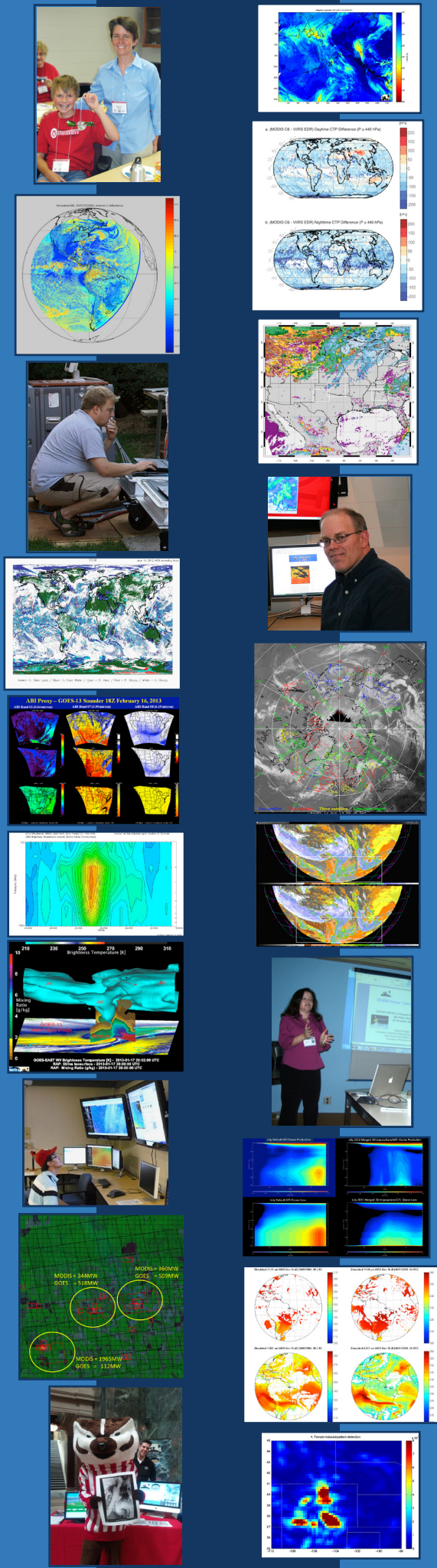




CIMSS Administrative Review: 2013 Report

Submitted by the
Cooperative Institute for
Meteorological Satellite Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison



September 2013

CIMSS ADMINISTRATIVE FORMAL REVIEW QUESTIONS

A Brief Overview of SSEC and CIMSS, with Administrative Summary

The Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies (CIMSS) was formed through a Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Wisconsin–Madison (UW–Madison) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1980. CIMSS underwent a 5-year review in 2004 and was re-competed in 2009 ending with the selection of the University of Wisconsin-Madison 2010.

CIMSS is part of the Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC), a research and development center within the UW–Madison’s Graduate School. The SSEC mission focuses on geophysical research and technology to enhance understanding of the Earth, other planets in the Solar System, and the cosmos. To conduct its science and engineering missions SSEC has developed a strong administrative and programmatic infrastructure. This infrastructure is available to all SSEC/CIMSS staff, as well as its campus collaborators. CIMSS resides in the same 15-story building as SSEC and the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Space Science Building which houses SSEC and CIMSS.

SSEC Overview

SSEC has approximately 250 employees, including 160 professional staff (CIMSS staff are included in these totals). SSEC is led by its Director, Dr. Henry Revercomb, and three Executive Directors, John Roberts (Administration), Wayne Feltz (Science) and Fred Best (Technology). SSEC Principal Investigators (PIs) conduct research and technology development programs that study the Earth, the solar system, and the cosmos. A key component of SSEC research is instrument development for making measurements of the Earth. SSEC and CIMSS exist entirely through research funding. SSEC provides support infrastructure for its researchers and campus collaborators in several areas, including:

- **Administrative Support**
The administrative support team includes 15 full-time staff and several students providing services that include human relations, proposal processing, publishing, web design, grant and contract management, accounting, financial programming, purchasing and travel.
- **Technical Computing**
The technical computing support team includes 6 full-time staff and several students providing consultation on and implementation of system design, networking infrastructure, and full support for Unix and PC computing.
- **Data Center**
The SSEC Data Center provides access, maintenance, and distribution of real-time and archive weather and weather satellite data. The Data Center currently receives data from 10 international geostationary and 9 polar orbiting weather satellites in real-time and provides a critical resource to SSEC/CIMSS researchers.
- **Library**
The SSEC Library supports the research and educational goals of SSEC, CIMSS, NOAA scientists and their affiliates, and provides instructional support to the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Science (AOS) faculty, graduate students and others by providing access to and delivery of information in a range of formats. The library is a full participant in UW-Madison campus library networks and is staffed by one professional librarian and two assistants.

