species found in some places of the world than others? Over the past decade, advances in our knowledge of (1) the present day distribution of species and climate, (2) relationships among those species (from DNA sequences) and (3) earth's history means that we can get much more rigorous answers to this question. In the work under review, we set out to collect these kinds of data to understand the cause of a more than two fold decline in the number of bird species breeding from the eastern Himalayas (where up to 600 species breeding in a 200 x 200km square) to the western Himalayas. The strength of the system is that >120 species are found in both locations, so we can study geographical variation within species, as well as assess the ecological attributes of those species with large ranges.

As the conceptual basis to this study (i.e., intellectual merit), we argued that any understanding of causes of differences in species numbers between locations should begin by asking: what is it that sets the range limits of many species (i.e., what is about the conditions beyond the range limit that prevent species from establishing there). This is particularly effective for the Himalayas, because species not only have geographical range limits, but also altitudinal ones, and these kinds of limits can be compared. First, on the basis of theoretical work, we noted that understanding of range limits almost certainly requires an understanding of resources (notably food) are responding to underlying climatic variables.

The eastern Himalayas are particularly wet, and also warmer than the western Himalayas, and the big disparity in species numbers comes because certain climates are not experienced in the west at all; forest species below 2000 m decline massively from east to west, and 'open' species show no decline at all. However, many forest species do have ranges that extend from east to west. A critical question is whether those species with ranges that fail to go west are closely related to each other (and hence share some historical 'constraint'), or whether close relatives often differ in range size. We find the latter is the case: many closely related groups contain one species that lives in higher, colder, drier climates, and another that lives lower down, and it is the higher up one that has a large geographical range.

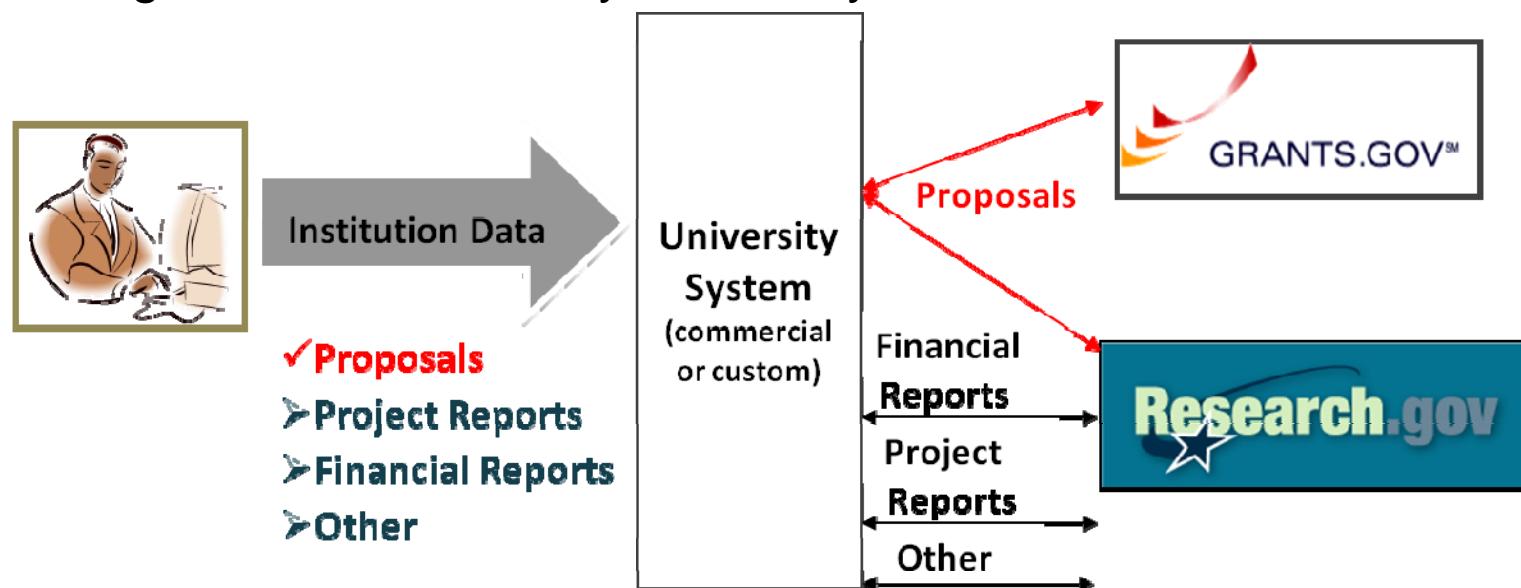
One of the more remarkable aspects of our work is how much we are learning the basic natural history, particularly of the little-known eastern Himalayas, which may have the second highest biodiversity in the world (after the northern Andes). By incorporating DNA analyses, we are finding multiple *cryptic* species in some groups (species which are very similar, but deeply genetically divergent). In this work, we are able to integrate both undergraduate and graduate students from both the US and India into both field and lab studies. The global perspective is needed to understand conservation issues, and to have much hope of conserving diversity in a region which is (1) amenable to conservation issues but (2) under considerable land and population pressure.

