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Overview of What's Next in the Geosciences?

GEO Vision



- GEO Advisory Committee (October 2009)
- Three main challenges to the for next decade
 - Understanding and forecasting the behavior of a complex and evolving Earth system
 - Reducing vulnerability and sustaining life
 - Growing the geosciences workforce of the future



Transitions and Tipping Points

Transitions and Tipping Points in Complex Environmental Systems

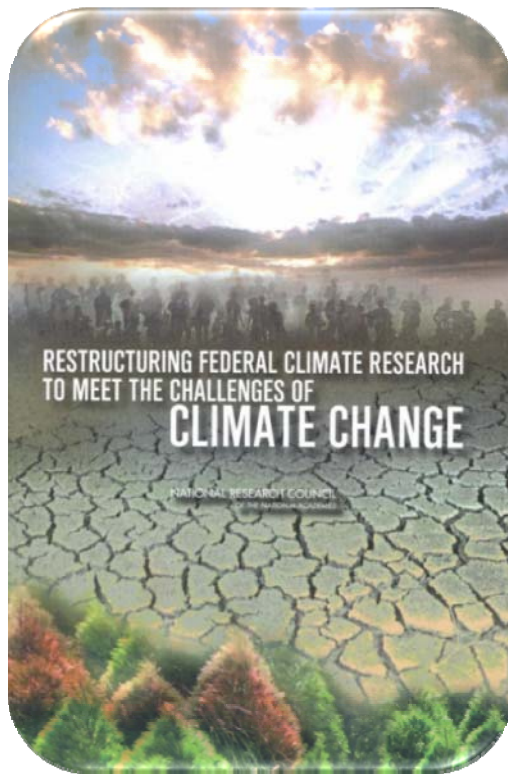


A Report by the NSF Advisory Committee for Environmental Research and Education

- ERE Advisory Committee (September 2009)
- Environmental Complexity and the need to understand how social systems integrate with the rest of Earth's systems
- NSF should increase investments to:
 - Foster research that improves our ability to live sustainably on earth
 - Strengthen our understanding of the links between human behavior and natural processes



