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# Overview of the US Department of Energy's Office of Basic Energy Sciences

John Vetrano  
Program Manager  
Office of Science - Basic Energy Sciences  
U.S. Department of Energy

## Presentation Outline

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- Overview of DOE and BES Organization and Budget
- Description of BES Science and Organization
- Strategic Planning and Research Priorities
- Funding Opportunities and Process

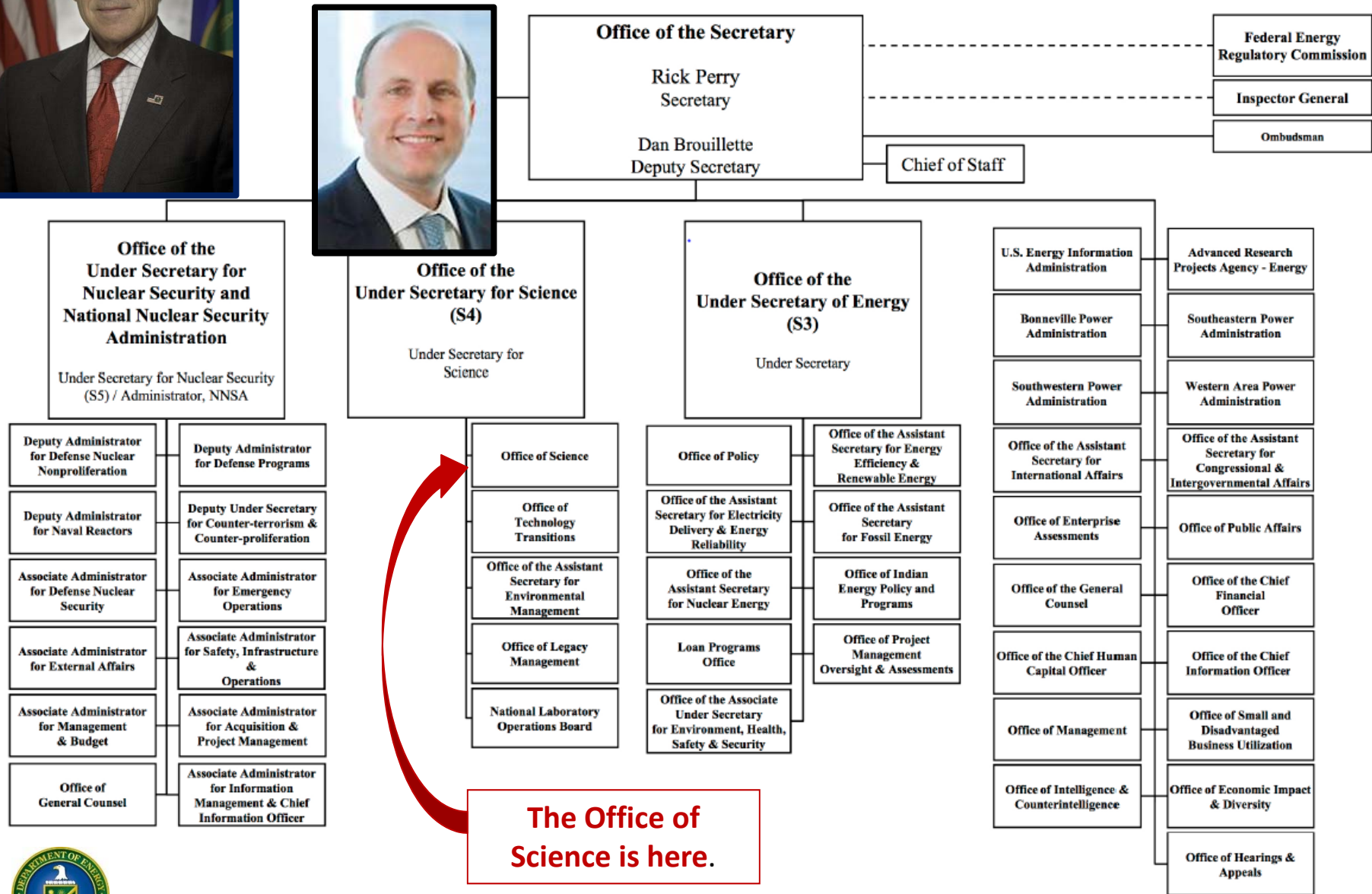


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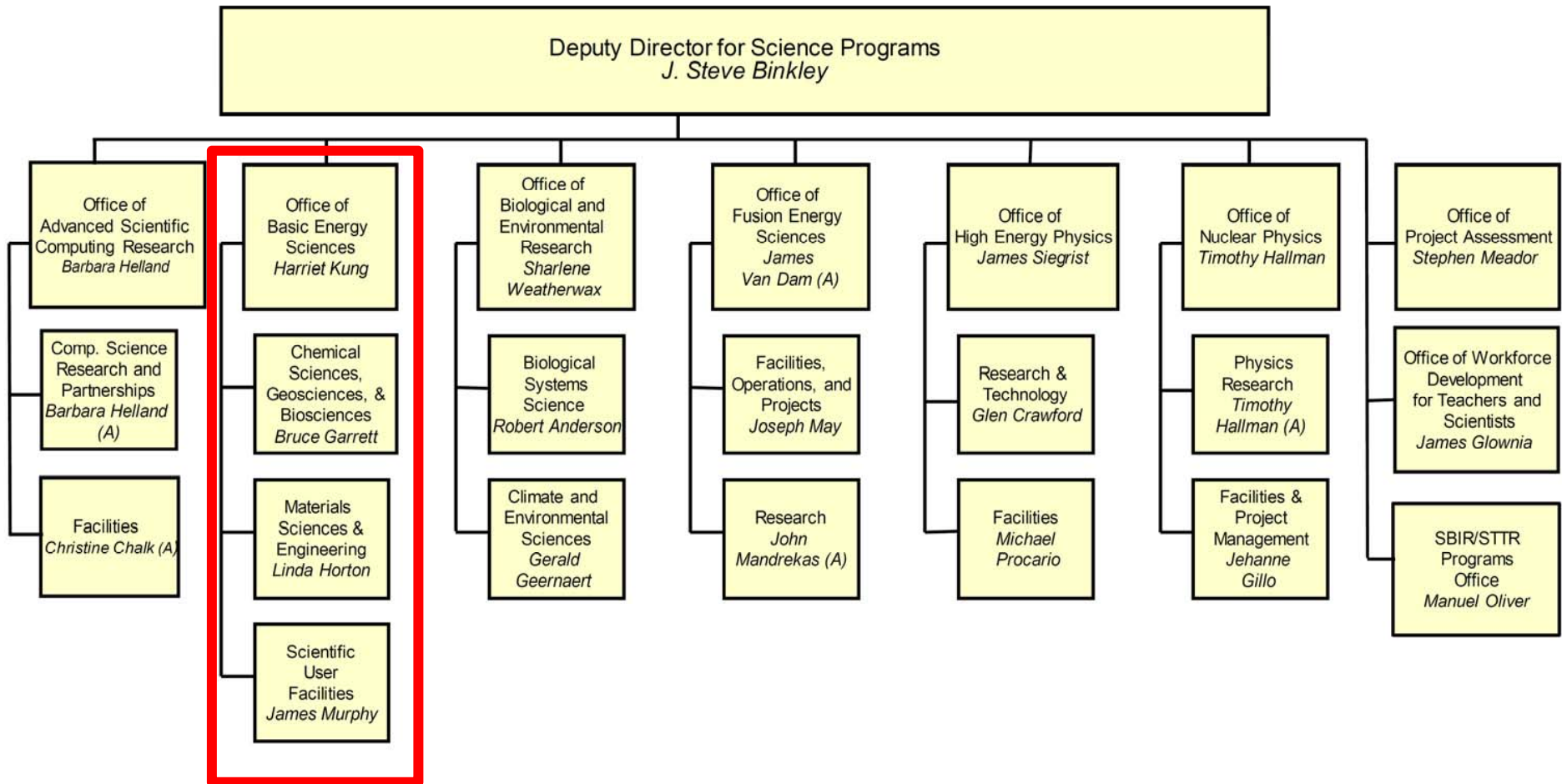
Office of  
Science



