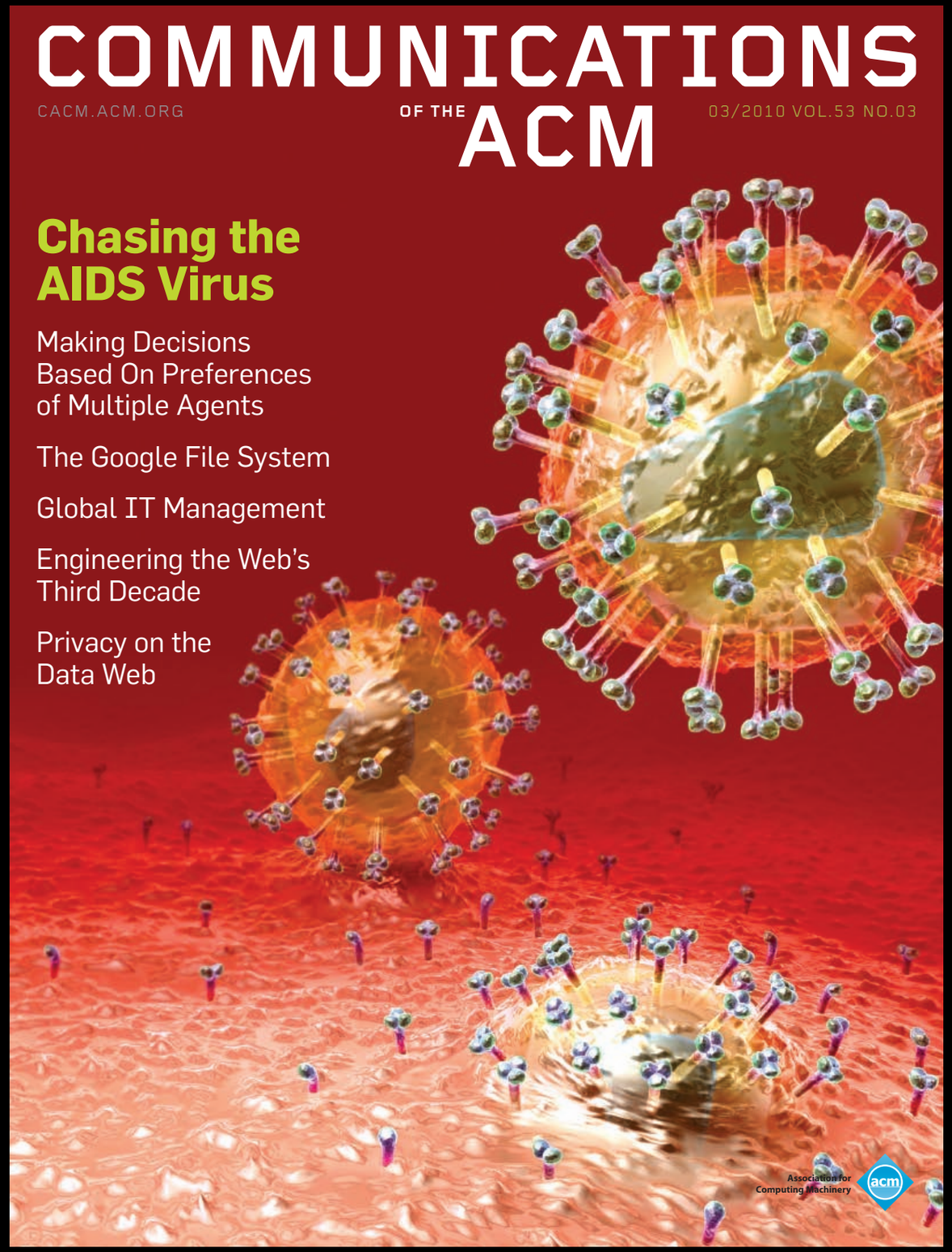
Making a Federal Case for Computing

Peter Harsha
Director of Government Affairs, CRA

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ACM

CACM.ACM.ORG

03/2010 VOL.53 NO.03



Chasing the AIDS Virus

Making Decisions Based On Preferences of Multiple Agents

The Google File System

Global IT Management

Engineering the Web's Third Decade

Privacy on the Data Web

Association for Computing Machinery

V viewpoints

DOI:10.1145/1666420.1666436

Cameron Wilson and Peter Harsha

IT Policy
Making the Case for Computing

Seeking funding for current and future computing initiatives requires both a strong argument and a broad community of supporters.