Media

The SSEC Media Team supports the research and education missions of SSEC and CIMSS by communicating across media (print and electronic) to all audiences to share and promote science and research activities and their impact. The team includes webmasters for SSEC and CIMSS, a graphic design specialist, a science journalism intern, and a public information specialist.

- **Visualization Tools**
SSEC is a leader in developing visualization tools for analyzing geophysical data. The Man-computer Interactive Data Access System (McIDAS) and McIDAS-V software are used worldwide in a variety of research and operational environments. The VISITView software is used extensively as a tele-training tool by the National Weather Service (NWS) and others. To further support NOAA NWS forecast offices, CIMSS develops

satellite products for AWIPS and AWIPS2, maintaining both systems within our facilities.

- **Engineering**
SSEC provides engineering support for its own instrument programs as well as for campus programs. An important component of SSEC's mission is to serve as a multi-disciplinary research center for UW–Madison.
- **Program Management**
SSEC has participated in several large space programs (e.g. planetary probes, STS missions) and has experienced program managers to support these activities. The Engineering and Program Management teams allow SSEC to conduct ongoing instrument development programs, which can be expanded to support large program initiatives.

CIMSS Overview

As mentioned above, CIMSS is part of the Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC), and was formed through an MOU between the UW–Madison and NOAA in 1980. CIMSS is led by its Director, Dr. Steven Ackerman; Executive Director – Science, Wayne Feltz; and by individual program leadership through University Principal Investigators (PIs). The science direction of CIMSS is also discussed with the NESDIS Advanced Satellite Products Branch (ASPB) led by Dr. Jeff Key.

CIMSS is advised by a Board of Directors and a Science Advisory Council (Appendix B identifies the current Board and Council membership). The Board of Directors nominally meets once a year to review the policies, research themes, and priorities of CIMSS, including budget and scientific activities. The Board is also responsible for approving the appointment of members to the Science Advisory Council. The Science Advisory Council was created to advise the CIMSS Director in establishing the broad scientific content of CIMSS programs, promoting cooperation among CIMSS, NOAA, and NASA, maintaining high scientific and professional standards, and preparing reports of CIMSS activities.

CIMSS Staff

The primary asset of CIMSS is its research staff. CIMSS has experienced a steady increase in the size and scope of its research programs over its 33 year history. Figure 2 shows the number of CIMSS Associates over the past 19 years. The size of the CIMSS staff has nearly tripled during this period. Figure 3 shows the current composition of the CIMSS staff. It should be noted that many of the NOAA/NESDIS scientists stationed at CIMSS are also PIs or Co-PIs, raising the number of PIs associated with CIMSS who are submitting proposals and leading research projects to over 30. The CIMSS research staff are primarily meteorologists and programmers, but their expertise is wide ranging, providing strong support for a variety of programs. CIMSS conducts its research by building teams to accomplish program goals. The staff can move from one project to another or work on multiple projects to provide expertise and stability to the CIMSS research program.

CIMSS also supports 16 graduate students. These students have an academic advisor with the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (AOS), and also a science advisor within CIMSS, who is part of the student's thesis committee. Director Ackerman is a tenured professor

within AOS and meets with all CIMSS-supported students in weekly meetings and on an individual basis.

CIMSS has a long history of scientist exchange, especially through international collaborations. Extended term scientist exchange programs exist with agencies in South Korea, China, Australia, and Europe.

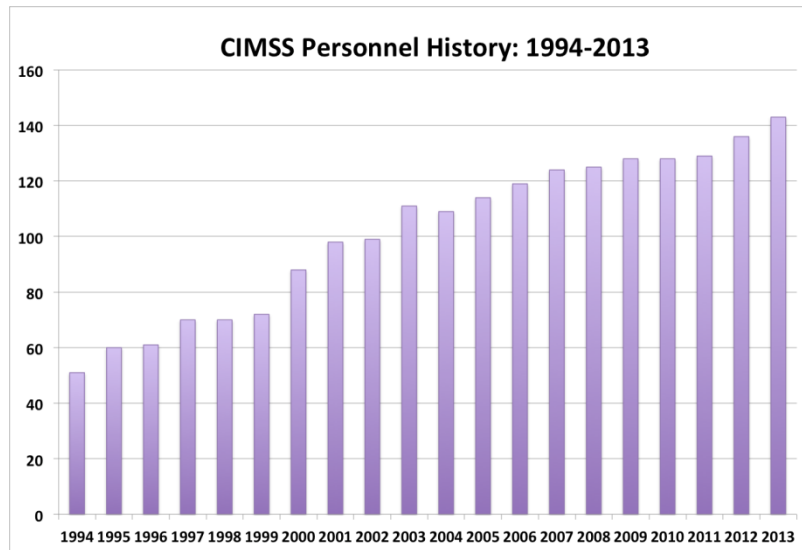


Figure 2: The number of CIMSS staff over the past 19 years.

