

funded research and development centers—A web survey, the Survey of Scientific and Engineering Expenditures at Universities and Colleges, originated in fiscal year (FY) 1954 and has been conducted annually since FY 1972. The survey is the academic expenditure component of the NSF statistical program that seeks to provide a “central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on the availability of, and the current and projected need for, scientific and technical resources in the United States, and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal government,” as mandated in the National Science Foundation Act of 1950.

Use of the Information: The proposed project will continue the current survey

cycle for three years. The Academic R&D Survey will be a census of the full population of an expected 656 institutions (619 universities of colleges plus 37 federally funded research and development centers—FFRDCs) for academic years FY 2006 through FY 2008. These institutions account for over 95 percent of the Nation’s academic R&D funds. The survey has provided continuity of statistics on R&D expenditures by source of funds and by science & engineering (S&E) field, with separate data requested on current fund expenditures for research equipment by S&E field. Further breakdowns are collected on passed through funds to subrecipients by field of science and engineering from specific Federal Government agency sources. Information on R&D for non-S&E fields

is also requested. Data are published in NSF’s annual publication series Academic Science and Engineering R&D Expenditures and are available electronically on the World Wide Web.

The survey is a fully automated web data collection effort and is handled primarily by the administrators at the Institutional Research Offices. To minimize burden, institutions are provided with an abundance of guidance and help menus on the web, in addition to printing and responding via paper copy if necessary. Each record is preloaded with the institutions 2 previous year’s data and a complete program for editing and trend checking. Response to this voluntary survey in FY 2004 was 94.0 percent. Burden estimates are as follows.¹

Total number of institutions	Doctorate-granting burden hours	Masters-granting burden hours	Bachelors degree burden hours	FFRDC’s burden hours
FY 1999 480	20.8	13.0	7.5	9.4
FY 2000 700	21.0	12.0	10.5	9.2
FY 2001 625	30.2	11.9	9.0	12.1
FY 2002 625	28.7	14.9	12.2	4.5

Dated: February 14, 2006.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Pub. Law 95–541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by March 20, 2006. This application may be inspected by

interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292–7405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

Applicant: Jose L. Sericano (Permit Application No. 2006–027), Geochemical and Environmental Research Group (GERG), Texas A&M University, 833 Graham Road, College Station, TX 77845.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Take, Enter an Antarctic Specially Protected Area, and Import into the United States. The applicant proposes to collect abandoned eggs and tissue samples from salvaged penguins and seabirds for his doctoral research project involving the Environmental Management of the Admiralty Bay, KGI: Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Sewage Pollution, and Persistent Organic Pollutants. This project is a collaborative project between the Texas A&M University and the Brazilian National Science Foundation. The applicant proposes to enter the Admiralty Bay Antarctic Specially Protected Area to collect his samples. The samples will be kept frozen and finally destroyed at the university.

Location: Admiralty Bay Antarctic Specially Protected Area, King George Island.

Dates: February 1, 2006 to February 1, 2009.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

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¹ Average burden hours for institutions responding to burden item.