When it comes to distributing trillions in U.S. taxpayer dollars, funding for science joins a crowded field of special interests where competition for federal funding is fierce. Policymakers are ultimately stewards of taxpayer dollars and must make judgments about the areas in which government has a legitimate reason to invest. And because tax dollars are not limitless, policymakers must prioritize federal investments, deciding which programs or which agencies have the most compelling need for funding.

Consequently, every special interest—from researchers to roadbuilders, health care professionals to hovercraft manufacturers—has an advocacy group urging policymakers to focus federal investment in their particular area. What ties all of these groups together is the need to have a story—a case to make to Congress, the Administration and the American people—that justifies the expenditure of those tax dollars on the things they care about.

Funding Decisions

The stakes are high. Last year (fiscal year 2009), the U.S. discretionary budget—that is, the amount not automatically committed to federal programs like Social Security or Medicare—was just over $1 trillion. Congress spent that money, as it does every year, by parceling it out to federal agencies and programs in 12 separate pieces of legislation. This is quite literally a zero-sum game. Aggregate spending by Congress is capped, and each of these 12 appropriations bills has its own spending cap. This means that once the spending caps are reached—and they always are—any additional increase in spending for one program must be offset by an equal reduction in another program.

As a result, policymakers find the need to invest in fundamental research in competition with the need to fund agricultural subsidies, or the

Government funding for computing research is tight and the competition plentiful. A new infrastructure for computational oceanography incorporating the VisTrails system created by the University of Utah was among the scientific projects receiving support from The National Science Foundation's Cluster Exploratory (CluE) program in 2009.

VISUALIZATION BY JULIANA FREIRE AND CLAUDIO SILVA, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

March 2010 (Vol. 53 No.3)

Structure of Talk

- Why CRA does policy
- How CRA does policy
- The situation we face

Why does CRA do policy?

Strengthen research and education in the computing fields.

COMPUTING COMMUNITY CONSORTIUM

CRA-E

COMPUTING RESEARCH ASSOCIATION WOMEN

cDc

CRA-GAC

CRA's Government Affairs Committee

CRA Government Affairs Committee

Fred Schneider, Cornell - Chair

Ed Lazowska, University of Washington, Co-Chair
Jeff Vitter, Texas A&M, Co-Chair

Sarita Adve, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Annie Antón, North Carolina State University
Wayne Bennett, ECEDHA
George Cybenko, Dartmouth College
Mary Fernández, AT&T Research
James Foley, Georgia Tech
Jeff Hollingsworth, University of Maryland
Mary Jane Irwin, Penn State University
Bob Kahn, CNRI
Sid Karin, UC San Diego
John King, University of Michigan
Dan Reed, Microsoft Research
Bobby Schnabel, Indiana University
Marc Snir, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Eugene Spafford, Purdue University
Valerie Taylor, TAMU
David Tennenhouse, New Venture Partners

GAC's Mission

Develop a deeper understanding of policy issues and their impact, and work for informed policies involving computing research and computing technology in general.

- Influence policy related to computing research by improving public and policy maker understanding of the nature and role of such research.

- Increase the computing community's awareness of and participation in policy issues.

Goal

Become the "organization of record" for computing research policy issues

We're part of an active computing policy community

- ACM Ed Policy/USACM
- IEEE-CS/IEEE-USA
- SIAM
- CASC
- EDUCAUSE
- AAAI, USENIX
- NCWIT
- Industry Groups