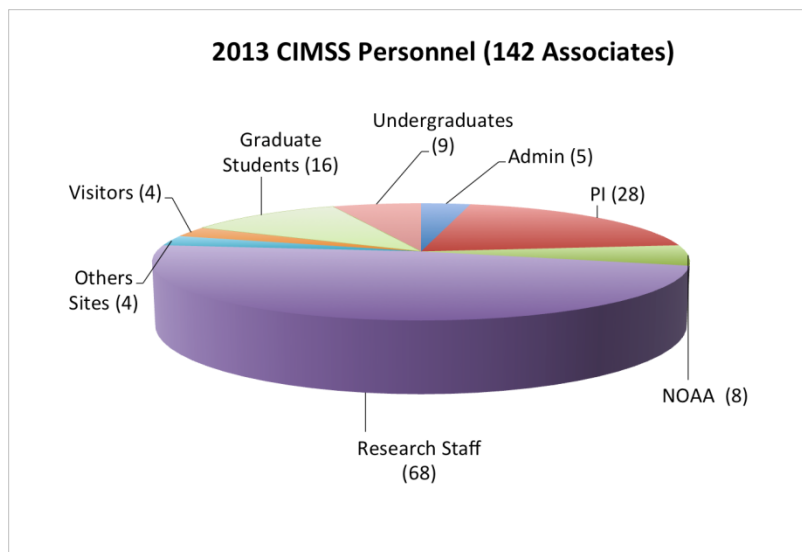


Figure 3: The distribution of CIMSS staff, including NOAA scientists on site at UW-Madison.

CIMSS Funding

The CIMSS funding history in Figure 4 shows strong growth over the past 30 years. The growth in the 1990s can be partially attributed to participation in the NASA Earth Observing System

(EOS) program. The growth in the past few years can be mostly attributed to the broad scope support for GOES-R and JPSS program offices and increased students in this last year.

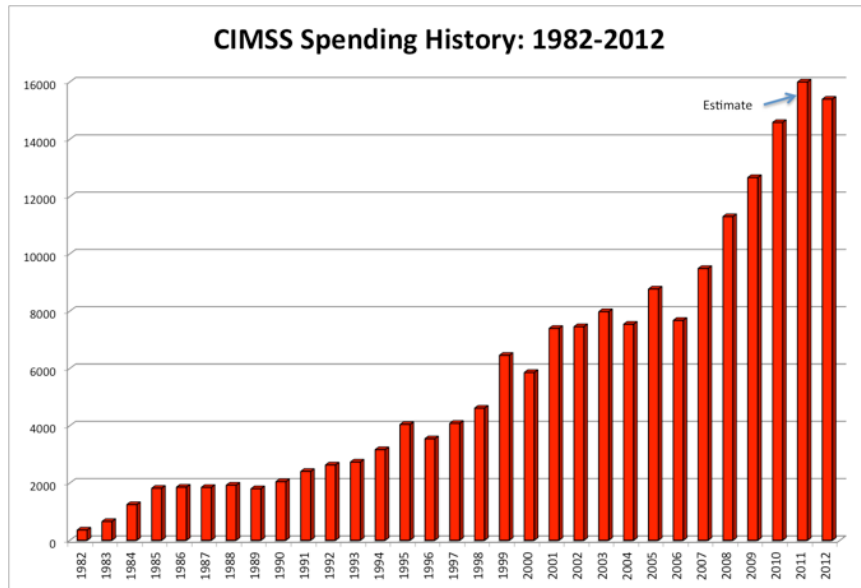


Figure 4: CIMSS spending history since 1982.

Current CIMSS research funding by agency is shown in Figure 5. In this past year, CIMSS has received about 70% of its funding from NOAA. Prior to this year, CIMSS funding was more diverse, receiving approximately 30-40% of its annual funding from NOAA and a similar amount from NASA. Recently, funding startups have come from the GOES-R and JPSS programs. The DOD and the Department of Energy provide support for key research activities that often leverage with projects with NOAA and NASA, while providing a specific focus to meet those agencies' goals. There is also a small amount of funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