# Department of Energy Organizational Structure



# Office of Science – Science Programs

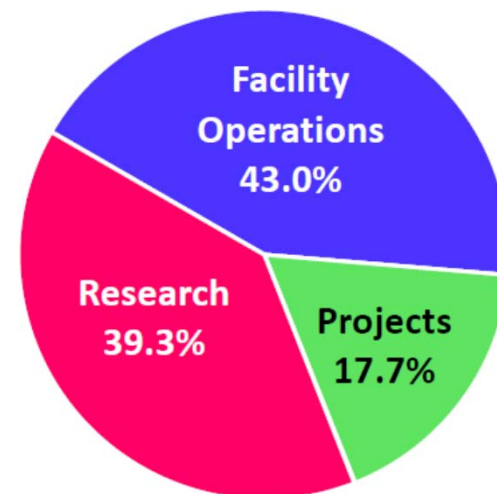


# BES Program Overview

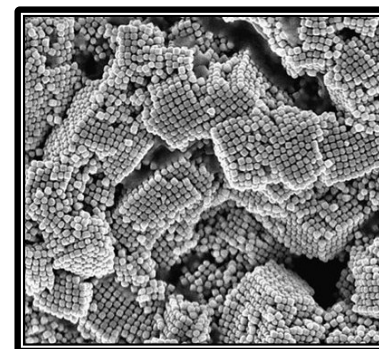
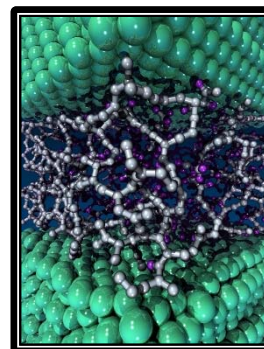
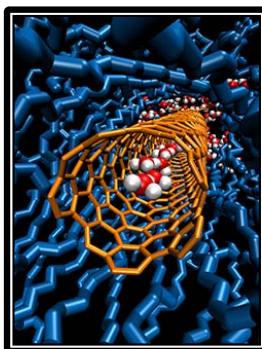
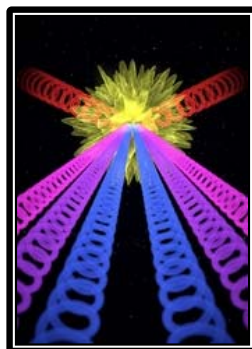
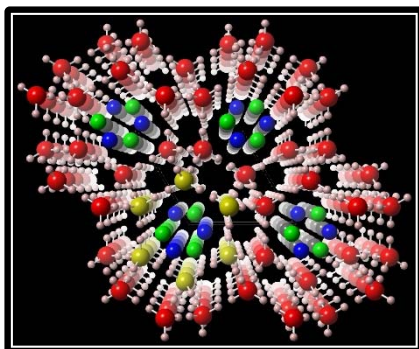
**Understanding, predicting, and controlling matter and energy  
at the electronic, atomic, and molecular levels**

**Research:** condensed matter and materials physics, chemistry, geosciences, and aspects of biosciences—to discover new materials and design new chemical processes that touch virtually every important aspect of energy resources, production, conversion, transmission, storage, efficiency, and waste mitigation.

**Facilities:** x-ray light sources, neutron sources, nanoscale science research centers for the atomic-level visualization and characterization of materials of all kinds, including biological molecules. Construction of the next-generation facilities to maintain international competitiveness.

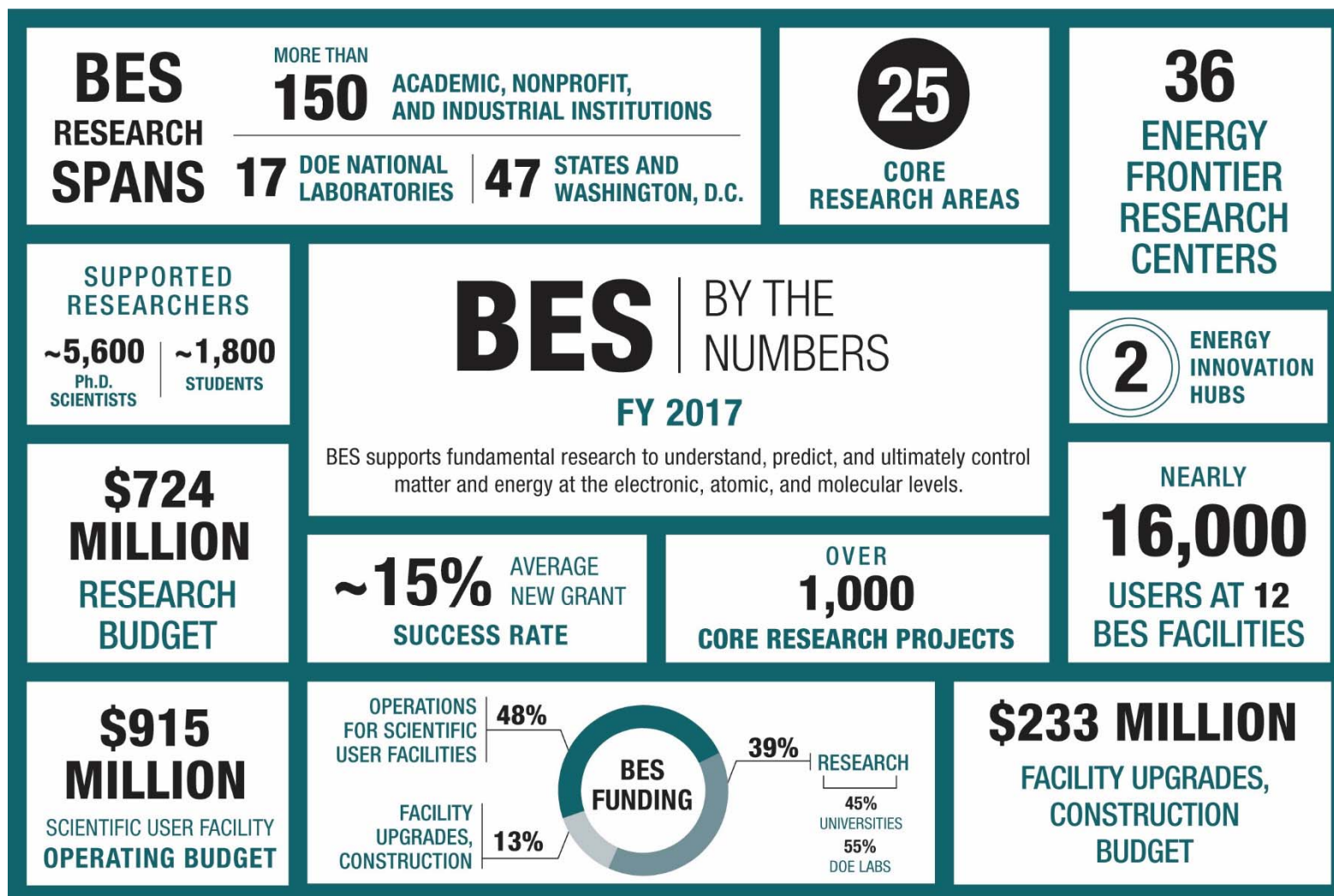


**FY 2018 BES \$2.09 B**



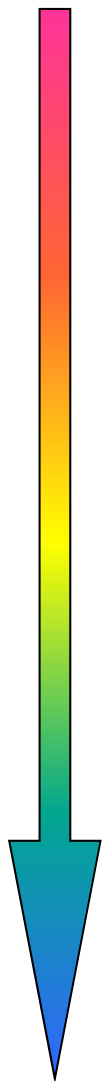


# BES By the Numbers



# BES-Supported Research Activities

Increasing scope and size



- **Core Research (>1,000 projects, ~\$500M/yr)**

Single investigators (~\$150K/year) and small groups (\$500K-\$2M/year) engage in fundamental research related to any of the BES core research activities. Investigators propose topics of their choosing. Annual FOA open year-round. Includes awardees under the SC Early Career Research Program (separate FOA with annual proposal due dates).

- **Energy Frontier Research Centers (\$110M/yr)**

\$2-4 million/year research centers for 4-year award terms; focus on fundamental research described in Basic Research Needs Workshop reports. Recompensation underway in FY 2018

- **Computational Materials & Chemical Sciences (\$26M/yr)**

\$2-4 million/year research centers for 4-year award terms; focus on delivering open-source software for materials and chemistry by design in preparation for exascale computing. Recompensation anticipated in FY 2019 for CMS.

- **Fuels from Sunlight & Batteries and Energy Storage Hubs (\$38M/yr)**

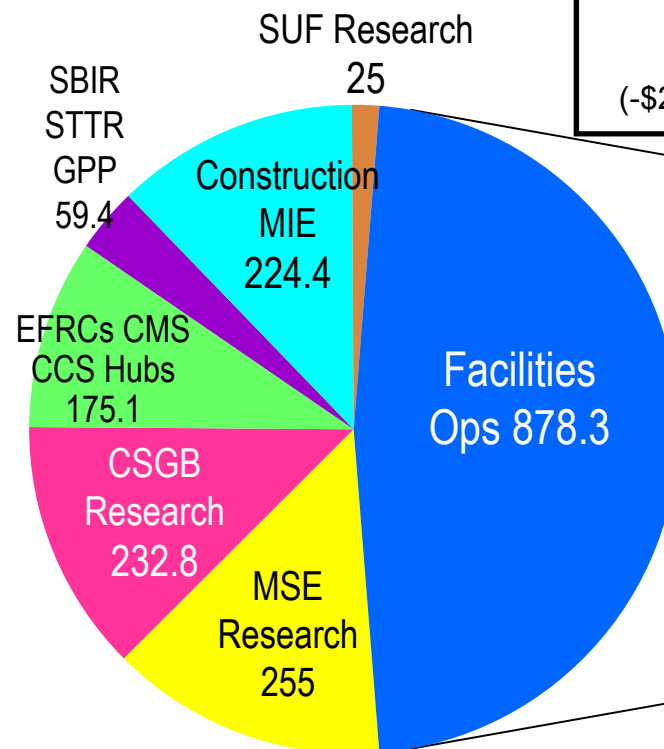
Research centers for 5-year award terms, established in 2010 (\$15-25M/year), engage in research topics that have proven challenging for traditional funding modalities and in which success could be transformative to science and technology. Project goals, milestones, and management structure are a significant part of the proposed Hub plan.



