Acronyms & Resource Guide

This guide includes the following: higher education and related associations; advocacy organizations and coalitions of interest to research universities; explanations of acronyms and terms commonly used in the university community; web links to government resources and agencies; Executive and Legislative Branch offices; and key federal research-related rules, regulations, and guidelines.

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Higher Education and Research-Related Associations & Coalitions

AAHRPP	Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs www.aahrpp.org/
AAAS	American Association for the Advancement of Science www.aaas.org Working With Congress Online: www.aaas.org/spp/cstc/wwc/default.htm
AACC	American Association of Community Colleges www.aacc.nche.edu/
AAMC	Association of American Medical Colleges www.aamc.org
AAS	American Astronomical Society www.aas.org/
AASCU	American Association of State Colleges and Universities www.aascu.org
AAU	Association of American Universities www.aau.edu
ACE	American Council on Education www.acenet.edu
ACS	American Chemical Society www.chemistry.org
Ad Hoc Group	Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding www.aamc.org/research/adhocgp/
Ad Hoc Tax Group	No Website Available
AGB	Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges www.agb.org
AGU	American Geophysical Union www.agu.org
ALA	American Library Association www.ala.org/

AMS	American Mathematical Society www.ams.org/
APLU	Association of Public & Land-grant Universities www.aplu.org
APS	American Physical Society www.aps.org
ARL	Association of Research Libraries arl.cni.org/
ASM	American Society for Microbiology www.asm.org/
AUTM	Association of University Technology Managers www.autm.net
CF	The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching www.carnegiefoundation.org/
CAMR	Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research www.stemcellfunding.org
CASE	Council for Advancement and Support of Education www.case.org/
CGS	Council of Graduate Schools www.cgsnet.org
CHEA	Council for Higher Education Accreditation www.chea.org
The College Board	www.collegeboard.com
CNSF	Coalition for National Science Funding www.cnsfweb.org/
CNSR	Coalition for National Security Research www.cnsr.org/
COGR	Council on Governmental Relations www.cogr.edu
CSSP	Council of Scientific Society Presidents www.mdsg.umces.edu/CSSP/home.html
CVD	Congressional Visits Day www.agiweb.org/cvd/
EDUCAUSE	www.educause.edu/
ESC	Energy Sciences Coalition www.aps.org/public_affairs/issues/coalitions/esc/index.html
ETS	Educational Testing Services www.ets.org/

AAU Acronyms

AGS	Association of Graduate Schools
CAO	Chief Academic Officers (Provosts)
CFR	Council on Federal Relations
PAN	Public Affairs Network
SRO	Senior Research Officers

FASEB | Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
www.faseb.org/

FDP | Federal Demonstration Project
www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/fed_dem_part.jsp

FSHC | Federation of State Humanities Councils
www.statehumanities.com/

GUIRR | Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable
sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/guirr/

HACU | Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
www.hacu.net/

HEIT | Higher Education Information Technology Alliance
www.heitalliance.org/

NABR | National Association for Biomedical Research
www.nabr.org/

NACUA | National Association of College and University Attorneys
www.nacua.org

NACUBO | National Association of College and University Business Officers
www.nacubo.org

NAFEO | National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
www.nafeo.org

NAFSA | National Assoc. for International Educators
www.nafsa.org

NAICU | National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
www.naicu.edu/

NHA | National Humanities Alliance
www.nhalliance.org/

R!A | Research!America
www.researchamerica.org/

S4S | AAU Standards for Success
www.s4s.org/

SAA | Student Aid Alliance
www.studentaidalliance.org/

SRA | Society of Research Administrators, Int'l
www.srainternational.org/newweb/default.cfm

TFAI | Task Force on American Innovation
www.innovationtaskforce.org/

TSC | Science Coalition
www.sciencecoalition.org/

UIDP | Univ.-Industry Demonstration Partnership
sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/uidp/

UMR | United for Medical Research
www.unitedformedicalresearch.com/

UNCF | United Negro College Fund
www.uncf.org/

URA | University Research Association
www..ura-hq.org/

USRA | Universities Space Research Association
www.usra.edu

USSA | United States Student Association
www.usstudents.org/

The Six

The six major presidential higher education associations.