#### Images (1 of 4)



## Application Submission Web Service

- The Application Submission Web Service pilot provides applicants with a seamless experience of submitting proposals via web services to Research.gov and Grants.gov:
  - PIs can prepare and submit applications to NSF using their institutions' systems
  - Institutions can leverage investments in their system solutions—commercial or custom-built solutions
- The Application Submission Web Service pilot is consistent with Grants.gov framework for system-to-system submission



## Application Submission Web Service

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- Research.gov is currently working with 110 institutions using Cayuse
- 52 proposals successfully submitted and positive feedback
- Significantly faster user experience from submission to the time NSF processes the application and validates business rules compliance
- Next steps: Expand web service solution to other interested institutions and additional system providers
- If you are interested in learning more about Application Submission Web Service, contact [feedback@research.gov](mailto:feedback@research.gov)



## Enhancements to Research.gov

- Personalize Research.gov experience through your profile:
  - Stay up-to-date through new notification features, such as RSS feeds and email alerts when new awards are made to your institution, state, or Congressional District



- Seamlessly access FastLane through Research.gov without having to re-enter your login and password
  - In May 2011 we implemented single sign-on from Research.gov to FastLane for PI and co-PI functions
  - In June, we will expand single sign-on to financial users

# The new Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR)

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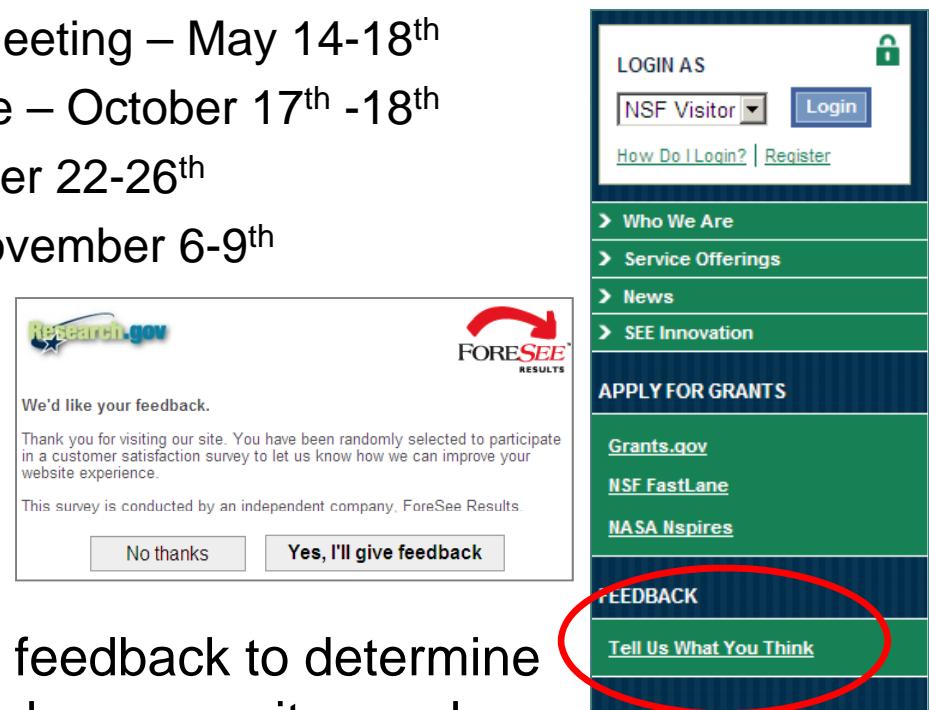