# FY 2019 BES Budget Request

## Research programs

- Core Research will emphasize quantum materials and chemistry, ultrafast science, and BRN topics.
- Computational Materials and Chemical Sciences continue (\$26M)
- Funding continues for Energy Innovation Hubs (JCAP & JCESR) (\$39M).
- Energy Frontier Research Centers continue (\$110M)



**FY 2019 Request:**  
**\$1,850 M**  
 (-\$21.5M or -1.1% from FY 2017)

NSRCs 122.3  
 Neutron Sources 265  
 Light Sources 491

## Scientific user facilities

- Operations of 12 facilities at 95% optimal level
- No funding is requested for Lujan equipment disposition or Long Term Surveillance and Maintenance

## Construction

- Last year of funding for LCLS-II ( $\Delta = -\$45M$ )
- Advanced Photon Source Upgrade ( $\Delta = +17.5M$ )
- Two new starts: LCLS-II-HE (\$7M) and ALS-U (\$12M)



## Presentation Outline

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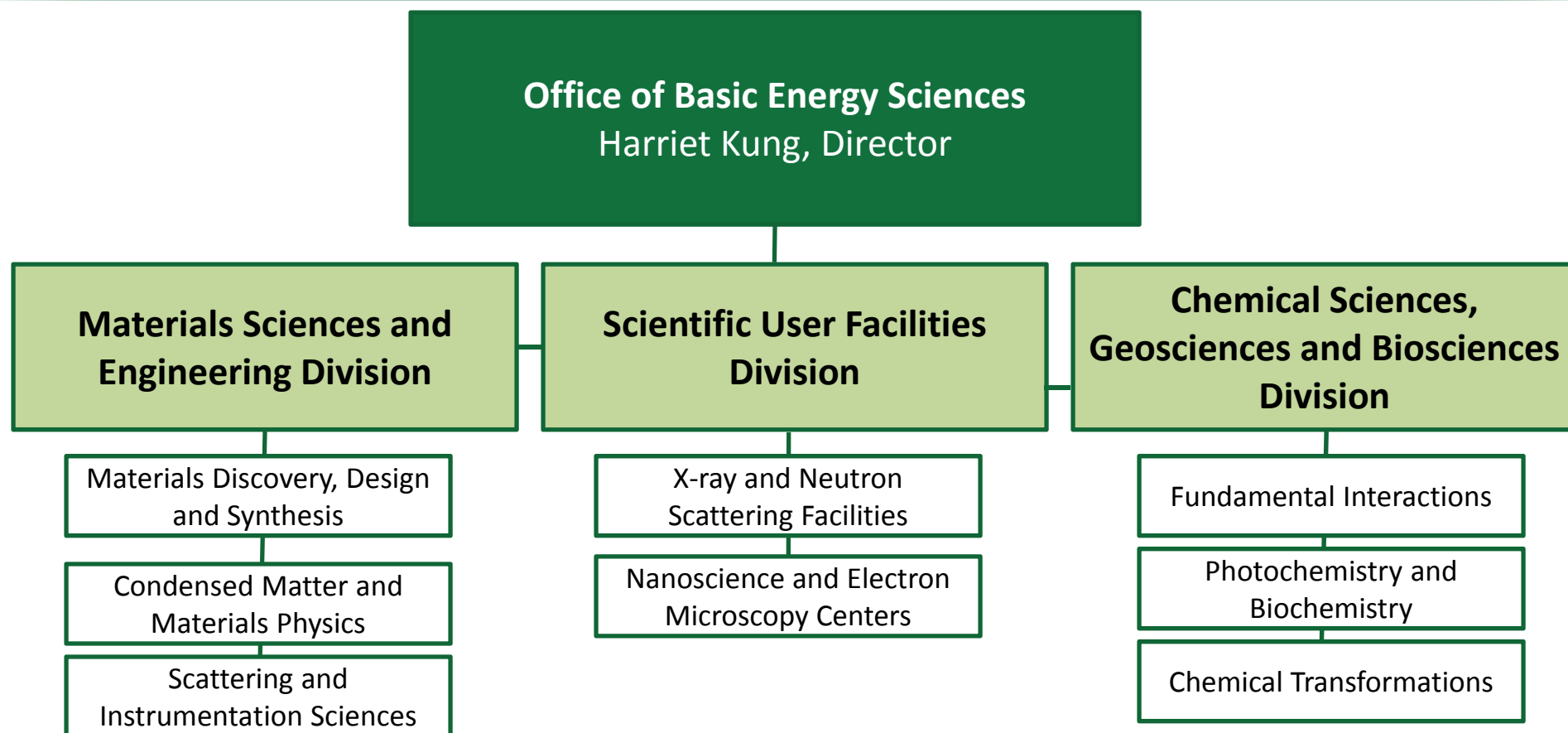
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# Office of Basic Energy Sciences



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# DOE Office of Basic Energy Sciences: Scientific User Facilities

Nearly 16,000 users in FY 2017



- ★ Available to all researchers at no cost for non-proprietary research, regardless of affiliation, nationality, or source of research support
- ★ Access based on external peer merit review of brief proposals
- ★ Coordinated access to co-located facilities to accelerate research cycles
- ★ Collaboration with facility scientists an optional potential benefit
- ★ Instrument and technique workshops offered periodically
- ★ A variety of on-line, on-site, and hands-on training available
- ★ Proprietary research may be performed at full-cost recovery

## Neutron Sources

- High Flux Isotope Reactor (ORNL)
- Spallation Neutron Source (ORNL)

## Nanoscale Science Research Centers

- Center for Functional Nanomaterials (BNL)
- Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies (SNL & LANL)
- Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences (ORNL)
- Center for Nanoscale Materials (ANL)
- Molecular Foundry (LBNL)

## Light Sources

- Advanced Light Source (LBNL)
- Advanced Photon Source (ANL)
- Linac Coherent Light Source (SLAC)
- National Synchrotron Light Source-II (BNL)
- Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory (SLAC)

## Administrative Staff

MaryBeth Luther  
Teresa Crockett

# Materials Sciences and Engineering Division

Linda Horton, Division Director



## Materials Discovery, Design, and Synthesis Team



Team Lead - Helen Kerch (A)

### Materials Chemistry



Michael  
Sennett



Craig  
Henderson

### Biomolecular Materials



Mike Markowitz

### Synthesis and Processing Science



Bonnie Gersten

### Batteries and Energy Storage Hub & Integrated Energy Research



John  
Vetrano



Craig  
Henderson

## Condensed Matter and Materials Physics Team



Team Lead - Jim Horwitz

### Experimental Condensed Matter Physics



Michael Pechan

### Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics



Matthias  
Graf



Jim  
Davenport

### Physical Behavior of Materials



Refik Kortan

### Mechanical Behavior & Radiation Effects



John Vetrano

## Scattering and Instrumentation Sciences Team



Team Lead - Helen Kerch

### X-ray Scattering



Lane Wilson

### Neutron Scattering



Thiyaga P. Thiyagarajan

### Electron and Scanning Probe Microscopies



Jane Zhu

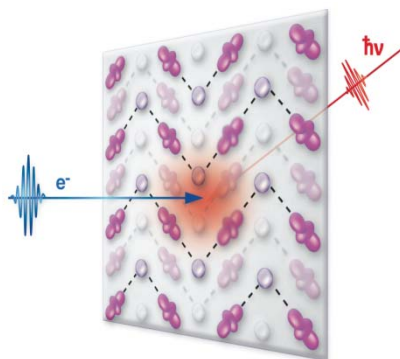
### DOE EPSCoR Program



Tim Fitzsimmons

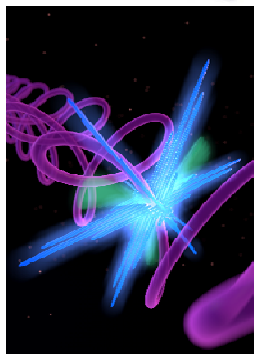
# Scattering and Instrumentation Sciences

## Science Driven Tools and Techniques for Foundational Materials Studies



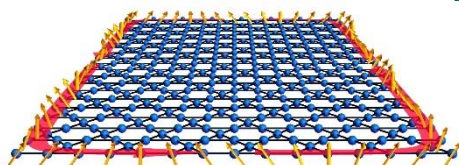
- Electron and Scanning Probe Microscopy

- Using electron beams and scanning probes to study local atomic and electronic structures and the spatial and chemical inhomogeneities in materials



- X-ray Scattering including Ultrafast Science

- Fundamental interactions of photons with matter with an emphasis on x-ray scattering, spectroscopy and imaging and ultrafast science



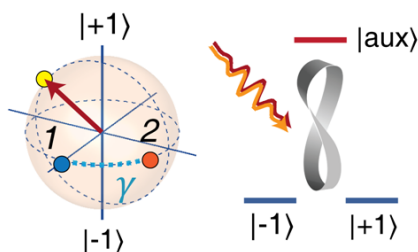
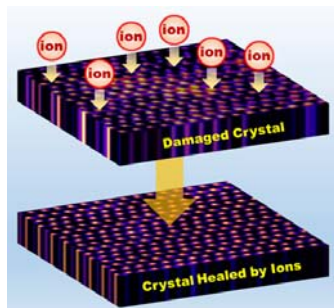
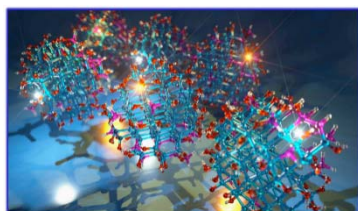
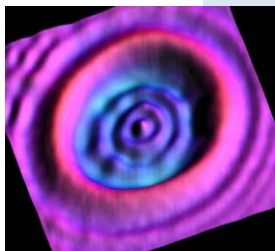
- Neutron Scattering