AAU, AASCU, APLU, ACE, NAICU, AACC

The presidents of these organizations are also referred to as The Six.

The National Academies:

www.nationalacademies.org

With links to:

NAS	National Academy of Sciences
NAE	National Academy of Engineering
IOM	Institute of Medicine
NRC	National Research Council
COSEPUP	Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy www7.nationalacademies.org/cosepup/
SSB	Space Studies Board sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB
STEP	Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy www7.national-academies.org/step/

Useful Acronyms and Terms

BAA: Broad Agency Announcement (used mainly by DOD to announce new programs)

Budget Functions: The Budget Resolution recommends totals of new budget authority and outlays by functional category. The following budget functions contain the agencies that AAU tracks:
  Function 050 (National Defense)
  Function 250 (Science, Space and Technology)
  Function 500 (Education, Training, Employment and Social Services - Higher Ed)
  Function 550 (Health)

Dear Colleague Letter: A mass-produced letter usually initiated by an advocacy group and sent by one or more Members of Congress to all members. "Dear Colleagues" usually describe a new bill and ask for cosponsors or ask for a member's vote on an issue.

Defense S&T Accounts: The defense S&T program consists of three accounts: basic research (6.1), applied research (6.2) and advanced technology development (6.3).

EAR: Export Administration Regulations, which govern exports of dual-use items. Administered by the Bureau of Industry and Security in the Department of Commerce.   207.96.48.13/policiesandregulations/index.htm

302(a) Allocations and 302(b) Allocations: The report that accompanies the budget resolution includes a table called the "302(a) allocation." The table distributes by congressional committee the spending totals for each budget function in the budget resolution. Because committee jurisdictions differ somewhat between the House and Senate, the 302(a) allocation tables for each chamber are slightly different. The Appropriations Committee receives a single 302(a) allocation for all of its programs. It then decides on its own how to divide this funding among its 12 subcommittees, creating what are known as 302(b) sub-allocations.

HEA: Higher Education Act of 1965
  Select Titles in the HEA:
  Title II: Teacher Quality
  Title III: Institutional Aid
  Title IV: Student Financial Assistance
  Title VI: International Education Programs
  Title VII: Graduate and Postsecondary Improvement Programs
  Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972: Ban on sex discrimination at institutions receiving Federal funds.

IP: Intellectual Property

IT: Information Technology

ITAR: International Traffic in Arms Regulation that regulates technologies that have both military and non-military applications. Administered by the Department of State.   www.pmddtc.state.gov/regulations_laws/itar.html

ORU: Organized Research Unit (typically used in a university setting to designate a center or other entity that is formally organized to carry out research.)

PI: Principal Investigator

P2P: Peer to Peer File Sharing

RAGS: Rising Above the Gathering Storm Report, 2005

RFI: Request for Information

RFP: Request for Proposal

RFA: Request for Applications

SEVIS: Student Exchange and Visitor Information System. Administered through the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) in the Department of Homeland Security.   www.immigration.gov/graphics/shared/sevis/sevis.htm

S&T: Science and Technology

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

TTO: Technology Transfer Office

Key Federal Research-Related Laws, Rules, Regulations, and Guidelines

www.regulations.gov

Bayh-Dole Act of 1980, P.L. 96-517:
A legal framework for transfer of university generated, federally funded inventions to the commercial marketplace. A useful overview is available at:
www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/37cfr401_02.html

Conflict of Interest (NIH):
Regulations regarding animals and human subjects.
www.nih.gov/about/ethics_COI.htm

FAR: Federal Acquisition Regulations:
Regulations regarding federal procurement contracts.
www.arnet.gov/far/

FOIA: The Freedom of Information Act:
This generally provides that any person has a right, enforceable in court, to obtain access to federal agency records, except to the extent that such records (or portions of them) are protected from disclosure by one of nine exemptions or by one of three special law enforcement record exclusions.
www.usdoj.gov/oip/foi-act.htm