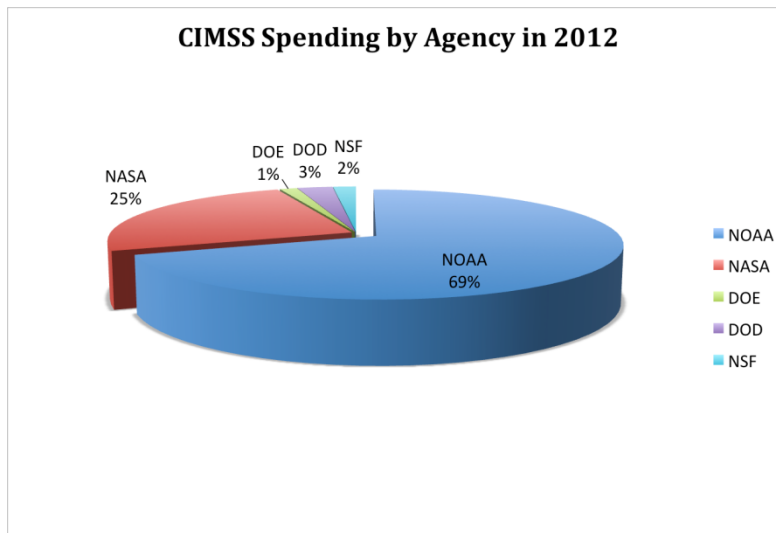


Figure 5: Distribution of CIMSS research program funding FY2012.

The most significant funding changes in the past 5 years are depicted in Figure 6. The NASA funding/spending for the period has ranged between 2 and 4 million, while NOAA funding/spending has shown a steady growth over the past 4 years. ASPB scientists have developed strong research programs in collaboration with CIMSS scientists that contribute to this increase in the percentage of NOAA funding. The development of the GOES-R Risk Reduction program and the algorithm development for GOES-R, Suomi NPP and JPSS are other significant reasons for the expansion of CIMSS/NOAA research collaborations.

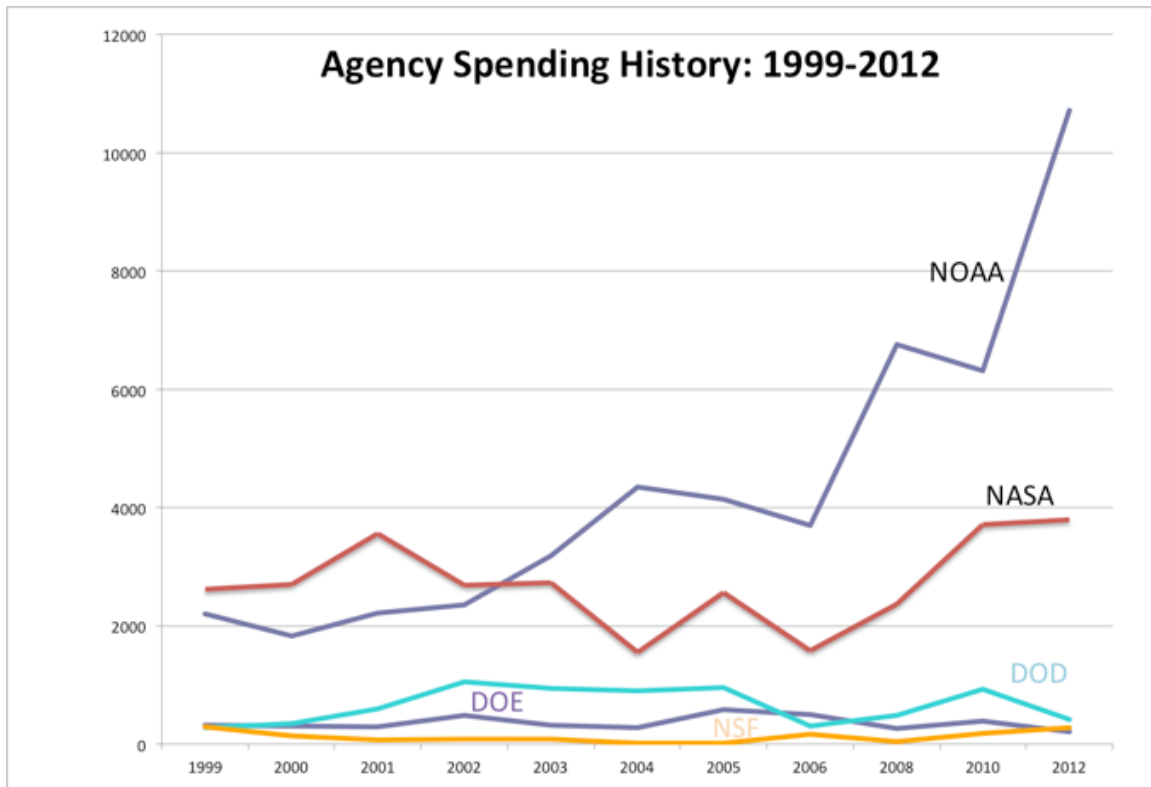


Figure 6: CIMSS 13 year spending history from 5 funding agencies.

Administration of CIMSS Programs

1. Proposal Development

All CIMSS grant awards from NOAA are funded through a five-year Cooperative Agreement that extends through 30 June 2015. The Cooperative Agreement proposal identifies CIMSS research themes and areas of expertise along with projected cost ceilings, along with some Task-I funding to support administration and education and outreach activities. Once the Cooperative Agreement is in place, the UW–Madison has a long-term agreement with NOAA through which individual grant awards are funded. CIMSS then submits individual proposals that are eligible for the grant process to NOAA for review and possible funding through the Cooperative Agreement. In FY2013, for example, 36 separate proposals were funded through the CIMSS Cooperative Agreement with NOAA.

