

R&A Program: Enacted Changes in ROSES 2012

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ROSES 2012 – Why?

- **Issue 1: The Peer review process for the R&A program is taking a significant amount of time (>5 months after submission)**
 - **Current low rate of Notice of Intents submissions renders these useless**
 - **Large pool of conflicted reviewers result in delays forming panels**
 - ⇒ **Change 1: Required “NOIs” – Legally called a Step-1 proposal**
 - ⇒ **Streamlines the formation of the peer review panels**
 - ⇒ **No Downselection.** All are asked to proceed to full Step-2 proposals.
- **Issue 2: Low success rate burdens the community and pushes PIs to submit recycled proposals to multiple opportunities often without feedback from first submission**
 - **Feedback Loop – more and more proposals**
 - **In addition to available funds, this is partly effected by the above inefficiencies**
 - ⇒ **Change 2: Compete Guest Investigator Program (GIP) as a simultaneous opportunity with the Supporting Research and Technology Program. GIP separate funding is preserved.**

2012 Roses Elements

Notice: The proposal submission for this program element is now a two-step process in which a Notice of Intent is replaced by a Step-1 proposal, which is required, and the Title and Team are binding. See section 2.1 for details. The Solar & Heliosphere/Geospace related portion of the Heliophysics Guest Investigator Program has now been imbedded here, and its scope has changed. See section 1.3 for details.

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A Step-1 Proposal replaces the previous Notice of Intent (NOI); the length and content remain the same as an NOI, but the submission process has changed.

A Step-1 Proposal must be submitted electronically by the Step-1 Due Date. The Step-1 proposal must be submitted by the organization Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR). No budget or other elements are required. Only proposers who submit a Step-1 proposal are eligible to submit a Full Proposal, including any LCAS Co-investigators who will be submitting Step-2 proposals. Full Proposals must contain the same scientific goals proposed in the Step-1 Proposal. The Step-1 Proposal Title, Principal Investigator, and all co-investigators are considered binding and cannot be adjusted in the full proposal. This two step procedure will be implemented without a downselect evaluation of the Step-1 proposal for ROSES 2012 and all proposers who submitted a Step-1 proposal will receive an invitation to submit the Step-2 proposal. Submission of the Step-1 proposal does not obligate the offerors to submit a Step-2 (full) proposal later.

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4 components:

- Supporting Research
- Guest Investigator
- Instrument Development and Enabling Science
- Low Cost Access to Space

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1.3 Geospace Guest Investigator Program

The Heliophysics Guest Investigators program (GIP) is intended to maximize the return from currently operating Heliophysics missions by supporting studies of the current science goals of these missions. Guest Investigators proposals are expected to be for investigations in which the analysis of data from currently operating Heliophysics mission(s) data plays a primary role. Information on the current science goals for these missions is available in the report of the Senior Review 2010 of the Mission and Data Analysis Program for the Heliophysics Operating Missions (<http://science.nasa.gov/heliophysics/senior-review/>.)

Emphasis is on NASA space Heliophysics data that are archived in the public domain.

BACKUP

HPS Findings: June 2011

Potential Changes to Heliophysics R&A Programs

The Heliophysics research and analysis (R&A) portfolio supports a rich, wide-ranging, and very successful ensemble of research projects that vitally support the division's strategic goals. As the R&A budget continues to be highly constrained, the structure of the current R&A program is preventing an optimal return from Heliophysics missions and R&A programs. **The result is that too much of the research community's time is spent writing and reviewing multiple proposals rather than pursuing research tasks, and with NASA officials finding it increasingly difficult to manage the very large number of proposals submitted to each ROSES program element.**

HPS Findings: June 2011

Potential Changes to Heliophysics R&A Programs (cont'd)

The Heliophysics Subcommittee finds that the structure of R&A program is in need of revision. Among the changes under consideration are (1) consolidation and reduction in the number of solicitations per year so as to reduce programmatic overlap and to allow results from one competition to be announced before the next round of proposals is due; (2) increase in the average grant size so as to enable successful proposers to write fewer proposals; (3) a 2-step proposal process in which an initial fast-response selection is made of the most-promising proposals, followed by review of a selected set of more extended proposals including the financial details.

All of these ideas have advantages and disadvantages. It is therefore essential to solicit input from the research community. NASA should also study the proposed change to assess its net impact on efficiency, programmatic balance, potential gaps in the research portfolio, and support for potentially riskier but innovative research. The Subcommittee finds that the current proportion of 2/3rds of non-targeted research and 1/3rd of targeted research is a good mix to stimulate scientific advances across a wide variety of topics. However, the HPS also recognizes that changes in the structure and operation of the R&A program leaves open the larger question of the appropriate balance between R&A and new missions within the Heliophysics Division budget. The subcommittee intends to study this issue upon receipt of the Heliophysics Decadal Survey.