

**JSOST Pacific Northwest Public Briefing**  
**University of Washington**  
**August 22, 2006**

**Question-**With regards to the question listed on the comment slide “will the focus on societal themes dilute basic research funding,” will there be an effort to steer basic research or influence the goals of NSF?

**Response-**Basic research is fundamental to ocean research priorities and provides the foundation of our current, applied understanding. There is an acknowledgement that we cannot and should not define the focus of most basic research.

**Question-**Will the plan discuss implementation and coordination with the Earth observing satellites? Is there coordination with NASA?

**Response-**NASA has active representation on the JSOST.

**Question-**What about the continuity of satellite missions?

**Response-**Satellite observations are integral to many of the research priorities. The need for these observations is discussed in the document. How we handle infrastructure in general is a key component of the JSOST, as indicated by the IWGs on facilities and observing.

**Comment-**It may not be possible to achieve the goals of the document without high quality satellite observations.

**Question-**The idea of partnerships between sectors was discussed in the presentation. How will this be shaped with regards to the research priorities?

**Response-**One example of the partnerships in research involves having managers help formulate underlying hypotheses for research efforts. This would help engage managers in the process and would help make the information from the research effort more useful and valuable, as the managers would be better prepared to receive the outcome of the research effort. One question with such an approach is how much influence or interaction the research community would accept from the resource management community.

**Comment-**One of the drivers for the research process has been the call from the Ocean Commission to double funding available for research, however, we’ve only seen attrition of funding.

**Response-**One of the challenges at OSTP is the need to support the President’s budget, even during fiscally challenging times. The overall process of identifying national research priorities can help position research efforts positively as the budget situation improves.

**Comment-**The chair of the House Science committee has indicated that he would authorize more funds to agencies that request them.

**Response-**There is a difference between authorizing funding and appropriating. Part of the task ahead is to work with all of the links in the chain (ocean science community through to funding sources) to help ensure support for research.

**Question-**The end-to-end aspect of the research priorities (understanding to forecasting) may be the strongest part of the document, but the specific efforts are likely to be regional in nature. Where does the prioritization of the regional efforts occur? The idea of having efforts in the President's budget versus earmarking may be at odds with pursuit of regional efforts.

**Response-**The near-term priorities in the document may have an inherent regional focus, but the larger priorities don't have that level of specificity.

**Question-**The idea of end-to-end priorities has major implications on ocean education. Are there any implications for graduate education-the next generation?

**Response-**The current document has the "what," the implementation strategy will have the "how." The current document does have a discussion on education, and as part of that, workforce.

**Question-**In the vision of national research, is there discussion of vertical integration, such as how to inform local and regional efforts?

**Response-**The document acknowledges that state and local managers are end-users. With regards to the process, SIMOR has contributed to the effort and the SIMOR FSTT has also provided input on the document.

**Question-**A natural time cycle exists for research. How will we maintain longer timeframes for research, maintain continuity if a yearly budgeting process exists?

**Response-**An effort such as the priorities document will happen only once every 10 years, but every year, there will be process to help steer agency efforts.