

Feb 96
Reimb by NSF
or other

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
AND
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

WHEREAS, the National Science Foundation (NSF) desires to strengthen engineering research; and

WHEREAS, NSF accomplishes its research goals primarily through university researchers under various grant programs that make awards on the basis of merit determined by merit review; and

WHEREAS, NSF seeks to expand opportunities for university researchers to take advantage of state-of-the-art instrumentation needed to conduct advanced engineering research; and

WHEREAS, the research laboratories of federal agencies often have available unique advanced instrumentation and technical and professional expertise; and

WHEREAS, the research programs of these federal laboratories can benefit from interactions with university researchers including university researchers conducting projects that utilize federal laboratory equipment; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) owns and operates the following laboratories:

U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station
Vicksburg, MS

U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory
Champaign, IL

U.S. Army Topographic Engineering Center Fort Belvoir, VA

U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory
Hanover, NH

WHEREAS, each of these laboratories is a uniquely equipped facility for advanced engineering research on a wide-ranging number of engineering disciplines; and

WHEREAS, each of these laboratories affords opportunities for state-of-the-art engineering that is in some cases more advanced than any that exist in academic research laboratories; and

WHEREAS, USACE desires to provide opportunities for outstanding engineering researchers to address critical "barrier" problems that are thwarting advances in areas of national interest; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of agencies of the United States government for university researchers to advance engineering knowledge, and to stimulate advances in technology through the conduct of research that takes advantage of the unique facilities at the laboratories operated by USACE;

The National Science Foundation shall:

1. Announce a cooperative research activity between NSF and USACE, based on laboratory capabilities.
2. Serve as a link to USACE for academic researchers.
3. Encourage linkages between USACE and academic researchers. Requests for research arrangements may be submitted directly to USACE laboratories.
4. Utilize existing accepted NSF merit review procedures for reviewing and selecting research proposals for support.
5. Arrange that the funds for all costs of the facilities, utilities, and services be provided to USACE in advance from research project funds.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shall:

1. Make its facilities available for the conduct of research as mutually agreed.
2. Provide reimbursable consultation and assistance on the appropriate use of equipment and related research facilities.
3. Upon request, participate in panel mail review and other oversight activities as mutually agreed upon with NSF.
4. Provide facilities, utilities and services at cost to NSF-support research projects.
5. Ensure the Commander, USACE, has total jurisdiction over all security requirements under this MOA, and reserves the right to introduce regulatory security guidance as deemed appropriate.
6. Reserve the right to decline to provide facilities for any proposed research project at its sole discretion. Such refusal may be based upon but not be limited to questions of

public policy; local facility requirements; health, safety or environmental considerations; local workloads; inconsistency with USACE missions; or availability of funding.

Both the agencies shall adhere to the following Terms of Reference:

1. All use of facilities shall be consistent with the mission of the USACE. The determination that a project is consistent with the mission shall be at the sole discretion of the USACE.

2. Each opportunity to provide facilities and assistance for research shall be subject to USACE review and approval on a case-by-case basis and the USACE will require payment in advance or may impose requirements for facility use and research as determined by USACE in its sole discretion.

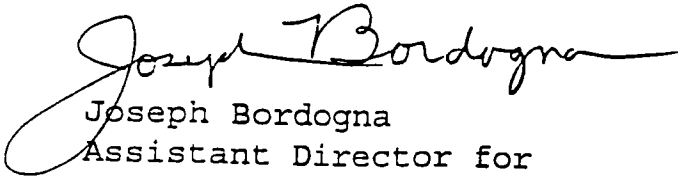
3. Prior to applying to NSF for funds, the principal investigator shall obtain in writing, the consent of USACE for the use of its facilities and services. The cost of these shall be included in the research project budget presented to NSF.

4. Costs to be met by the NSF-supported research project shall be based on the concept of additional cost incurred by USACE consequent on the use of its facilities for NSF-supported research.

5. Nothing in the MOU shall be construed to require USACE to request, budget or obligate funds for the purposes of this MOU, nor to obligate any funds which have not been authorized and appropriated for these purposes.

6. A point-of-contact shall be named by each agency to administer the implementation of this MOU.

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective upon signing years unless terminated by either party upon submission of 60 days written notice or by mutual consent of both parties at any time. In the event that this Memorandum is terminated, each project will be examined on a case-by-case basis.



Joseph Bordogna
Assistant Director for
Engineering
National Science Foundation

Date: 2/20/96



Robert B. Oswald
Director
Research and Development
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Date: 19 January, 1996