- Harnessing the unique properties of neutrons to investigate hard and soft condensed matter



# Condensed Matter and Materials Physics

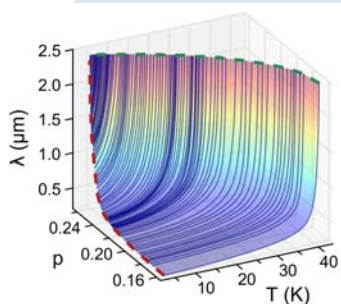
Experimental and theoretical research to advance our understanding of phenomena in condensed matter



- **Experimental Condensed Matter Physics**
  - Understanding relationships among electronic structure; properties such as topology, superconductivity, and magnetism; reduced dimensionality; and interfacial behavior
- **Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics**
  - Electronic correlations, emphasizing quantum phenomena, non-equilibrium and ultrafast phenomena, materials discovery, and computational materials sciences
- **Mechanical Behavior and Radiation Effects**
  - Understanding defect formation, growth, and migration and their effects on strength, structure, deformation, and failure over a wide range of spatial and temporal scales
- **Physical Behavior of Materials**
  - Understanding response to external environments, emphasizing the relationships among electrical, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, and thermal performance

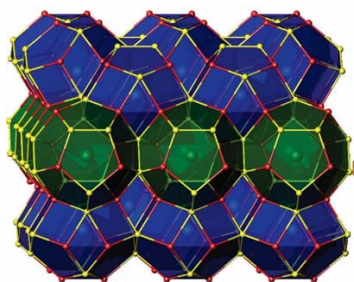
# Materials Discovery, Design, and Synthesis

Synthesis and assembly science, controlling properties, and discovering new, unprecedented phenomena and functionalities



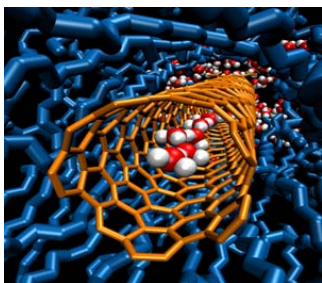
- **Synthesis and Processing Science**

- Atomic-level control to advance understanding of the physical mechanisms of synthesis and processing, with development of real-time monitoring tools playing a critical role



- **Materials Chemistry**

- Chemical aspects of composition-structure-property relationships across length scales to design and tailor materials, morphologies, and properties from first principles



- **Biomolecular Materials**

- Translate biological concepts into new approaches for design and synthesis of materials with remarkable properties found only in nature (e.g., self-regulation, adaptability to changing environments)

## Program Assistants

Teresa Crockett  
Gwen Johnson

# Chemical Sciences, Geosciences Biosciences Division

Bruce Garrett, Division Director



## Fundamental Interactions Team



Team Lead – Jeff Krause

### Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Sciences



Tom Settersten

### Gas Phase Chemical Physics



Wade Sisk

### Condensed Phase and Interfacial Molecular



Gregory Fiechtner

### Computational and Theoretical Chemistry



Mark Pederson

## Photochemistry and Biochemistry Team



Team Lead – Gail McLean

### Photosynthetic Systems



Stephen Herbert

### Physical Biosciences



Robert Stack

### Solar Photochemistry



Chris  
Fecko

### Fuels from Sunlight Energy Innovation Hub

## Chemical Transformations Team



Team Lead – Raul Miranda

### Catalysis Science



Viviane  
Schwartz



Chris  
Bradley

### Separations and Analysis

Philip Wilk  
(Acting)



Philip Wilk

### Heavy Element Chemistry

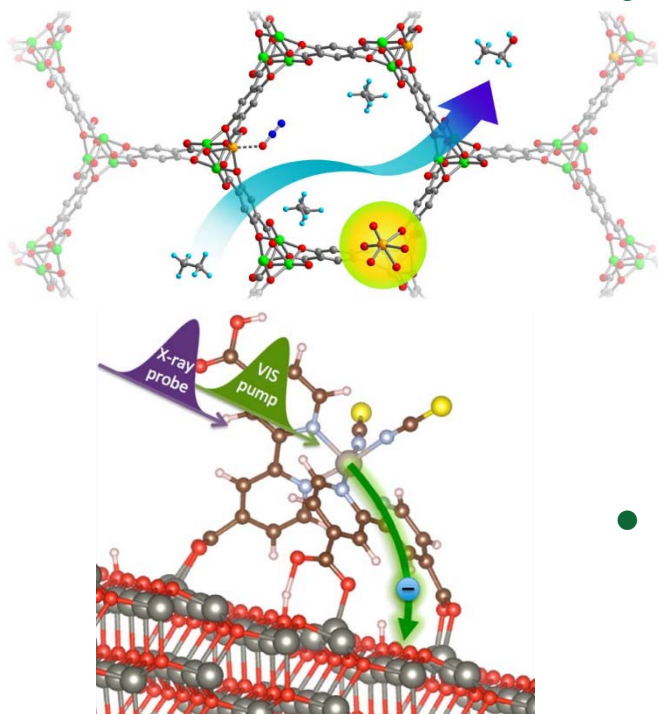
### Geosciences



James Rustad

# Fundamental Interactions Team Programs

## Understanding reactive chemistry at full quantum detail



Upper figure: Oxidation of ethane to ethanol by  $N_2O$  in a metal–organic framework. Lower figure: X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy at the LCLS provides an atomic perspective of ultrafast interfacial charge transfer.

- **Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Sciences**

- Fundamental interactions of atoms, molecules, and nanostructures with photons and electrons to characterize, understand and control their behavior

- **Gas Phase Chemical Physics**

- Dynamics and rates of chemical reactions at conditions characteristic of combustion, and the chemical and physical properties of key intermediates, to enable computational models of combustion systems

- **Condensed Phase and Interfacial Molecular Science**

- Understand and ultimately control chemical processes and dynamics in liquids and at interfaces at a molecular level, and confront the transition from molecular-scale chemistry to collective phenomena in complex systems.

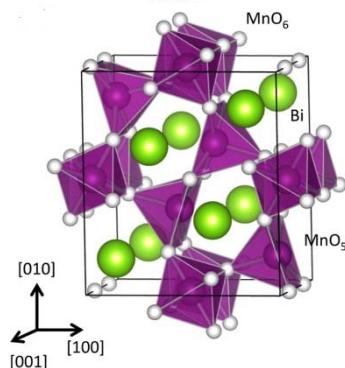
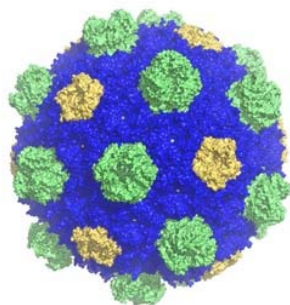
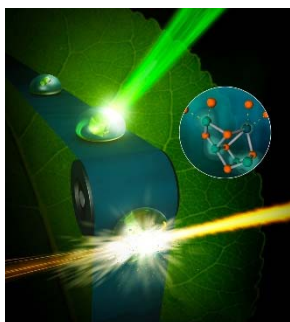
- **Computational and Theoretical Chemistry**

- Development and integration of theoretical and computational approaches for the accurate and efficient description of chemical processes



# Photochemistry and Biochemistry Team Programs

## Light energy capture and conversion into chemical and electrical energy through biological and chemical pathways

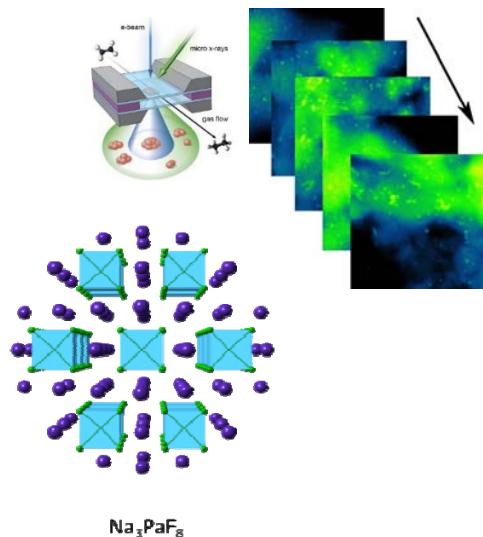


- **Photosynthetic Systems:** Brings together biochemistry, chemistry, biology, and biophysics to uncover the fundamental science of biological capture of sunlight and its conversion to and storage as chemical energy in plants, algae, and microbes.
- **Physical Biosciences:** Combines experimental and computational tools from physical sciences with biochemistry, chemistry and molecular biology to increase basic understanding of processes to capture, convert and store energy in living systems; placing an increasing emphasis on redox biochemistry
- **Solar Photochemistry:** Investigates solar photochemical energy conversions focused on the elementary steps of light absorption, electrical charge generation, charge transport and energy harvesting within a number of chemical systems
- **Fuels from Sunlight Hub: Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis (JCAP):** Advances basic scientific research and development on systems for the conversion of sunlight, water and carbon dioxide into a range of commercially useful fuels.



# Chemical Transformations Team Programs

**Understand and control the synthesis, conversion, stabilization and transport processes in chemical systems, from atomic to geologic scales**



- **Catalysis Science**

- Mechanisms for the efficient and clean catalytic conversion of feedstocks into fuels, chemicals, materials and energy. Principles of structure-reactivity of inorganic, organic, and hybrid complexes; interfacial, multiscale, and bio-inspired processes.