- The Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) was approved by the Office of Management and Budget and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OMB/OSTP) in April 2010 to create greater consistency in administration of federal research awards
- The Research Performance Progress Report is a new, government-wide standard form to report on the progress of research projects
- Research.gov will offer the project reporting service, allowing grantees to complete and submit annual, interim, and final project reports to NSF

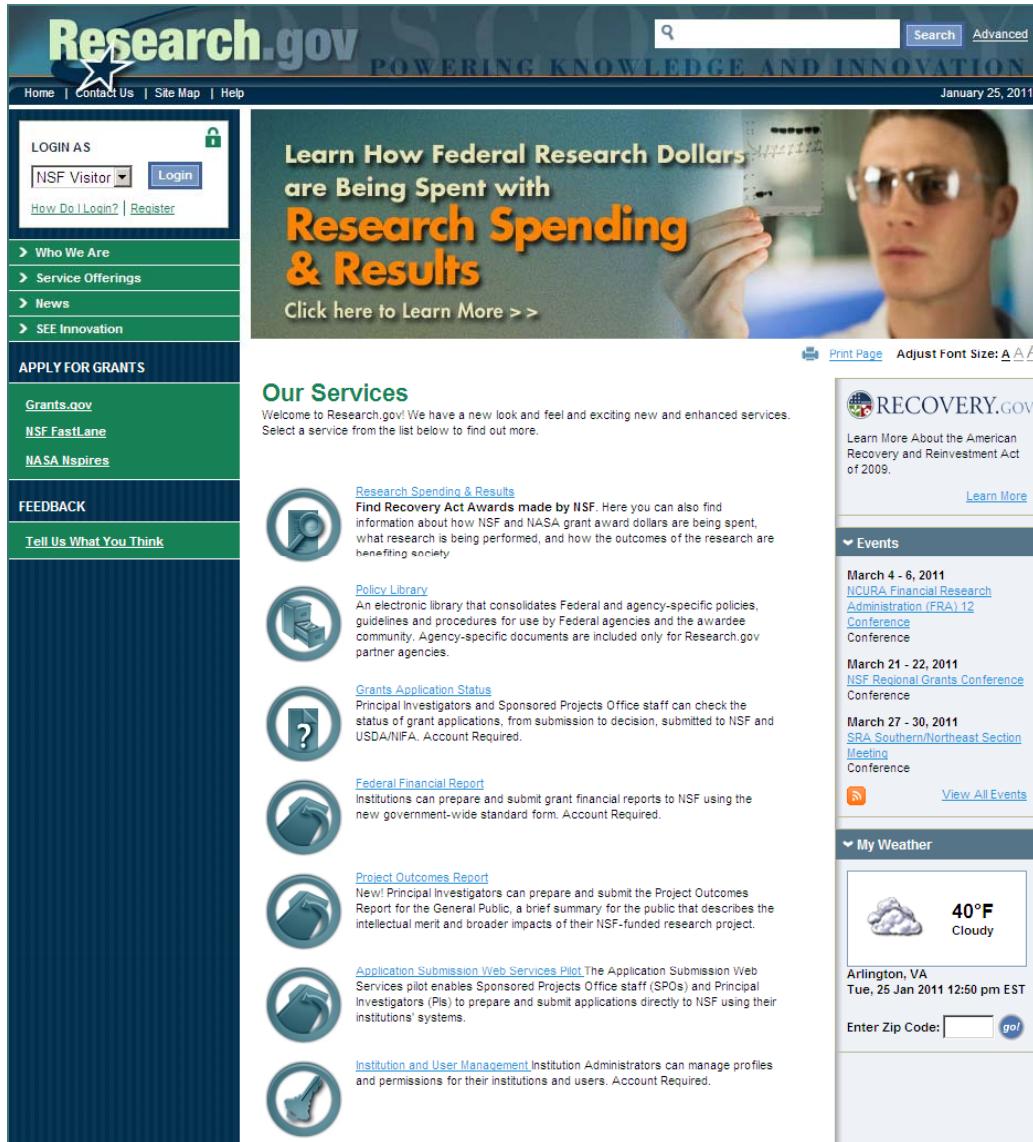
## Get more information on Research.gov and provide feedback