MTA: Material Transfer Agreement:
Agreements governing the transfer of tangible materials, usually biological, from one institution to another. NIH policy is critical with regard to MTA issues.
ott.od.nih.gov/NewPages/RTguide_final.html

NSDD-189: National Security Decision Directive:
A directive to establish national policy for controlling the flow of science, technology, and engineering information produced in federally-funded fundamental research at colleges, universities, and laboratories.
www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/nsdd/nsdd-189.htm

OMB Circular A-21:
Establishes principles for determining costs applicable to grants, contracts, and other agreements with education institutions.
www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a021/a021.html

OMB Circular A-110:
Sets the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) standards for obtaining consistency and uniformity among federal agencies in the administration of grants to and agreements with institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations.
www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a110/a110.html

Executive Branch—Key Research Sites

www.whitehouse.gov/government/

Code of Federal Regulations	www.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/index.html	NIH	National Institutes of Health www.nih.gov NIH Grants Policy Statement grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/ nihgps_2010/index.htm NIH Award Data report.nih.gov/award/trends/FindOrg.cfm NIH Budget www.nih.gov/about/budget.htm
DOD	Department of Defense www.dod.gov AFR: Air Force Office of Scientific Research www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl/afosr/ ARO: Army Research Office www.arl.army.mil/www/default.cfm?page=29 ONR: Office of Naval Research www.onr.navy.mil/ DARPA: Defense Advanced Projects Agency www.darpa.mil DDR&E: Defense Research and Engineering www.acq.osd.mil/ddre/ DSB: Defense Science Board www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/	NSF	National Science Foundation www.nsf.gov National Science Board www.nsf.gov/nsb/ R&RA: Research & Related Activities Account www.nsf.gov/bfa/bud/fy2001/pdf/ summary.pdf EHR: Education and Human Resources Directorate www.ehr.nsf.gov/ EPSCOR: Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research www.ehr.nsf.gov/epscor/ MRE: Major Research Equipment Account www.nsf.gov/home/about/mre01.html OLPA: Office of Legislative and Public Affairs www.nsf.gov/od/lpa
DOE	Department of Energy www.energy.gov/ Office of Science www.er.doe.gov/ ARPA-E arpa-e.energy.gov/		
DHS	Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/ Immigration and Customs Enforcement www.ice.gov	NSTC	National Science and Technology Council www.climatescience.gov/about/ cenr.htm
ED	Department of Education www.ed.gov/ Advisory Committee on Student Financial Aid www2.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/acsfa/ Office of Postsecondary Education www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html National Center for Education Statistics nces.ed.gov/	OMB	Office of Management and Budget www.whitehouse.gov/omb/ Budget Tutorials: www.house.gov/budget/budgettutorial.htm
		OSTP	Office of Science and Technology Policy www.ostp.gov/
Federal Register	www.gpoaccess.gov/fr	RBM	Research Business Models Subcommittee rbm.nih.gov/acre.htm
First Gov	Guide to Federal Government www.firstgov.com	SearchGov	Links to Executive and Independent Agencies www.searchgov.com
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration www.nasa.gov/ Education Program: education.nasa.gov/index.html Office of the Chief Technologist www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/home/index.html	USCIS	Bureau of Citizens and Immigration Services www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis SEVIS: Student and Exchange Visitor Information System www.ice.gov/sevis/
NEH	National Endowment for the Humanities www.neh.gov		

Legislative Branch— Key Sites

CBO	Congressional Budget Office	
	www.cbo.gov/	
CRS	Congressional Research Service	
	www.loc.gov/crsinfo/	
C-SPAN	Includes Live Audio Feeds from House & Senate Floors	
	www.c-span.org	
Copyright Office	www.loc.gov/copyright/	
GAO	General Accounting Office	
	www.gao.gov/	
House	U.S. House of Representatives	
	www.house.gov	
GPO	Government Printing Office	
	www.gpo.gov	
LC	Library of Congress	
	www.loc.gov/	
PTO	Patent and Trademark Office	
	www.uspto.gov/	
Senate	U.S. Senate	
	www.senate.gov	
THOMAS	Legislative Information on the Internet	
	thomasloc.gov	