

To: Research and Analysis Discipline Scientists

Subject: Recommendations and Decision for the Space Science Research and Analysis (R&A) programs

The panel for the R&A Senior Review 2001 has completed its report, which is now available for open distribution. This report contains a very thorough assessment of the science performance and relevance to the Space Science Enterprise Strategic Plan. The panel also made very thoughtful recommendations on the structure of the Space Science R&A programs, on the structure of future reviews of R&A programs, and on highest-priority needs for augmentations or new initiatives.

In discussions with the directors of the three science divisions of the Office of Space Science, we discussed the panel's assessments and recommendations, and formulated a plan for actions in response to the recommendations:

- The Applied Information Systems Research Program (AISRP) will be asked to develop a plan of action to respond to the three specific issues listed in the R&A review panel's report. The goal should be to show quantitative progress in all three areas by the time of the next R&A review in 2004. The budget of the Applied Information Systems Research Program (AISRP) will be reduced by \$3M/year during fiscal years 2002, 2003, and 2004. The budget plan for subsequent years will be determined after the next R&A Senior Review in mid-2004.
- Special augmentations/new initiatives: Three proposed new initiatives received high-priority recommendations: an enhancement of the Astrophysics Theory Program for larger "group" grants; an instrument definition and development program for Geospace sciences, and an expansion of the ground-based search for extrasolar planets (part of the "Origins and Evolution of Solar System Bodies" program). Each of these three augmentations will receive an increase of \$1.0M in FY02, \$1.0M in FY03, and \$2.4M in FY04. The budgets for the three programs for FY05 and beyond will be defined after the R&A Senior Review in 2004. However, as non-committed placeholders we will tentatively show increases of \$2.4M in FY05 and \$4.0M in FY06. All of these increases are above the previous budget plans, which include annual inflation increases.

Please feel free to disseminate this information to your writing teams, working groups, and formal advisory groups.

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Cc: Panel Members, Research and Analysis Senior Review 2001  
Directors of the SSE, A&P, and SEC Divisions