- **Heavy Element Chemistry**

- Fundamental chemistry of the actinides and transactinide elements. Spectroscopy, bonding, and reactivity.

- **Separations and Analysis**

- Chemical separations of complex energy carriers, actinides, carbon compounds. Coordination chemistry; molecular recognition. Cages, interfaces. Chemical imaging.

- **Geosciences**

- Geochemistry and geophysics of surface and subsurface energy resources. Mineral-fluid interactions and reactions; rock fracture; flow/transport phenomena.

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# Extensive Strategic Planning provides Research Direction and is Critical to Programmatic Impact

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- National Academy
  - Decadal Study supported by BES-MSE and NSF-DMR
- DOE strategic planning and priorities
- BES strategic planning – an ongoing process...
  - Basic Research Needs Workshops and Reports
    - Quantum materials, Synthesis Science, Instrumentation, Environmental Management, Energy-Water Nexus
    - Next Generation Energy Storage, Catalysis, Future Nuclear Energy
  - Roundtables and Reports
    - Neuromorphic computing, Common problems in condensed matter and high energy physics, Ammonia Synthesis, Ultrafast, Quantum Information Science

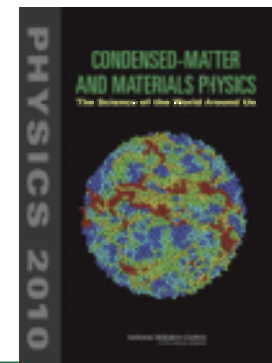
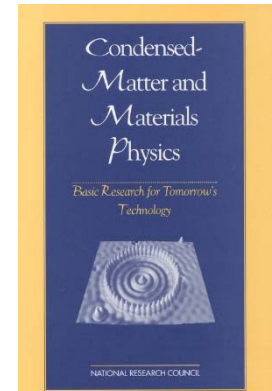
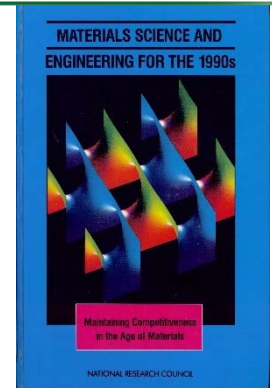


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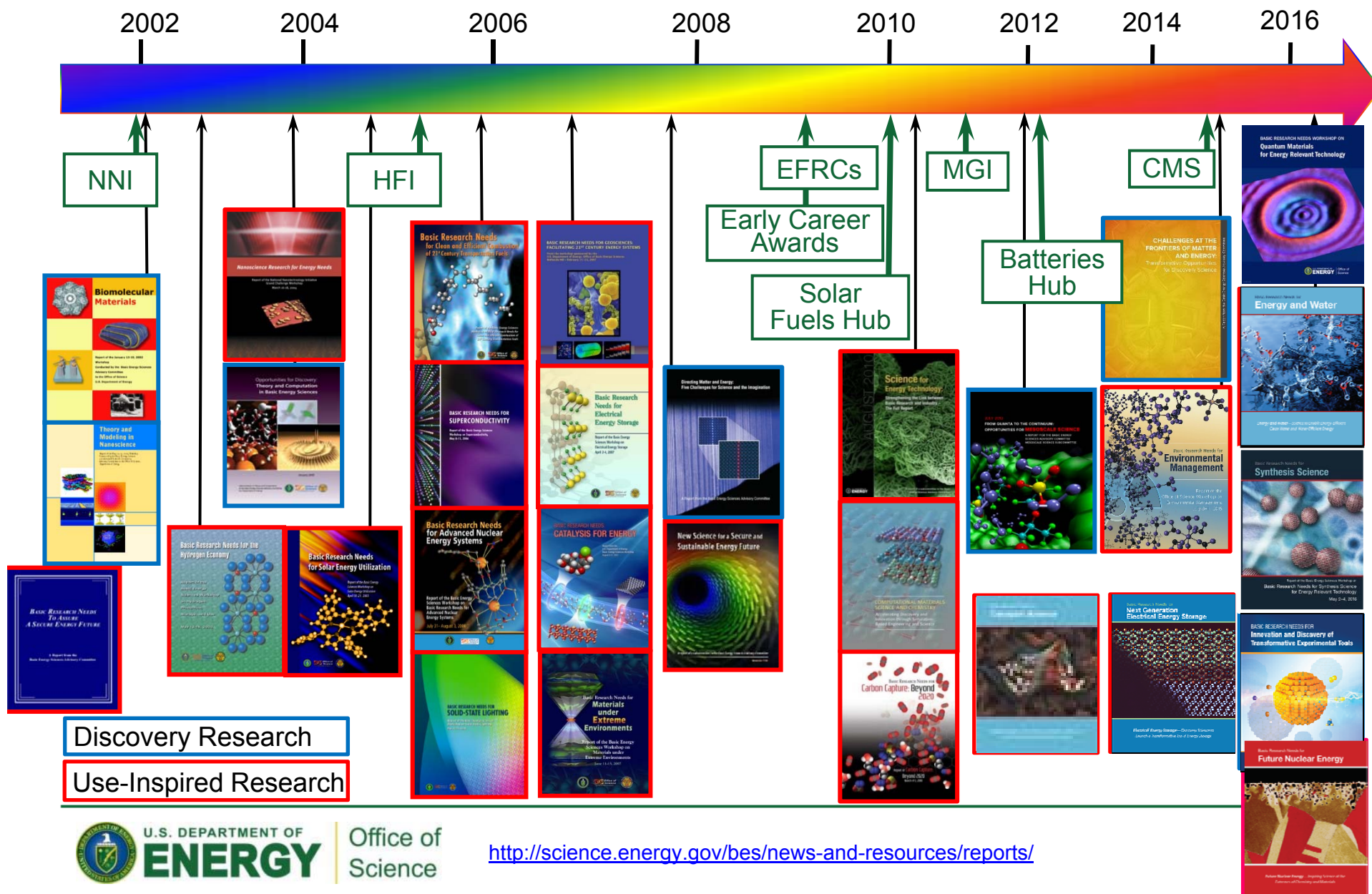
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# Frontiers of Materials Research 2020: A Decadal Survey

- Assess the progress in materials research over the past decade and promising new directions for 2020-2030
- Discuss the impacts that materials research has had and is expected to have on emerging technologies, national needs, and science, broadly
- Use case studies of selected fields that have had or are anticipated to have near-term growth to evaluate recent investment trends in materials research in the United States relative to similar research abroad
- Town Halls or similar forums held at APS, MRS, Materials Week, ..... to gather community input
- Supported by DOE and NSF
- Led by the NA Condensed Matter and Materials Research Committee (NSF and DOE-BES-MSE supported) and the National Materials and Manufacturing Board
- Report anticipated late in 2018

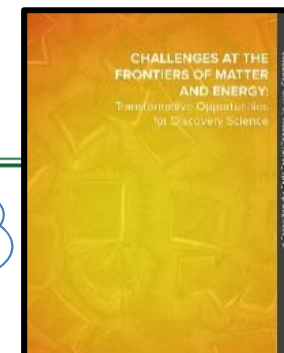


# BES Budget Requests and FOAs are Informed by Strategic Planning and Program Development



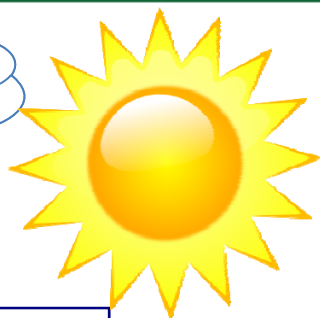


# Challenges at the Frontiers of Matter and Energy Transformative Opportunities for Discovery Science



2015

*Instrumentation  
& Tools*



*Human Capital*

*Synthesis*

**Beyond Ideal Materials  
and Systems**

**Mastering Hierarchical  
Architectures**

***Imaging Matter  
across Scales***

**Harnessing Coherence  
in Light and Matter**

***Data, Algorithms and  
Computing***

**Efficient Synthesis for  
Tailored Properties**

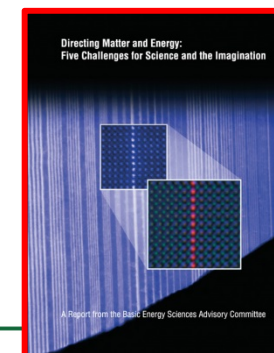
**Correlated Systems**

**Systems Away from  
Equilibrium**

**Energy and Information  
on the Nanoscale**

**Control at the Level  
of Electrons**

2007



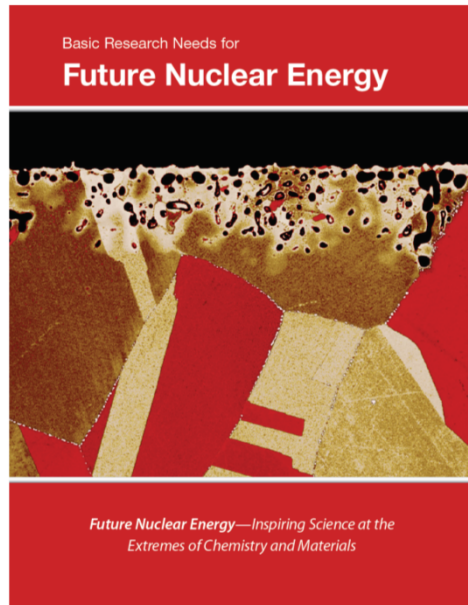
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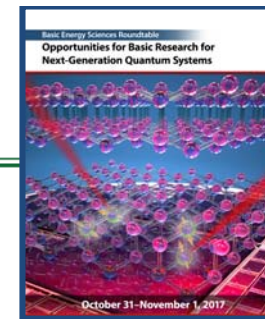
# BRN for Future Nuclear Energy – Priority Research Directions