CIMSS has a philosophy that encourages its staff to develop proposal ideas. Proposals are written by individuals and by small teams, with one or more scientists as PI or Co-I. Proposal ideas are discussed with the CIMSS Director and/or the SSEC Executive Director for Science (ED-S)

(note: W. Feltz serves as the SSEC Executive Director for Science and CIMSS). The ED-S normally works with the PI on staff, computing and budget issues during the proposal development stage. All CIMSS proposals receive a final scientific review by the CIMSS Director and/or the ED-S. A flowchart showing the proposal process within the UW–Madison is shown in Figure 7.

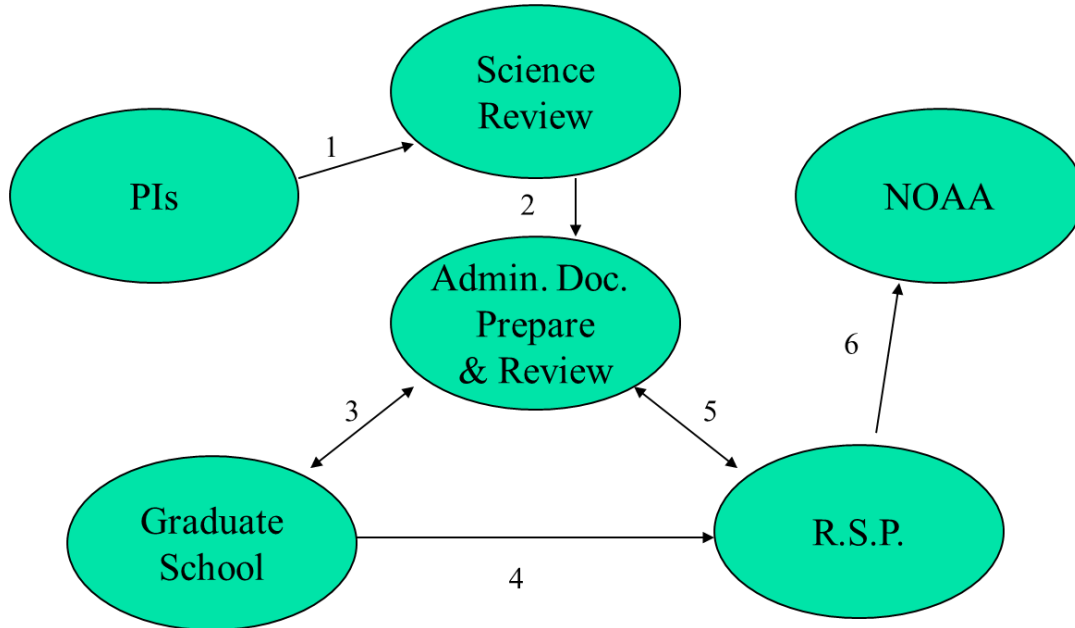


Figure 7: CIMSS proposal process with the SSEC and UW-Madison system.

CIMSS proposals are then delivered to SSEC administration for processing. A proposal specialist reviews the document for compliance and accuracy, prepares the final university and federal budget pages, completes the required federal application forms, and creates the university routing forms that includes assignment of a UW–Madison proposal number. The SSEC Assistant Director for Administration (AD-A) approves the SSEC proposal application materials, and the proposal is sent on to the UW–Madison Graduate School and its Research and Sponsored Programs office (RSP).

The UW–Madison Graduate School reviews the budget and other documents, and then forwards the proposal to RSP, where it is reviewed and signed by the authorized officer. RSP submits the proposal to the appropriate NOAA office via the grants.gov Web portal.

2. UW–Madison – NOAA Interaction on Proposal Awards

The next phase of the successful proposal process involves NOAA approving the proposal for funding and then interacting with UW–Madison to establish the legal agreement. NOAA will contact SSEC and the PI with its decision to fund a proposal. RSP and SSEC are notified of funding actions via Grants Online. RSP also notifies SSEC of funding actions received via the internal system WISPER; WISPER is an internal proposal routing tool that is used to document proposal movement and communications between SSEC, the Graduate School, and RSP throughout the proposal to award process. RSP reviews the legal documents and accepts the final award on behalf of the University. Any legal issues are discussed with the UW legal office prior to award acceptance. Once the award is fully executed, RSP assigns a UW-Madison award

number (or for modifications, adds the funds to an existing award number), then issues an official UW Board of Regents Action to notify the PI and SSEC/CIMSS of award acceptance. SSEC then issues a new account or updates an existing account for the award in its internal accounting system.

