

Science and Technology Policy in the Obama White House

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Outline of these remarks

- Responsibilities of OSTP & the S&T advisor
- Organization of the operation
- Principal challenges and focuses
- The President's initiatives
- The budgetary context

Responsibilities of OSTP and the S&T Advisor

- Science and technology for policy
 - Independent, objective advice for the President & Vice President about S&T germane to all policy issues with which they are concerned
- Policy for science and technology
 - Analysis, recommendations, & coordination (often in concert with OMB, DPC, NEC, and/or NSC) on R&D budgets & related policies, S&T education and workforce issues, interagency S&T initiatives, broadband, scientific integrity...

Organization of the operation

- S&T advisor is Assistant to the President (thus member of the Senior White House Staff) and the Senate-confirmed Director of OSTP
- OSTP
 - 4 Senate-confirmed Associate Directors (Science, Technology-CTO, Environment, National Security & International Affairs)
 - Staff of ~60, 40+ technical, ½ detailees (from NSF, NASA, NOAA, NIST, DOE, DoD); budget ~\$6M
- PCAST (Co-Chairs Holdren, Lander, Varmus)
- National Science & Technology Council (NSTC)

Principal challenges and focuses

- Applied challenges
 - S&T for economic recovery & growth
 - public health: better care at lower cost
 - energy: lower imports & climate impacts, green jobs
 - other environment: species, land-soil, water, oceans
 - national & homeland security
- Foundations of success
 - institutions/capacities for fundamental research
 - STEM education: preschool – grad school, lifelong
 - information/communications technology
 - space capabilities
 - supporting guidelines & processes (IP, integrity, visas)

The President's Initiatives

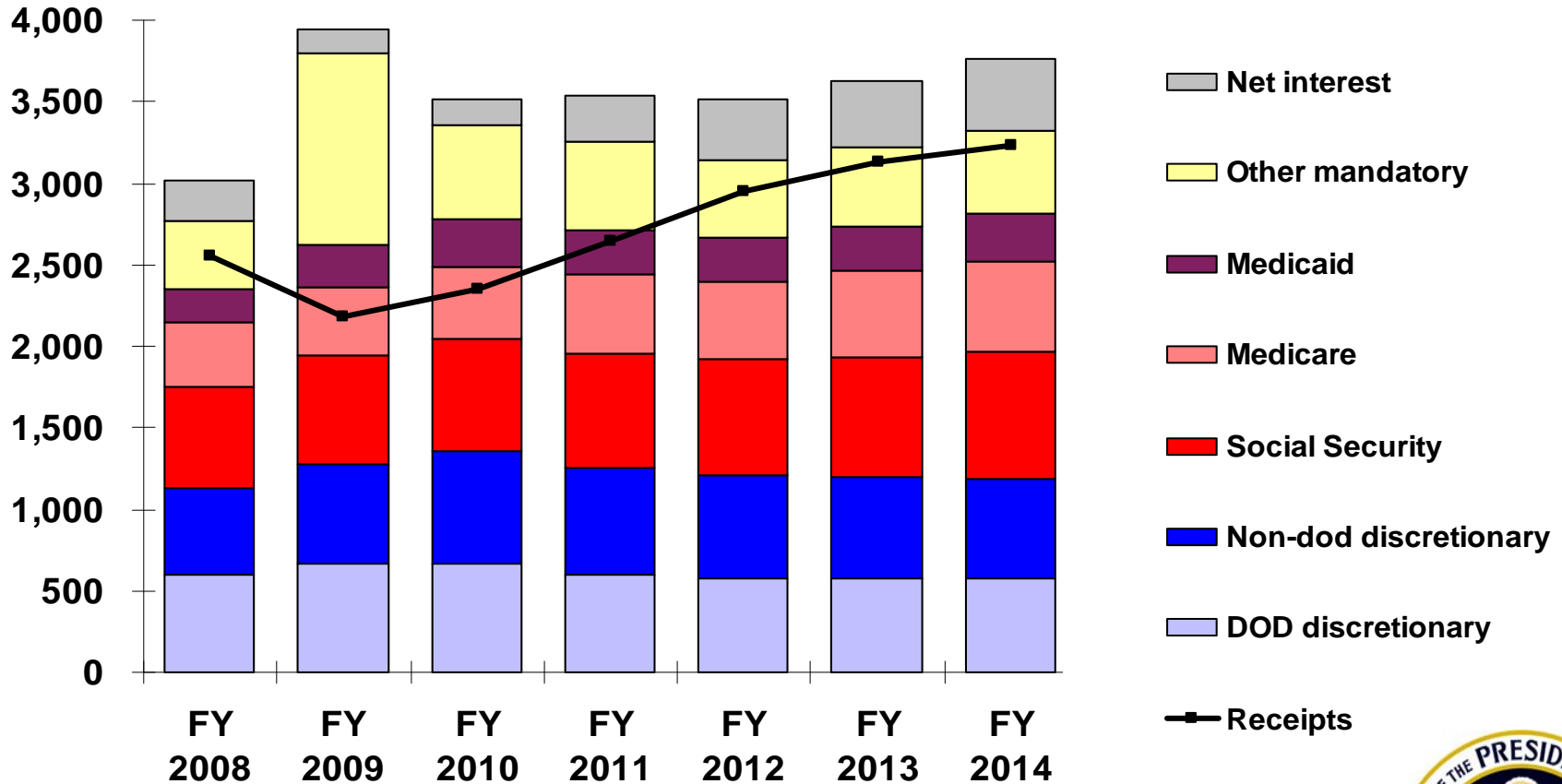
- National investment in R&D to $\geq 3\%$ of GDP
- S&T in the stimulus/recovery package and the FY2009 / FY2010 budgets
 - NIH, DOE-science, NIST, NOAA, NASA, DoD basic research (details in Al Teich's presentation)
- STEM education
 - science labs, teacher training, clean energy as the sputnik of the Obama generation (\$1.5B over 5 yr)
- Clean energy / climate
 - \$150B over 10 yr for clean energy & efficiency; ARPA-E; energy centers of excellence; climate sci

The President's Initiatives (continued)

- Health
 - computerize medical records, \$6B toward doubling cancer research
- CTO & CIO appointments
- New stem-cell guidelines
- Scientific integrity guidelines

The budget context for R&D

Outlays in billions of constant FY2009 dollars



Other mandatory includes TARP and other fiscal stabilization costs.
 All years include effects of Recovery Act spending and tax cuts.
 Source: Budget of the United States Government FY 2010.
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* AAS estimates of R&D based on FY 2010 appropriations bills

Our biggest asset: the President's engagement with S&T