- **Enable design of revolutionary molten salt coolants & liquid fuels**  
*How can we characterize and predict the structure, dynamics, and energetics of molten salts including evolving chemical composition across length and time scales?*
- **Master the hierarchy of materials design and synthesis for complex, reactor environments**  
*How do we design, synthesize, and process superior materials able to function and perform over decades in the extreme environments of advanced nuclear reactors?*
- **Tailor interfaces to control the impact of nuclear environments**  
*How can the multitude of inextricably linked chemical and physical processes that occur at interfaces be controlled?*
- **Reveal multiscale evolution of spatial and temporal processes for coupled extreme environments**  
*How can computational and experimental techniques be integrated to bridge spatial, temporal, and energy scales that underpin materials' behavior and chemical transformations in coupled extreme environments?*
- **Identify and control unexpected behaviors from rare events and cascading processes**  
*How do we identify, anticipate and control rare events that initiate cascading processes and cause aberrant properties and materials responses?*



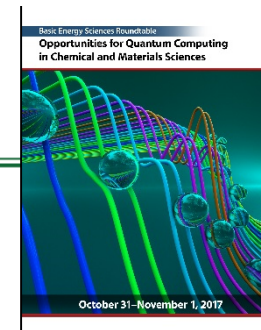
# Quantum Information Science: Opportunities for Basic Research for Next Generation Quantum Systems



Roundtable in October 2017 defined a BES research agenda for quantum systems for QIS and provided input on priority research opportunities:

- **Advance artificial quantum-coherent systems with unprecedented functionality**
  - Develop new capabilities for synthesis that couple theoretical predictions and real-time measurements of targeted quantum characteristics, including coherence
  - Explore robotic synthesis of layered materials, design of quantum properties for hybrid (organic and inorganic) systems, creation of topological states of matter, and precise control to position atomic defects
- **Enhance creation and control of coherence in quantum systems**
  - Understand scaling of coherence lengths and times with system size and complexity, and identify new signatures of quantum states in artificial quantum-coherent systems
  - Investigate mechanisms to prevent decoherence, leading to discovery and exploitation of novel entangled excitations
- **Discover novel approaches for quantum-to-quantum transduction**
  - Advance new capabilities for coherent transfer of complete wavefunctions between disparate physical systems, the core of quantum measurement and information processing
  - Develop new techniques for generation and stabilization of nonclassical states of light and matter; high fidelity transfer of quantum wavefunctions; and quantum state replication and entanglement
- **Implement new quantum methods for advanced sensing and process control**
  - Design new quantum-based sensors, detectors, and imaging systems for precise measurements of time, space, and fields to probe material properties and chemical processes
  - Create novel methods to use squeezed states for metrology and understand the connections of entanglement, thermodynamics, and many-body localization/diffusion

# Quantum Information Science: Quantum Computing Opportunities in Chemical and Materials Sciences



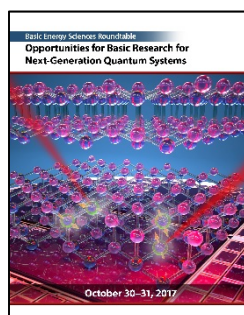
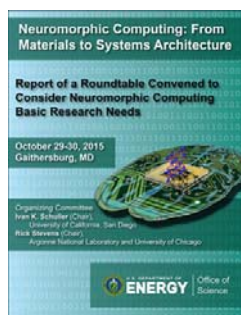
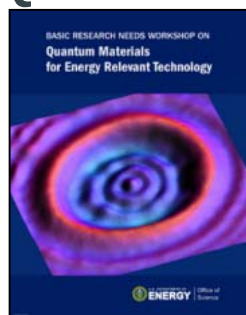
Roundtable in October 2017 defined a BES research agenda for emerging quantum computing and provided input on priority research opportunities:

- **Controlling the quantum dynamics of nonequilibrium chemical and materials systems**
  - Elucidate the fundamental principles underlying chemical reactions and catalytic pathways; discover dynamical phases of matter; and understand how to prepare entangled states across many quantum degrees of freedom
- **Unraveling the physics and chemistry of strongly correlated electron systems**
  - Enable a correct description of the quantum behavior of strongly entangled electrons to allow discovery of the principles controlling superconductivity, magnetic states and the dynamics of electronic states
- **Embedding quantum hardware in classical frameworks**
  - Develop efficient hybrid algorithms that embed quantum computing for strongly correlated quantum components in classical computing for more weakly correlated parts, thus enabling simulations of molecular and materials problems containing thousands of atoms
- **Bridging the classical–quantum computing divide**
  - Improve the efficiency of quantum computing using approximate results from classical computing as input, and improve the accuracy of classical computing using high-accuracy results from quantum computing to parameterize and optimize complex models

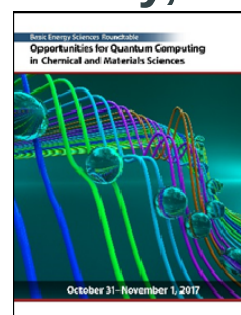


# Recent Strategic Planning Workshops and Roundtables Cross the Breadth of the MSE Division

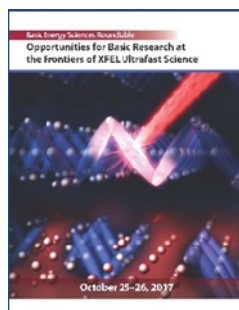
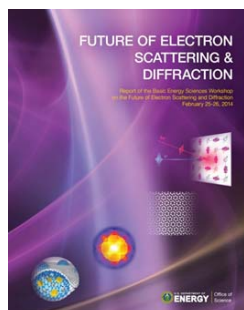
## • Quantum Science



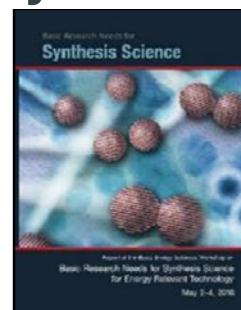
## Theory, Modeling and Computation



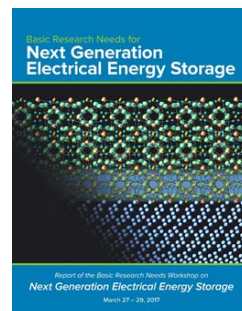
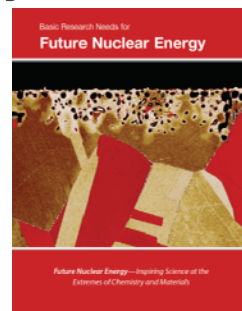
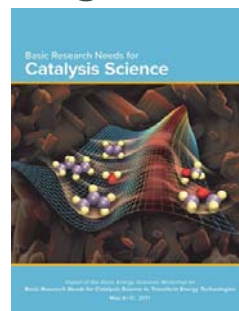
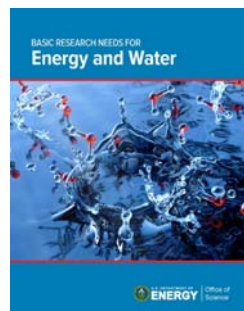
## • Characterization



## Synthesis



## • Cross-Cutting Energy



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# FY 2018 – FY 2019 BES Research Priorities

## ■ Quantum Information Science (QIS)

- By exploiting the intricate quantum mechanical phenomena, QIS will create fundamentally new ways of obtaining and processing information and open new vistas of science discovery and technology innovation. Research priorities were identified in two QIS roundtables held in October 2017.

## ■ Ultrafast Science

- Ultrafast science remains a priority in both research divisions to position the U.S. leadership in this critical field of science and in anticipation of the completion of the LCLS-II construction project. Research priorities were identified in a roundtable held October 2017.

## ■ Computational Materials and Chemical Sciences

- Computational Materials Sciences (CMS) and Computational Chemical Sciences (CCS) are maintained in support of the Exascale Computing Initiative. CCS was funded in FY 2017 and is moved to a new budget line in the FY 2019 Request.

## ■ Materials and Chemical Sciences for Future Nuclear Energy

- Research will be supported to achieve a multi-scale spatial and temporal understanding of fundamental physical and chemical processes that govern the properties and performance of novel material systems and fuels required for advanced reactors.

## ■ Priorities identified by Advisory Committee and Basic Research Needs Reports

- Both the core research and EFRCs will emphasize emerging high priorities identified by the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee and recent Basic Research Needs workshop reports.