Innovation Policy and Maintaining the Health of the Research Ecosystem

- Research Funding and Priorities
- Access to Talent
- Impediments to Research

Stakes are High

Abyssinian Development Corp
Ad Council
Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum
Afikim Foundation
Alaska Sealife Center
Alfalit International
Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers
Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound
Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow
Alpha One Foundation
American Assn of Law Libraries
American Assn of Museums
American Commodity Distribution Assn
American Defense Council
American Friends of Hebrew University
American Hellenic Educ Progressive Assn
American Library Assn
American Museum of Natural History
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Tinnitus Assn
American Vets Disabled for Life Memorial
Americans for the Arts
Americans United/Separation Church/State
AmeriDream Inc
Amistad America
An Achievable Dream Inc
Andre Agassi Charitable Foundation
Appalachia Service Project
Aquarium of the Pacific
Arison Family Trust
Arizona Science Center
Asphalt Green
Assn for Homeowners Across America
Assn of Critical Care Transport
Assn of Fundraising Professionals
Attic Correctional Services
August Wilson Cntr/African Amer Culture
Austin Hill Country Conservancy
Benetech Initiative
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America
Bipartisan Advocacy Center
Bipartisan Policy Center
Bipartisan Policy Ctr Advocacy Network
Boston Museum of Fine Arts
Boston Museum of Science
Boy Scouts of America
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Boys & Girls Town of Missouri
Boysville
Brooklyn Botanical Garden
California Academy of Sciences
California Center for Land Recycling
California Science Center Foundation
CARE Action Now
Care Coalition
Career Gear
Carnegie Institute
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Center for Civic Education
Center for Individual Freedom
Center for Inquiry
Center for Rural Affairs
Center for Science in Public Interest
Certified Financial Planner Brd of Stds
Chabot Space & Science Center
Chadd Inc
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Zoological Society
Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

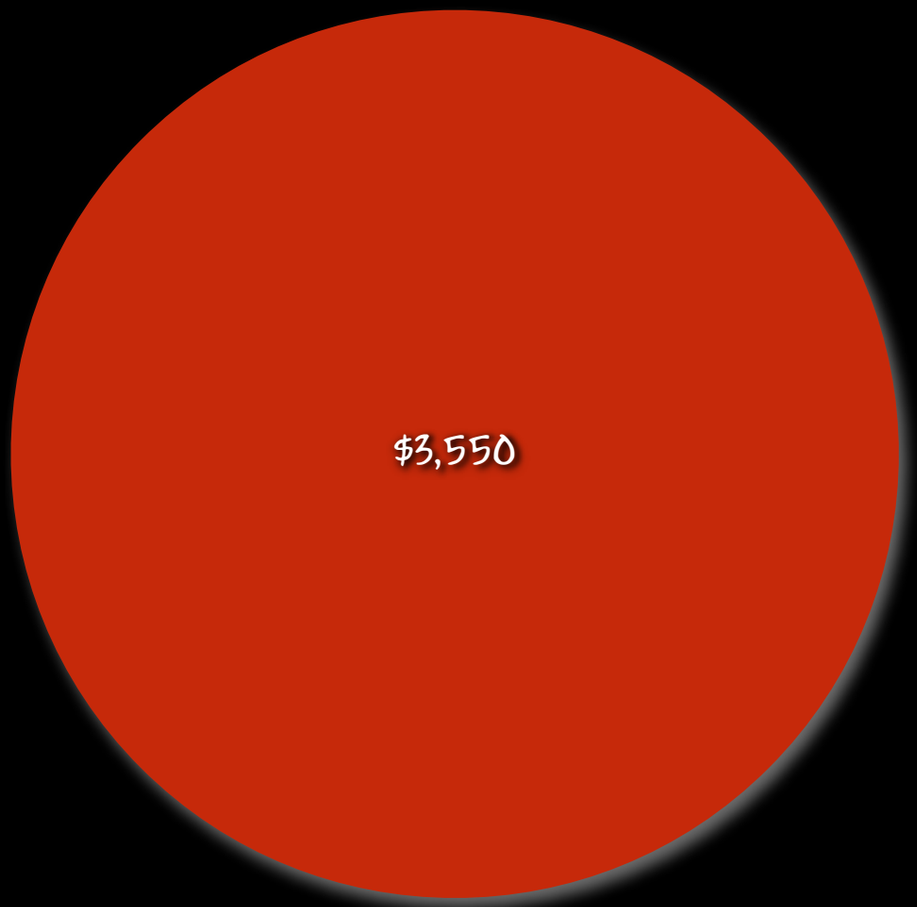
Communicating for Agriculture
Community Food Security Coalition
Connected Nation Development Corp
Connecticut Center/Science Exploration
Copyright Alliance
Corcoran Gallery Of Art
Corporate Voices for Working Families
Corporation for Enterprise Development
Council for Citizens Against Govt Waste
Council on Foundations
Crim Fitness Foundation
Cure Alzheimers Fund
Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch
DC Central Kitchen
Democracy 21
Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Dialysis Patient Citizens
Discovery Science Center
Duane Morris Government Affairs
Duluth Children's Museum
ECMC Group
Envision
Families of Flight 93
Federation of State Humanities Council
Fermi Research Alliance
Field Museum
Figge Art Museum
Fight Crime: Invest In Kids
First Candle
Folger Shakespeare Library
Fort Wayne Allen County Economic
Foundation for a Better Oregon
Fraternal Order of Eagles
Friends of Charities Assn
Friends of the Griffith Observatory
Friends of the World Food Program
From the Top
Future of Music Coalition
GAVI Fund
Georgian Bay Forever
Girl Scouts of the USA
Go for Broke National Education Center
God's Love We Deliver
Goodwill Industries International
Goodwill Industries/metro Chicago
Grammy Foundation
Great River Economic Development Fdtn
Green for All
Greenway Foundation
Guardian Angel Holdings
Habitat for Humanity International
Harbor Heritage Society
Healey Family Foundation
Heartland Family Service
Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village
Hillside Family of Agencies
Homeownership Preservation Foundation
HONOReform
Houston Advanced Research Center
Houston Zoo
Immunodeficiency Foundation
Independent Sector
Institute for Student Achievement
Institute of Cetacean Research
International Reading Assn
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America
Jacobus Tenbroek Memorial Fund
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Jewish Heritage Museum

