

Some Science Policy Matters

Stanford Academic Senate

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Obama Campaign Platform

- **Double the Research Budgets of Key Science Agencies over a Decade**
 - National Institute of Health
 - National Science Foundation
 - Department of Energy Office of Science
 - National Institutes of Standards and Technology
- **7.2% per year**

Percentage Increases in Agency Budgets FY 2008 to FY 2011(proposed)

- DOE – Science 29
 - NIH 10
 - NIST 22
 - NSF 31
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- 7.2% compounded over 3 years is 23%
 - Significant ARRA allocations in addition
 - Doubling unlikely for NIH

Department of Defense

- Obama Platform - Restore DARPA's Role in Supporting Revolutionary Technological Advances
- FY 2011 – Proposes 6.2% increase in DOD Basic Research (6.1) funding
 - 11.6% decline in Applied Research (6.2)

Export Control

- Threat of deemed exports hangs over universities
- Representative Berman – Stanford hearing 1/15/10
 - President Hennessy testifies
- Berman is preparing to act
- Optimistic!

Faculty Administrative Burden

- FDP survey indicates PIs spending 42% of federally-funded research time on administration
 - Up from 18% 20 years ago
- Due to
 - Increased regulatory requirements
 - Increased NIH-funding
 - Changes in A-21 (next slide)
 - Centralized university administrative support following 1991 A-21 revision
- Inefficient use of faculty time

Changes in A-21 in 1991

- 26% Cap on Administrative Indirect Cost Reimbursement
 - Average for universities at that time
- Prohibits direct charging of administrative assistance to faculty

Consequences

- Most research universities spending more than cap
- Universities tended to centralize administrative support, decreasing local support
- Faculty ceased to be able to hire administrative support tuned to direct needs

Total Unreimbursed Indirect Costs

- Lower bound to unreimbursed indirects - \$2.4B-\$4.0
- Total number of enrolled students in Research I and II Universities – ~3.3M – NCES
- Cost per student - \$700-\$1200 ~\$1K
- UC Berkeley –
 - ~35,000 students
 - ~\$35M cost

From Where Does the Money Come?

- Clinical Income
- Endowment
- Gifts
- State support
- Tuition

Consequences of Economic Crisis for Universities

- Public universities
 - State funding decreased markedly
 - Large cutbacks
 - Big tuition increases
 - Reduced access by lower economic strata
- Private universities
 - Endowments and gifts dropped
 - Large cutbacks
- Federal funding of research at universities costs universities a great deal of money
- U.S. must maintain great research universities
- Administration must address this
 - Provide full reimbursement of research costs
 - Allow direct charging of some administrative help
 - My focus for coming months
 - Less direct funds available for research

The End