NRC Recommendations for Restructuring Federal Climate Research



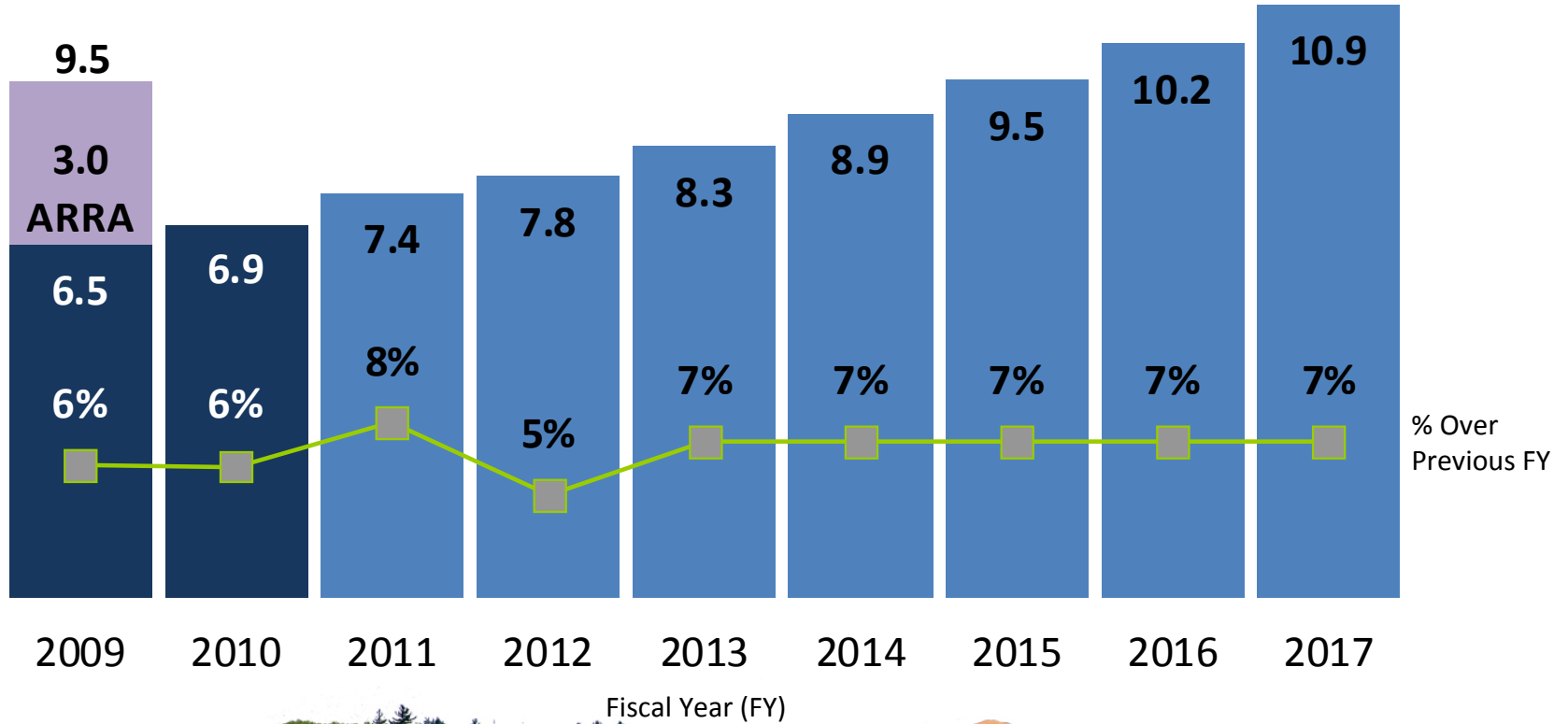
- Integrated scientific-societal issues
- Interactions among the climate, human, and environmental systems
- U.S. climate observing system including physical, biological, and social observations
- Coupled Earth system models
- Adaptation





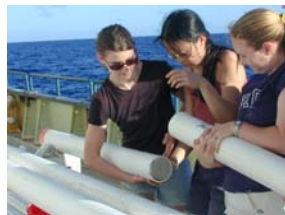
President's Plan for Science and Innovation

Total NSF Funding:
FY 2006-FY 2020 (dollars in billions)



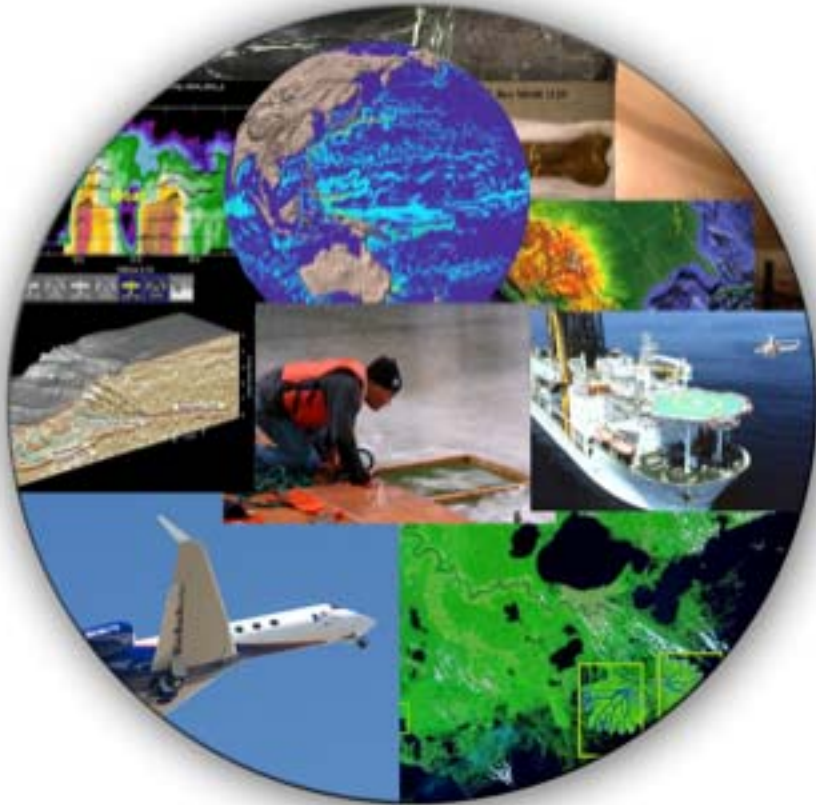
NSF Budget Estimate about \$7B in FY 2010