Lymphoma Research Foundation
Make It Right Foundation
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Mansfield Foundation
MATCH Coalition
MCNC
Medical Library Assn
MERS/Missouri Goodwill Industries
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Miami Museum of Science & Space Transit
Miami Project to Cure Paralysis
Michigan Research Institute
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Dist
Military Child Education Coalition
Missouri Botanical Garden
Missouri Public Transit Assn
Monterey Bay Aquarium
Mote Marine Laboratory
Muscular Dystrophy Assn
Museum of Flight
Museum of Latin American Art
Museum of Science & Industry
Museum of the City of New York
My Turn Inc
Mystic Marine Life Aquarium
Mystic Seaport Museum
National Aquarium in Baltimore
National Aviary
National Building Museum
National Center for State Courts
National Center for Victims of Crime
National Coalition for History
National Community Action Foundation
National Community Renaissance
National Down Syndrome Society
National Fire Protection Assn
National Geographic Society
National Middle School Assn
National Museum of Industrial History
National Museum of Women in the Arts
National Safety Council
National Women's History Museum
National Young Farmers Education Assn
Natl Assn Exchange of Industrl Resources
Natl Assn of Foster Grandparents
Natl Assn of Local Housing Finance Agenc
Natl Assn/Univ Forest Resource Programs
Natl Cltn for Women with Heart Disease
Natl Commodity Supplemental Food Program
Natl Conf of Cmsrs on Uniform State Laws
Natl Immigration Forum Action Fund
Natl Museum of American Jewish History
Natl Underground Railroad Freedom Center
Naval Aviation Museum Foundation
Nehemiah Corp of America
New Detroit Science Center
New England Aquarium
New Schools Venture Fund
New York Botanical Garden
New York Hall of Science
New York Public Library
New York Structural Biology Center
Newark Museum
North Carolina Museum of Natural History
Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp
Oakland Museum of California
Ohel Children's Home & Family Services
OK Native American Cultural & Educ Auth
Open Society Policy Center

Points of Light Institute
Preservation Stations Preserve
Prevent Blindness America
Preventive Medicine Research Institute
Prince William Sound Science Center
Promotional Products Assn
Public Allies
Purdue Research Foundation
Queens Borough Public Library
Reach Out & Read National Center
Reading Recovery Council/North America
Recording Academy
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
Research Triangle Institute
Resources Legacy Fund Foundation
Rock & Roll Hall of Fame & Museum
Rockefeller Family Fund
Rotary Foundation of Rotary Intl
RTI International
Ruddy, Ray
Rural Community Development Corps
Safe Blood for Africa Corp
Safer Foundation
Samaritan Center
Samueli Institute
San Diego State Univ Research Foundation
Sand County Foundation
Sandra Segerstrom Daniels
Schenectady Museum & Planetarium
SE GA Friends Fort Steward & Hunter
Sesame Workshop
Silent Spring Institute
Simon Wiesenthal Center
South Carolina National Guard Assn
South Florida Goodwill
Southwest Research Institute
Special Olympics
St Louis Art Museum
St Louis Science Center
St Louis Zoo
Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens
Steel Industry Heritage Corp
Sterling & Francine Clark Art Institute
Sunlight Foundation
Susan G Komen For The Cure
Swope Community Enterprises
Tacoma Goodwill
Tampas Lowry Park Zoo
Team Focus
Texas A&M University
Textile Museum
Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund
Tides Advocacy Fund
Tides Center
Tides/Electronics Takeback Coalition
Transportation for America
Underwriters Laboratories
United Negro College Fund
United Service Organizations
United Way of America
US Endowment for Forestry & Communities
US Industry Coalition
US Public Interest Research Group
US Space & Rocket Center
USS Saratoga Museum Foundation
Vehicle Donation Coalition
Virginia Air & Space Center
Volunteers of America
Water Environment Research Foundation