3. SSEC Management and Oversight of Funded Programs

For large programs, a Program Manager (PM) may be assigned to work with the PI and be a point of contact for SSEC administration. An SSEC project number (or numbers if there is more than one specific task with specific budget) is created and the budget is allocated to specific categories (e.g. labor, travel, publications).

As the program begins, SSEC collects accounting data and sends the PI/PM monthly financial statements. These include all labor charges to the project, as well as other charges. The PI/PM is required to review these charges and notify SSEC administration if anything is not understood or out of order. For larger projects, bi-monthly financial reviews are held with the ED-S and with SSEC Admin. Any areas of concern are conveyed to the PI and the CIMSS Director, with a statement of actions to be taken.

SSEC administration (normally the ED-S) ensures that quarterly, semi-annual or annual technical reports are submitted. The SSEC AD-A ensures that billing information is submitted to RSP and conveyed to NOAA. In addition, all this information is available on a protected area of the SSEC Web site. PI/PMs can access online current and all historical labor and other financial information for their projects. Many of the reports can be delivered in MS Excel spreadsheets so PI/PMs can easily move the information into personalized financial databases. A personalized PI/PM project list and funding status has been developed and implemented to allow rapid analysis of PI/PM specific projects to identify any budget issues. SSEC employs two administrative programmers to create online accounting and other resources for PIs.

At the end of each month, all program spending is billed to the UW–Madison account number via the SSEC accounting system. UW–Madison bills NOAA for actual spending on a monthly basis. RSP prepares semi-annual financial reports and submits them to NOAA. As mentioned above, the PI/ED-S are responsible for the semi-annual technical reports that are submitted to NOAA.

Administration Review Panel Questions

1. Proposal procedures: How does the Cooperative Institute select proposals to request funding from NOAA? What procedures are in place to request proposals by theme or task?

CIMSS holds routine PI meetings, where all (20+) CIMSS PIs and science leaders from NOAA/NESDIS/ASPB discuss ongoing research, research opportunities and proposal development. Larger research opportunities like the NOAA GIMPAP and GOES-R program call for Letters of Intent/Call for Proposals are discussed by the science leadership in PI meetings, in NOAA program reviews, and in informal discussions to determine what science initiatives should be proposed. The CIMSS Director and PIs often point out research opportunities within the Cooperative Agreement research themes, and the group discusses who will take the initiative to develop a proposal. At that point individual PIs or smaller science teams begin to create a proposal. Proposal ideas are often gathered by SSEC/CIMSS leadership before submission to avoid redundancy while also looking for teaming opportunities.

The CIMSS Cooperative Agreement (CA) research themes are very broad in scope. The research interests of the CIMSS PIs fall within these research themes. The CIMSS Director and ED-S lead or are significantly involved in these discussions and thus are part of an early selection process to determine how an idea fits the CA research themes and whether the proposal idea is a good one. As discussed in the Overview, all proposals submitted by CIMSS scientists must go through a science review process and final approval by the ED-S.

An example of this procedure is the recent NOAA GOES-R Risk Reduction call for Letter Of Intent (LOI). A series of steps are involved to create a CIMSS response to this opportunity.

1. The ASPB Team Leader, Jeff Key, received notification from NOAA that the GOES-R program was receiving GOES-R science Risk Reduction (GOES-R3) LOI ideas for the coming fiscal year.
2. The ASPB Team Leader notified ASPB scientists at CIMSS and University scientists with the details of the required response.
3. CIMSS and ASPB scientists communicated regarding ongoing GOES-R3 projects and possible new projects.
4. The CIMSS/ASPB science teams decided what LOIs would be submitted to the GOES-R3 program, and informal proposal statements were submitted to the GOES-R3 review team at NOAA.
5. The NOAA GOES-R3 review process determined which LOIs would be moved forward and notified the ASPB Team Leader, CIMSS Director, and lead CIMSS PI to develop a formal proposal for consideration.
6. Proposals were submitted and reviewed by the GOES-R3 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) where the selection process then notified the GOES-R3 PI if the proposal would or would not be awarded.
7. A single formal proposal containing all accepted research studies in the GOES-R3 proposal call was created and submitted to NOAA/NESDIS/ORA.

2. How does the CI/University/Institution ensure compliance with OMB circulars, Department of Commerce regulations and NOAA grant conditions?

The University of Wisconsin–Madison is audited annually by the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) as part of our certification of compliance with Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars A-21 (Cost Principles for Educational Institutions) and A-110 (Uniform Administration Requirements for Grants and other Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education ...). OMB circular and UW internal requirements are checked very carefully for all proposals by SSEC Admin, UW Madison Graduate School, and RSP. DOC and NOAA regulatory compliance is checked at the proposal stage by SSEC Admin, our NOAA CI contact, and NOAA Grants Management Division. Any issues found are discussed and addressed with SSEC administrative staff and the ED-S as needed. Lastly, all processes are set up at SSEC with a number of internal control measures and reviews to ensure compliance throughout the life of the award. UW campus internal audits are conducted periodically.