- Improve American Competitiveness through investments in science and technology to foster economic growth; improve the quality of life; and strengthen our national security.
- Support researchers at the beginning of their careers through NSF's Graduate Research Fellowship and Faculty Early Career Development programs.
- Educate science and engineering technicians through the Advanced Technological Education program, which focuses on two-year colleges
- Encourage promising high-risk research that could fundamentally alter our understanding of nature, revolutionize fields of science, and lead to radically new technologies.
- Make climate change research and education a priority. To predict future environmental conditions and to develop strategies for responding to global environmental change. Establish a climate change education program to help develop the next generation of environmentally engaged scientists and engineers.





GEO: The Big Picture

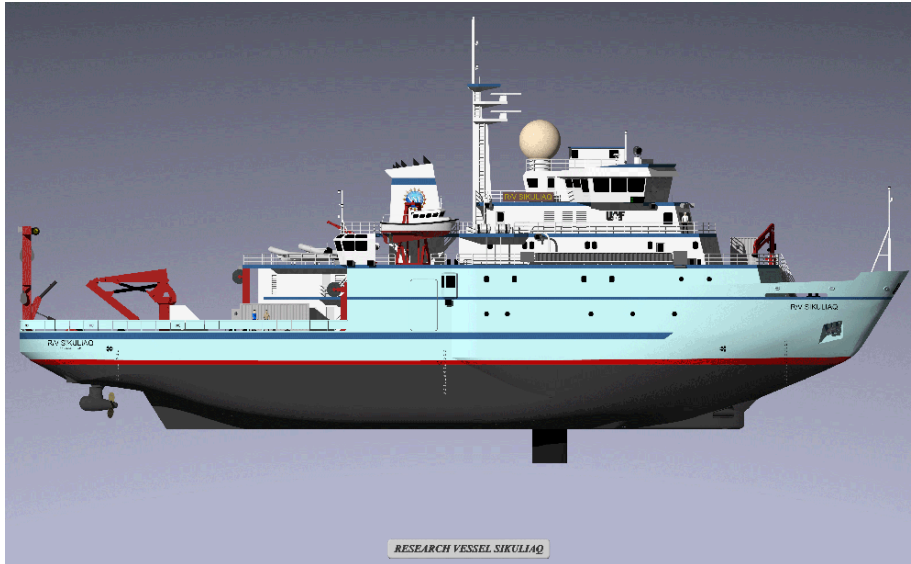


- American Recovery Act
GEO investments: \$601M
- FY2010: 10.2% increase
over FY2009
 - Includes Agency-wide
climate initiative
- FY2011: President's budget
request includes a 7.4%
increase for GEO