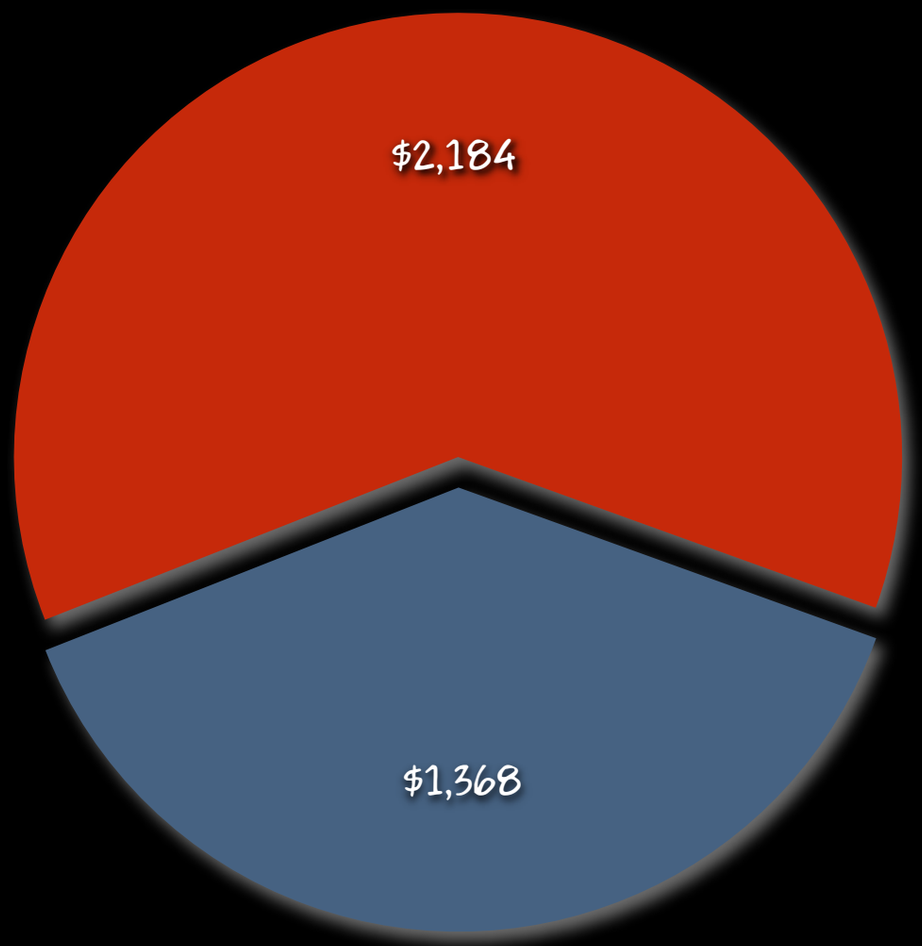
13,746 Registered Lobbyists in 2009
$3.49 billion in lobbying expenditures

FY 2010 Budget Request
(in billions)



Total Budget

FY 2010 Budget Request
(in billions)



FY 2010 Budget Request
(in billions)

Congressional Budget
(in billions)

Agriculture

Commerce,
Justice, Science

Defense

Energy & Water

Financial Services

Homeland Security

Interior & Environment

Legislative Branch

Labor/HHS/Education

Military/Veterans

State/Foreign Operations

Transportation/HUD

Congressional Budget
(in billions)