When a particular research grant or contract document contains a provision indicating a responsibility to comply with export control regulations (e.g., Export Administration Regulations, EAR or International Traffic in Arms Regulations, ITAR), or a university researcher otherwise has a reason to believe that research they are engaged in might implicate export control regulations, the matter is referred to the UW Madison Export Control Officer. This may also involve University legal counsel for review. The Export Control Officer works with the impacted researchers to educate them on the provisions of the regulations, to assess if any exceptions might apply, and to assist with compliance issues. The EAR and ITAR impact relatively few departments on campus. UW has a website <http://www.grad.wisc.edu/research/policyrp/rpac/exportcontrol.htm> devoted to training and resources regarding export control matters. SSEC is home to the UW export control office, which serves as an easily accessible resource for CIMSS staff. Every two years, SSEC sends a letter to all staff notifying them and providing a summary of our obligations under U.S. Export Control Regulations. Signed acknowledgement of the letter is required of all staff.

3. How does the CI/University/Institution ensure compliance with internal grant policies?

Internal grant policies ensure compliance by requiring the participation of the department, Graduate School, and RSP in the processes. Additionally, as part of the above referenced OMB A-110 audit, the LAB conducts annual audits to also review compliance with internal policies. Lastly, UW also has an Internal Audit department that randomly reviews transactions and processes for compliance.

4. What are your formal and informal mechanisms for communications between the CI and University/Institution administrative/finance offices? Who are the NOAA contacts (administrative & technical)?

The communication link between CIMSS, SSEC, and the UW Graduate School is very strong. CIMSS is formally constituted within SSEC. The CIMSS Director and the SSEC Director are close collaborators on numerous research initiatives. The Dean of the Graduate School, in accordance with the MOU, appoints the CIMSS Director.

The CIMSS Executive Director for Science is also the SSEC Executive Director for Science (ED-S). As CIMSS ED-S, his role is to work with the CIMSS Director and PIs to support the daily operating activities of the CI. As an atmospheric scientist, the ED-S also provides close interaction with the PIs and staff in proposal development, and program operations and review.

The ED-S maintains a close working relationship with the SSEC Executive Director for Administration (ED-A) and his team. The SSEC Director and the SSEC EDs meet once weekly to discuss all SSEC and CIMSS issues maintaining excellent communication from CIMSS science through to SSEC administration. The CIMSS Director, the ED-S, and NOAA ASPB lead meet weekly to bridge communication between SSEC, CIMSS, and the NOAA ASPB team.

The AD-A and her staff work directly with the UW–Madison Graduate School and RSP to resolve any contracting issues or problems with the administrative process. New awards or modifications to awards are reviewed and approved by RSP before the University accepts them.

The primary NOAA/NESDIS administrative contact for SSEC/CIMSS is Ericka Rosier. The ED-S communicates with Ms. Rosier on a regular basis on proposal and technical reporting issues. They share a spreadsheet via email that updates all CIMSS Cooperative Agreement proposal activity with information on proposals working their way through the review and funding process. Given that CIMSS submitted 36 proposals through the CA in 2013, and the funding comes from several NOAA line offices and from the IPO, this procedure allows close tracking of proposals. Jenny Hackel, the SSEC AD-A, and two SSEC administrative assistants, Soniya Patel and Debbie Schroeder, are also in contact with Ms. Rosier on grant issues. Wayne Feltz (ED-S) and Ms. Patel attended the March 2013 NOAA Administrators meeting in College Park, MD (in conjunction with the CI Directors meeting). The involvement of more than one person in each group provides sufficient coverage to ensure good communications. This arrangement and the communication between the SSEC/CIMSS and NOAA/NESDIS groups work extremely well.

5. How do you ensure compliance with university/institution human resources policies in such matters as: hiring, resignations, promotions, salary scales, disciplinary actions, etc.?

To date, the UW-Madison, an agency of the State of Wisconsin, is in compliance, has had no violations, and is currently not under review/audit by the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP). As reported by the UW-Madison Office of Equity and Diversity, the University underwent a compliance review by the OFCCP during 2003-2004. This review focused on campus compliance with Executive Order 11246, as amended, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended. In January 2004, OFCCP notified UW-Madison that the review had been completed and that no apparent violations of these regulations had been found.

A full description of the UW–System Policies and Procedures, including Equity and Diversity, can be found at <http://www.uwsa.edu/spp.htm>.