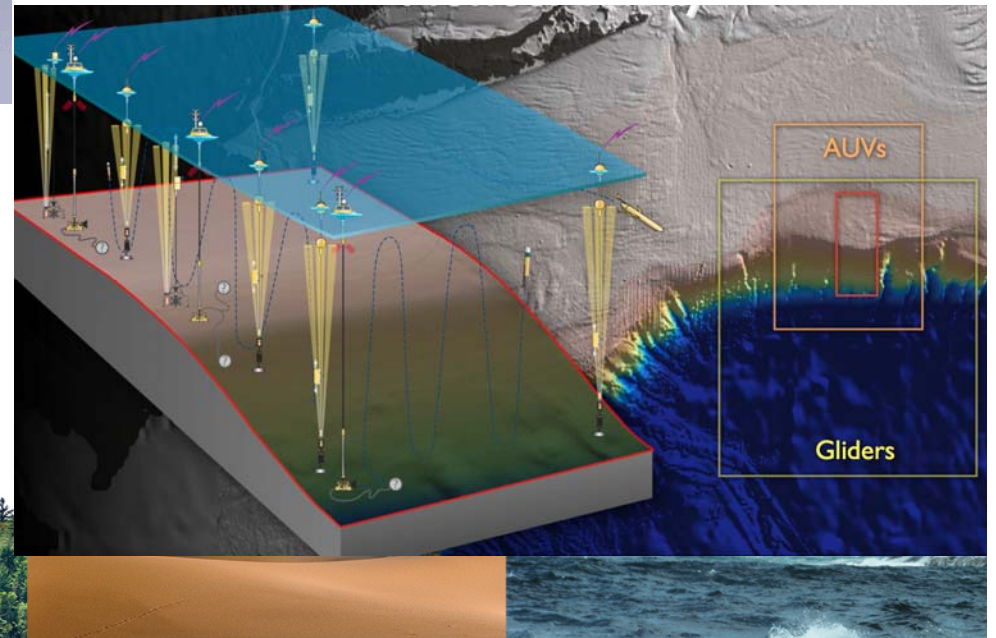


ARRA : GEO Infrastructure



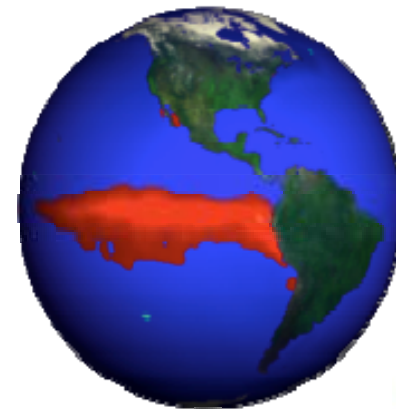
R/V Sikuliaq: \$148M

OOI: \$106M



Climate Research: Special Emphasis Area in FY10 Budget

- \$197M in funding in FY10 across NSF (\$46M in GEO including \$7M in EAR)
- 8 NSF Directorates involved in CRI
- \$10M for New Climate Change Education in FY09/FY10 (in partnership with BIO, OPP and EHR)
- Increase NSF contribution to CCSP (to \$299.91M)
- Solicitations to be issued in early 2010





FY2010 Climate Research Investment Solicitations (\$197M across agency; \$46M GEO)

- Decadal and Regional Earth System Modeling
- Water: Sustainability and Climate
- Ocean Acidification
- Dimensions of Biodiversity and Climate
- Climate Change Science Education





FY 2011 GEO Investments in Divisional Research and Education

- Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences: 8.1% increase
- Ocean Sciences: 8.3% increase
- Earth Sciences: 8.7% increase
- Education: 7.9% increase



2011 Research Themes

- Science, Engineering, and Education for Sustainability (SEES + \$35M to \$230M)
 - Follow-on to 2010 Climate Research activity
 - In 2011, GEO will support research to study regions that are highly susceptible to the impacts of environmental changes, such as:
 - coastal areas subject to sea-level rise
 - the Arctic, where warming temperatures and waning ice cover challenges communities and ecosystems



2011 Initiative: Dynamic Earth

- \$28M over two years for new research program emphasizing change and complexity in earth system processes
- Goals:
 - inter-disciplinary & multi-scale understanding of dynamic systems
 - catalyze research in areas poised for a major advances
 - improve observing networks & modeling capabilities to realistically simulate complex earth systems and forecast disruptive events
 - improve understanding of the resilience and sustainability of earth systems following disruptive events.

2011 Education Themes

- Graduate Research Fellowships are increasing to \$2.74 million from \$1 million.
- ADVANCE is increasing to \$4.28 million from \$3.46 million (fostering women in science).
- GEOEd: About 100 proposals received
- Diversity: new strategic planning effort and Opportunities for Diversity in the Geosciences



Questions?



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