



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

4201 WILSON BOULEVARD, ARLINGTON, VA 22230 | WWW.NSF.GOV

June 19, 2013

To: U.S. Antarctic Program Research Community

Dear Colleagues,

It is widely known that the federal government is facing fiscal challenges. As a result of these challenges we are looking for ways to reinvent the way we do business to achieve cost savings and a robust science program.

The National Science Foundation intends to protect existing commitments to allow active research projects to conclude successfully. The U.S. Antarctic Program (USAP) is adjusting plans so that existing projects can be successfully completed. All components of the USAP, support organizations and science projects alike, are engaged with us in examining ways to reduce costs. Some of these reductions may result in reduced capabilities in the future, and therefore accomplishing essential project goals with somewhat less support or accomplishing project goals with some delay or by more efficient innovative means are likely outcomes.

Despite these budget challenges, we are committed to maintaining a strong USAP that enables U.S. investigators to undertake cutting edge science in the Antarctic and to maintain a leadership role in international collaborations. This will take teamwork, and we call on you to submit your ideas for reducing future costs and increasing operational efficiencies. Please contact your NSF science program manager or science support manager, or submit your ideas to USAPReinvent@nsf.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SAB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Borg
Section Head
Antarctic Sciences

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Stone', written in a cursive style.

Brian Stone
Section Head
Antarctic Infrastructure and
Logistics