At the forefront of SSEC's success are the dedicated and talented people who work here. Each member of the SSEC team has a unique and important part they play in our continued success, no matter what position they hold. People are our organization's most important resource. CIMSS makes use of the SSEC Human Resources (HR) Department to help address personnel issues and ensure compliance with the University's policies. The SSEC HR office is responsible for the Center's personnel needs and strives to be a positive resource for all staff members. SSEC HR oversees all aspects of recruitment, performance evaluations, employee relations and personnel administration, as well as taking responsibility for payroll and benefits for the Center's classified, academic and student staff.

6. Who supervises CI employees working in NOAA facilities? How is this implemented on site and reported (e.g., leave and performance evaluations)?

A CIMSS scientific staff member is located at the NOAA Science Center in Camp Springs, MD (Jim Jung). There are also two CIMSS scientific staff members who provide satellite liaison support permanently stationed in Kansas City, MO. Amanda Terborg works at the NOAA Aviation Weather Center and Chad Gravelle is sited at the NWS Operational Proving Ground. These staff members work closely with CIMSS scientists in Madison and with the NOAA Division Chief and scientists at their worksite. The CIMSS ED-S supervises the remotely located CIMSS staff members. The CIMSS Director and ED-S conduct annual evaluations when staff are visiting Madison. Meetings are also arranged when the CIMSS Director and ED-S are in Washington. Issues such as leave are communicated through email and a monthly timesheet is submitted to SSEC administration by remotely located staff members.

7. Reports and requests to NOAA: How is the CI informed when the University/Institution formally sends in the financial reports and annual technical reports?

UW–Madison financial reports to NOAA and SSEC/CIMSS technical reports to NOAA follow different paths. The financial information for projects funded through the NOAA Cooperative Agreement funding is collected by SSEC. The SSEC accounting system accumulates costs by project number (task) for a given Grant, Cooperative Agreement, or Contract. These costs are billed to the UW RSP, which then invoices the Government for these costs and credits the SSEC account for payments received. Account spending and budget balances are reconciled monthly. RSP and the SSEC AD-A are in close communication to resolve any issues that might arise.

The SSEC/CIMSS technical reports are written by the science PIs and provided to the ED-S. The ED-S acts as editor, assembling all individual reports and putting them together into a single document. The ED-S also ensures all reports provide the necessary information and thoroughly reviews the reports for accuracy and consistency. The CIMSS Director reviews the technical report, and with needed changes, approves it. The ED-S then informs and sends the technical report to the NOAA/NESDIS/ORA grant manager (Ericka Rosier), the NOAA POC scientist providing the resources, and the ASPB Team Leader (Jeff Key). The report is also provided to the SSEC AD-A and to RSP for formal submission via Grants Online.

8. How are other formal requests to NOAA communicated between the CI, University/Institution (e.g. large equipment purchases, sub-grants)?

Our formal request for these types of purchases is usually done at the proposal phase using the budget justification to explain the need for the purchase and how it will benefit the project. Should the need arise for something significant that was not contained in our proposal and budget, SSEC Admin works with the ED-S and the PI to ensure that the purchase is necessary to the success of the project and to help define the impacts to the project and budget. Next, the NOAA Cooperative Agreement terms and conditions are consulted to obtain guidance in communicating the need. SSEC Admin then proceeds in accordance with applicable terms and conditions to request approval as required. The types of requests noted above are generally communicated via Grants Online.

9. Demonstration of electronic communications (e.g., preparation of required financial reports from University/Institution fiscal data).

The SSEC accounting system is electronic and feeds into the UW–Madison accounting system, so all data exchange is electronic. The SSEC accounting system is used in the preparation of CIMSS financial reports. The accounting system has Web-based access and all CIMSS employees have

access to the financial information. Monthly financial reports are also produced and distributed to the Principal Investigators and Program Mangers electronically.

The SSEC Web site has an Employees Only page that contains a great deal of support information for employees, including accounting information, Employee Guidelines, advice for new employees, how to make purchases, computing technical support, and Web information.

10. Publications, property and intellectual property records (demonstration of any tracking systems)

The SSEC Library maintains long-term publication records for staff of CIMSS and SSEC. A complete list of publications covering the review period is included in the CIMSS Cooperative Agreement Report along with other publishing metrics and data specific to CIMSS.

SSEC maintains an Inventory Control System and assigns a Property Control Manager. The Property Control manager ensures that both the SSEC inventory system and the UW–Madison inventory database are up to date. All SSEC purchased inventory is bar-coded and its location in the building entered into a database, as well as the funding source for the purchase.

UW offers policy, training opportunities, and support for intellectual property on several Web sites (<http://www.grad.wisc.edu/research/ip/> , <http://www.warf.org/home/for-uw-inventors/for-uw-inventors.cmsx> ,and http://wendt.library.wisc.edu/help_with_research/patents). UW–Madison assists its staff in commercially developing research discoveries through the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation. Policy examples (e.g. Patent information and support) are provided at these Web sites.