## Strategic Directions are Reflected in Funding Opportunity Announcements and Program Descriptions

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- Reports are available via the BES home page: <https://science.energy.gov/bes>
- Annual funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is updated to reflect programmatic emphasis and topical areas that will not be supported or that are being de-emphasized. Examples:
  - Synthesis and Processing Science: The program has an increasing focus on understanding of kinetics and mechanisms of materials growth ....
  - Experimental Condensed Matter Physics: Growth in research support is expected in the areas of spin physics, magnonics, and topological states of matter.
  - Materials Chemistry: Research primarily aimed at the optimization of synthetic methods or properties of materials for applications, and research with a primary goal of device fabrication and testing will be discouraged.
  - Mechanical Behavior: Proposals emphasizing mechanics of materials, rather than materials science, will not be considered responsive.
- Priorities are also communicated through the annual budget submission, on the BES web page for each program, and at conferences during BES overview presentations

## Presentation Outline

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- Overview of DOE and BES Organization and Budget
- Description of BES Science and Organization
- Strategic Planning and Research Priorities
- **Funding Opportunities and Process**



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## Process: Majority of Grants and Lab Awards are 3-years with Potential Renewal (CMS and SciDAC are 4-year Awards)

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### Grant Program

- Mostly university single PI projects; a few multi-PI research awards with focused scientific themes
- National lab collaborators funded separately (direct to labs)
- Limited labor costs typical one month faculty summer salary, with support for post-doc and students
- Research emphasis on innovation-driven science in academic environment; Funding award may be transferred with PI move
- Includes extensive support for graduate students and postdocs

### Lab Program

- Interdisciplinary, large research team approach with multiple PIs and supporting technical staff
- May include university subcontracts for team members
- Supports large fraction of investigators' salary, equipment costs, and other burden/expenses
- Building and maintaining mission-driven research capabilities, often co-sited with user facilities and other major lab research capabilities
- Resources align with Lab identified vision, priority, and strengths



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# Proposal Review Criteria

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1. Scientific and/or technical merit of the project; for example, the influence that the results might have on the direction, progress, and thinking in relevant scientific fields of research; the likelihood of achieving valuable results; and the scientific innovation and originality indicated in the proposed research.
2. Appropriateness of the proposed method or approach; for example, the logic and feasibility of the research approaches and the soundness of the research plan.
3. Competency of the personnel and adequacy of the proposed resources; for example, the background, past performance, potential of the investigator(s), and the research facilities.
4. Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

Additional criteria for national laboratory and large grants (~1 M/yr)

5. Synergism among the PIs in a program and the programmatic focus of a multi-PI effort.
6. Utilization of unique facilities or capabilities.

**Additional review criteria may be used for specific FOAs**



# Funding Opportunities: FAQs

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- White papers are encouraged
    - Respond to “Open Call For Proposals” (**Special Calls may have different requirements – read these carefully**)
    - Hypothesis driven, fundamental science project - energy relevance
    - White papers/ are encouraged but not required for academic research
    - All proposals are peer reviewed
  - Funding levels
    - Peer review will assess requests versus research needs (10 CFR 605)
    - Typical academic awards are for 1 summer month plus students/postdoc
    - Multiple PI awards are allowed
    - National Lab awards are always multiple PI, except for early career
  - Open call is a continuous process (no fixed deadline for submission)
    - Reviews take 4 – 6 months to complete, awards are made based on strength of the merit review and available resources
    - Proposals can be held up to one year for consideration
  - Delineation from other grants...
    - You must have separate research proposals that can “stand alone” with respect to research output
- 



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# Continuing Hot Topic – Research Delineation

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- **Research Delineation –**

- Investigations, prosecution
- “It is not a problem to apply for funds for the same research at different funding agencies, but it is illegal to accept and use the funding”
- For all BES grants, the Program Manager must sign that:
  - *I do not find any evidence of unwarranted duplication of effort or overlap in support between the research that is the subject of this Selection Statement Memorandum and any other unclassified government supported activity with this Principal Investigator.*
- How to tell?? When in doubt, ask the Program Manager. I look at it like so: are there a lot of similar terms in the abstracts? Is one project essentially within the scope of the other? Is the science essentially the same? Will most papers acknowledge both funding sources?
- Basically, don’t try to justify gray areas; it should be a BRIGHT LINE

## Some Common Questions

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- **Single PI or Collaborative??**
  - Depends on the project and scope. It really needs to make sense to have more than one PI because of cost (in other words, don't just add someone for the heck of it). We have no preference, but if you have a collaborative proposal it should be synergistic
- **How long should the proposal period be?**
  - We typically fund in three-year increments, and they are renewable
- **How long should the proposal be?**
  - We don't have an official page limit but the main body shouldn't be longer than 20 pages (or you will annoy reviewers→BAD!)
- **What are we looking for in a single word?**
  - IMPACT!

# Office of Science Early Career Research Program

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## Office of Science Early Career Research Program – Started in FY 2010

- Purpose: To support individual research programs of outstanding scientists early in their careers and to stimulate research careers in the disciplines supported by the Office of Science
- Eligibility: Within 10 years of receiving a Ph.D., either untenured academic assistant or associate professors on the tenure track or full-time DOE national lab employees
- 5-Yr Awards: University grants \$150,000/yr, National lab awards \$500,000/yr min

## FY 2017 Program

- 700 Office of Science proposals received, 21 Basic Energy Sciences (19 universities, 2 Labs) awards out of a total of 59 awards for the Office of Science (10 in BES-Materials Sciences and Engineering)

## FY 2018 Program

- Awards announced July, 2018

**Annual FOA will be released in FY 2019 for the next opportunity. FOAs cover different topics than the annual FOA for BES – important to read the details!**

# DOE Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) Program

**The SCGSR Program provides supplemental awards to outstanding graduate students to spend 3 to 12 months conducting part of their doctoral thesis/dissertation research at a host DOE national laboratory/facility in collaboration with a DOE laboratory scientist.**

- Graduate students must apply online through the online application system.
- The application requires a research proposal and letters of support from both the graduate student's thesis advisor and the collaborating DOE laboratory scientist.
- Student's research and proposed SCGSR project must be aligned with one of the identified SCGSR priority research areas defined by the SC Program Offices and specified in the solicitation.
- Applications proposing to use an SC user facility must apply for user facility time separately.

## **Award Benefits:**

- A monthly stipend of up to \$3,000/month for general living expenses
- Reimbursement of inbound/outbound traveling expenses to/from the host DOE laboratory/facility of up to \$2,000

(Award payments are provided directly to the student)

## **Eligibility:**

- U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident
- Qualified graduate program & Ph.D. Candidacy
- Graduate research aligned with an SCGSR priority research area
- Establishment of a collaborating DOE laboratory scientist at the time of application

**2018 Solicitation 2 – Applications Due: November 15, 2018 5:00PM ET**

Full details, requirements, FAQs, and link to application at: <https://science.energy.gov/wdts/scgsr/>



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Program Contact : [sc.scgsr@science.doe.gov](mailto:sc.scgsr@science.doe.gov)



# SCGSR Program 2018 Solicitation 2 – Priority Research Areas

## Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR)

- (a) Applied Mathematics
- (b) Computer Science

## Basic Energy Sciences (BES)

- (a) Accelerator and Detector R&D
- (b) Nuclear Chemistry and Radiochemical Separations
- (c) Neutron Scattering Research and Instrumentation
- (d) Predictive Materials Science and Chemistry
- (e) Fundamental Electrochemistry related to Energy Transduction, Storage, Chemical Conversion, and Corrosion
- (f) Crystal Growth
- (g) Ultrafast Materials and Chemical Sciences
- (h) Electron and Scanning Probe Microscopy Research and Instrumentation
- (i) Basic Geosciences
- (j) Gas Phase Chemical Physics
- (k) Radiation Effects in Materials
- (l) Catalysis Science with NMR Spectroscopy and Neutron Scattering
- (m) Highly Ionizing Radiation in Chemistry
- (n) Energy Transfers in Large Proteins and Protein Complexes
- (o) Quantum Information Science for Experimental Condensed Matter Physics
- (p) Quantum Information Science for Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics

## Biological and Environmental Research (BER)

- (a) Computational Biology and Bioinformatics
- (b) Novel in situ Imaging and Measurement Technologies for Biological Systems Science

## Biological and Environmental Research (Cont'd)

- (c) Plant Science for Sustainable Bioenergy
- (d) Soil Microbiology
- (e) Environmental Systems Science
- (f) Atmospheric System Research
- (g) Earth System Modeling

## Fusion Energy Sciences (FES)

- (a) Burning Plasma Science & Enabling Technologies
- (b) Discovery Plasma Science

## High Energy Physics (HEP)

- (a) Theoretical and Computational Research in High Energy Physics
- (b) Advanced Technology Research and Development in High Energy Physics
- (c) Experimental Research in High Energy Physics

## Nuclear Physics (NP)

- (a) Medium Energy Nuclear Physics
- (b) Heavy Ion Nuclear Physics
- (c) Low Energy Nuclear Physics
- (d) Nuclear Theory
- (e) Nuclear Data and Nuclear Theory Computing
- (f) Isotope Development and Production for Research and Applications
- (g) Accelerator Research and Development for Current and Future Nuclear Physics Facilities



# More Information Available on the BES Web Page

[SC Home](#) [Organization](#) [Jobs](#) [Contact](#) [DOE Home](#)

 **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY** Office of Science

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You are here: [SC Home](#) » [Programs](#) » [BES Home](#)

## Basic Energy Sciences (BES)

**BES Home**

[About](#)

[Research](#)

[Facilities](#)

[Science Highlights](#)

[Benefits of BES](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee \(BESAC\)](#)

[Community Resources](#)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

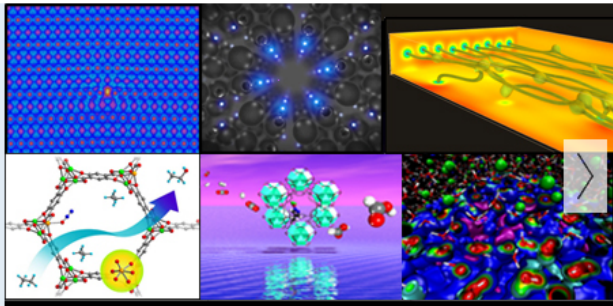
**Basic Energy Sciences**  
U.S. Department of Energy  
SC-22/Germantown Building  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20585  
P: (301) 903-3081  
F: (301) 903-6594  
E: [Email Us](#)

[More Information »](#)

### Computational Materials Science and Chemistry

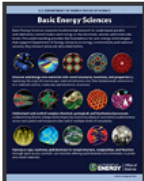
Harnessing computational sciences for integrating synthesis, characterization, and modeling of complex materials and chemical processes to accelerate discovery and transform our ability to deploy innovative energy technologies.