- Research.gov is now offering webinar trainings, email [feedback@research.gov](mailto:feedback@research.gov) to schedule one
- Look for the Research.gov booth at the following conferences:
  - SRA Western/Midwest Section Meeting – May 14-18<sup>th</sup>
  - NSF Regional Grants Conference – October 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>
  - SRA Annual Conference – October 22-26<sup>th</sup>
  - NCURA Annual Conference – November 6-9<sup>th</sup>
- Tell us what you think:
  - Complete our online feedback form
  - Take our online pop-up survey
- The Research.gov team monitors feedback to determine if services are meeting the research community needs, to prioritize new services, and to make enhancements to existing services



# Discover Research.gov Today!



The screenshot shows the Research.gov homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Contact Us, Site Map, and Help. The main banner features a scientist in a lab coat and safety glasses, with the text: "Learn How Federal Research Dollars are Being Spent with Research Spending & Results". Below the banner, a "Our Services" section lists various tools and resources, each with a corresponding icon:

- Research Spending & Results**: Find Recovery Act Awards made by NSF. Description: An electronic library that consolidates Federal and agency-specific policies, guidelines and procedures for use by Federal agencies and the awardee community. Agency-specific documents are included only for Research.gov partner agencies.
- Policy Library**: An electronic library that consolidates Federal and agency-specific policies, guidelines and procedures for use by Federal agencies and the awardee community. Agency-specific documents are included only for Research.gov partner agencies.
- Grants Application Status**: Principal Investigators and Sponsored Projects Office staff can check the status of grant applications, from submission to decision, submitted to NSF and USDA/NIFA. Account Required.
- Federal Financial Report**: Institutions can prepare and submit grant financial reports to NSF using the new government-wide standard form. Account Required.
- Project Outcomes Report**: New! Principal Investigators can prepare and submit the Project Outcomes Report for the General Public, a brief summary for the public that describes the intellectual merit and broader impacts of their NSF-funded research project.
- Application Submission Web Services Pilot**: The Application Submission Web Services pilot enables Sponsored Projects Office staff (SPOs) and Principal Investigators (PIs) to prepare and submit applications directly to NSF using their institutions' systems.
- Institution and User Management**: Institution Administrators can manage profiles and permissions for their institutions and users. Account Required.

The right sidebar includes a "RECOVERY.GOV" section with a link to "Learn More About the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.", a "Events" section listing conferences for March 4-6, 2011, March 21-22, 2011, and March 27-30, 2011, with a "View All Events" link, and a "My Weather" section showing "40°F Cloudy" in Arlington, VA, with a "Enter Zip Code:" input field.

**Questions or  
comments?  
E-mail us at:**

**feedback@research.gov**