[Read More »](#)



**COMPUTATIONAL MATERIALS SCIENCE and CHEMISTRY**  
Accelerating discovery and innovation through simulation-based engineering and science

Text Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#) [Feedback \(+\)](#) [Share Page](#)



**Summary**  (1.1MB)



Basic Energy Sciences (BES) supports fundamental research to understand, predict, and ultimately control matter and energy at the electronic, atomic, and molecular levels in order to provide the foundations for new energy technologies and to support DOE missions in energy, environment, and national security. The BES program also plans, constructs, and operates major scientific user facilities to serve researchers from universities, national laboratories, and private institutions. The BES program funds work at more than 160 research institutions through the following three Divisions:

- Materials Sciences and Engineering Division
- Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, and Biosciences Division
- Scientific User Facilities Division

**What's New**

Quantum Information Science and Research Infrastructure

[Lab Announcement](#)  (603KB) for NSRCs

EPSCoR State-National Laboratory Partnerships

[FOA](#)  (893KB)

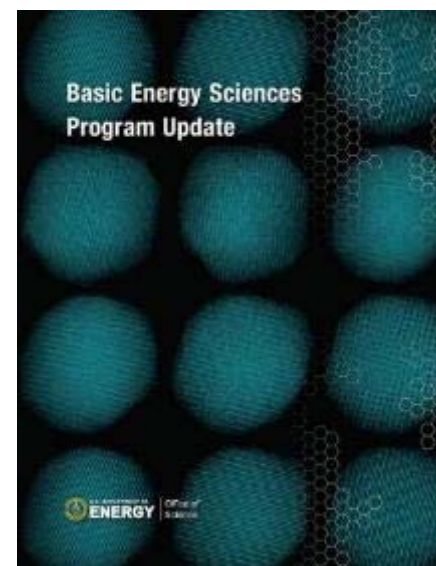
Materials and Chemical Sciences Research For Quantum Information Science

[FOA](#)  (859KB)

[Lab Announcement](#)  (611KB)

# On Line Resources

- **BES Program Update**
  - Annual publication that describes updates to the BES program in FY 2017, including major new awards and strategic planning activities. It also describes select research highlights.
- **BRN Workshop Report Brochures**





# Impact and Communication

- BES Communicates impact through
  - Web highlights
  - 3-panel and topical viewgraphs

## Basic Energy Sciences (BES)

07.26.16

### Graphene Rewrites the Rules of Engagement

Novel self-assembly can tune the electronic properties of graphene, possibly opening doors for tiny, powerful electronic devices.

#### The Science

In what could prove to be a significant advance in fabricating new technologies, scientists discovered a new self-assembly mechanism that surprisingly drives negatively charged molecules to clump together to form islands when graphene is supported by an electrical insulator. Under these conditions, different charge interactions are not diminished, as they are when graphene is supported by a metallic substrate. At low concentrations, individual adsorbed molecules repel each other, but with increasing concentration, the molecules form two-dimensional islands. It was determined by theory that the flow of extra electrons into the islands from graphene keeps the molecules together. The electronic driving forces and stabilization energies are sufficient to overcome the repulsion between the negative charges.

#### The Impact

This self-assembly mechanism can be used to tune the electronic properties of graphene layers in devices and control how electrons flow through the graphene. This mechanism permits atomic-scale patterning of electronic properties, which cannot be achieved with conventional lithographic techniques currently being used in the semiconductor industry.

#### Summary

Silicon has been successful because it is an electronically tunable semiconductor material that can be used in electronic devices. Graphene has distinct advantages over silicon for many applications due to its higher electron mobility and a very stable crystal structure, but it can be difficult to precisely tune. One way to tune the electronic properties of graphene is to adsorb molecules onto its surface. For example, negatively charged molecules on a graphene surface pull electrons from the graphene layer, changing its electronic properties. However, efforts to controllably assemble such negatively charged molecules have been limited because negatively charged species repel each other. Now scientists led by the University of California-Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory have discovered that this repulsion can be overcome and two-dimensional islands can be controllably formed by negatively charged molecules on graphene supported by an insulator. Through microscopy and theoretical modeling, they determined that the underlying insulator was key to altering the nature of the interactions between the negatively charged molecules and graphene. These molecules are known to extract electrons from its substrate. At low surface concentrations, the negatively charged molecules separately accept electrons from the underlying graphene and repel each other, as expected because like charges repel each other. Remarkably and counterintuitively, at higher concentrations, these charged molecules clump together to form ordered islands. This usual behavior is explained by theory as the donation of extra electrons to the islands of molecules by the graphene when compared to the donation to a single molecule. This extra charge makes it energetically more favorable to

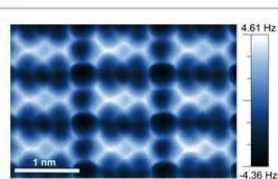


Image courtesy of University of California, Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory reprinted from ACS Nano.

When graphene is supported by an electrical insulator, negatively charged molecules are attracted to each other and form islands. The microscopy image shows one such island. Theory predicted that as the island unexpectedly forms, additional electrons from graphene flow into the island and keep the molecules together. These additional electrons make the island a more stable structure compared to one where the molecules stay apart. Scientists could use the islands to modify the graphene for electronic applications.

## Design of Adaptive 2D Protein Lattices That Get Thicker When Stretched

### Scientific Achievement

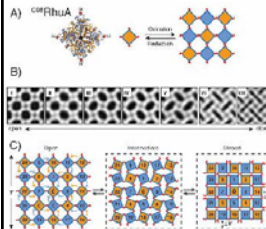
Defect-free, 2D protein crystal lattices were constructed that breathe without losing crystallinity and display counterintuitive mechanical behavior.

### Significance and Impact

These protein lattices represent the first materials designed at the molecular level that display a Poisson's ratio of  $-1$ , the lowest thermodynamically permissible value. These materials could be used for developing adaptive membranes and impact-resistant materials.

### Research Details

- A square-shaped protein, RhuA, was tailored with cysteine residues at its corners, enabling its self-assembly into 2D lattices upon disulfide bond formation through oxidation.
- While the reversibility of disulfide bonds ensures self-healing and formation of pristine 2D crystal lattices, their flexibility allows these lattices to open and close in coherence.
- Rotary motion of RhuA molecules leads to the contraction or expansion of the lattices equally in both dimensions.



A) The  $^{98}\text{RhuA}$  building block with engineered Cys98 residues and its tiling into 2D lattices by disulfide bond formation. B) TEM snapshots of the 2D  $^{98}\text{RhuA}$  lattices captured in seven different conformations. C) Cartoon representation of the breathing dynamics of 2D  $^{98}\text{RhuA}$  lattices.

Y. Suzuki, G. Cardone, D. Restrepo, P.D. Zarattini, T.S. Baker, F. Akif Tezcan  
Nature, in press, doi: 10.1038/nature17633

Work was performed at University of California, San Diego



Office of Science

UC San Diego  
Chemistry & Biochemistry

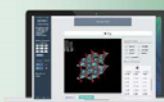


## The Materials Project:

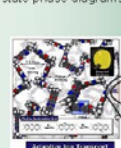
### Powerful Computing and Analysis To Discover Novel Materials

#### Basic Science

Focused on first principles theory research to develop computer codes and data screening tools to advance discovery of materials with specific functionality



Calculated ground state phase diagrams

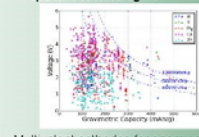


The Electrolyte Genome for calculation of organic electrolyte components

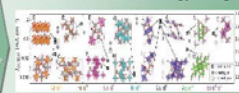


#### Applied R&D

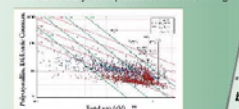
Developed the computational data and screening approaches for specific technologies



Multivalent cathodes for energy storage



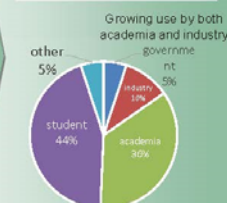
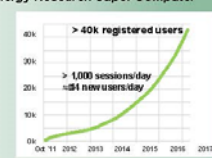
A landscape of photoactive structures identified by computational screening



Discovery of novel dielectric materials

#### Web-Based Resource

Available to users through the National Energy Research Super Computer



"Now you instantly have it [data] in your browser... It's a huge increase in efficiency!"  
- product development engineer, 3M

NERSC supported by ASCR



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# Questions?

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John.Vetrano@science.doe.gov



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