Agriculture

Commerce,
Justice, Science

Defense

Energy & Water

Financial Services

Homeland Security

Interior & Environment

Legislative Branch

Labor/HHS/Education

Military/Veterans

State/Foreign Operations

Transportation/HUD

Some Agencies Within the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill

- National Science Foundation
- NIST
- NASA
- NOAA
- Census Dept
- Justice Department

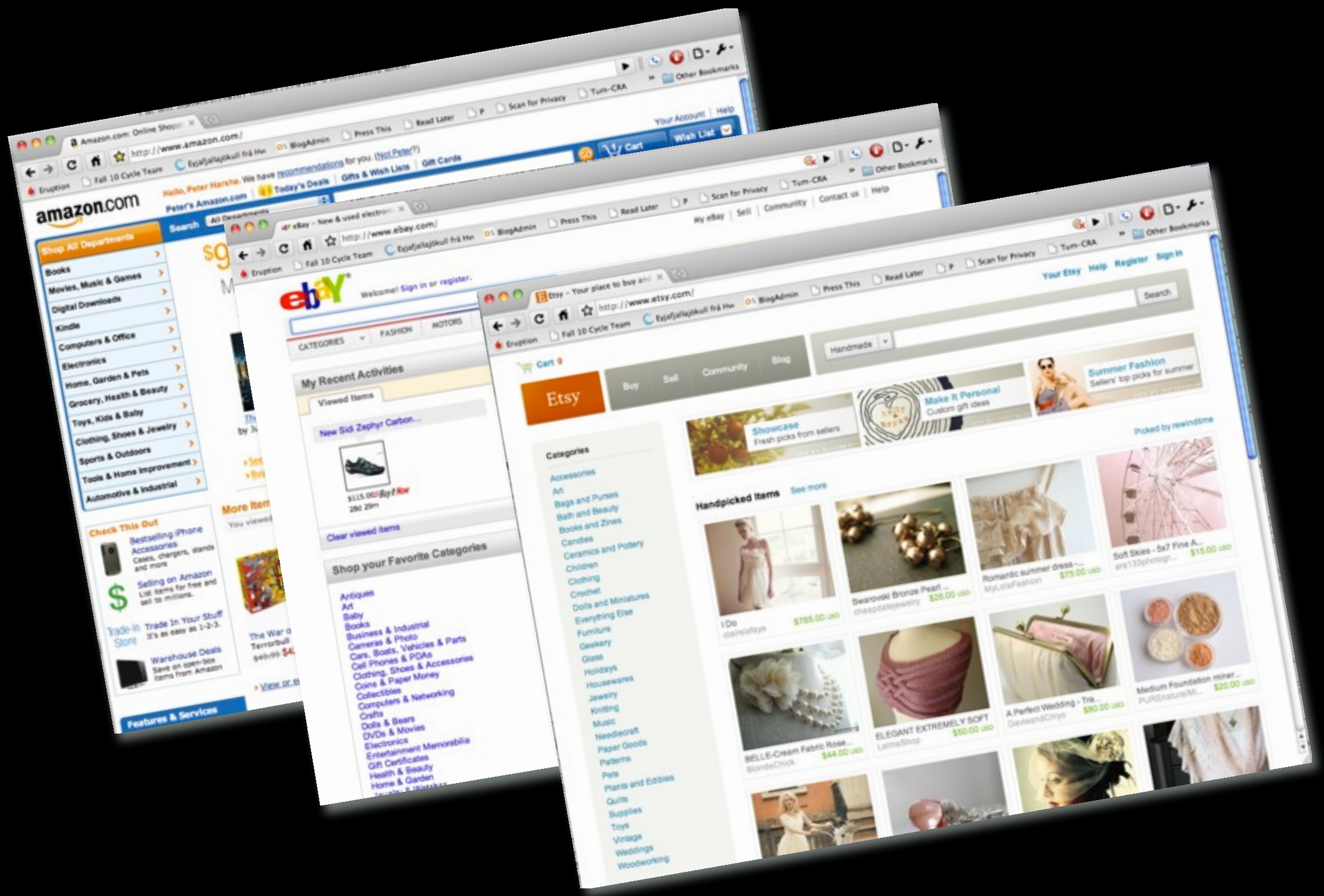
So, we have to make a case compelling enough to compete...

...but with a much more limited tool box.

Our success is based on the strength of our story

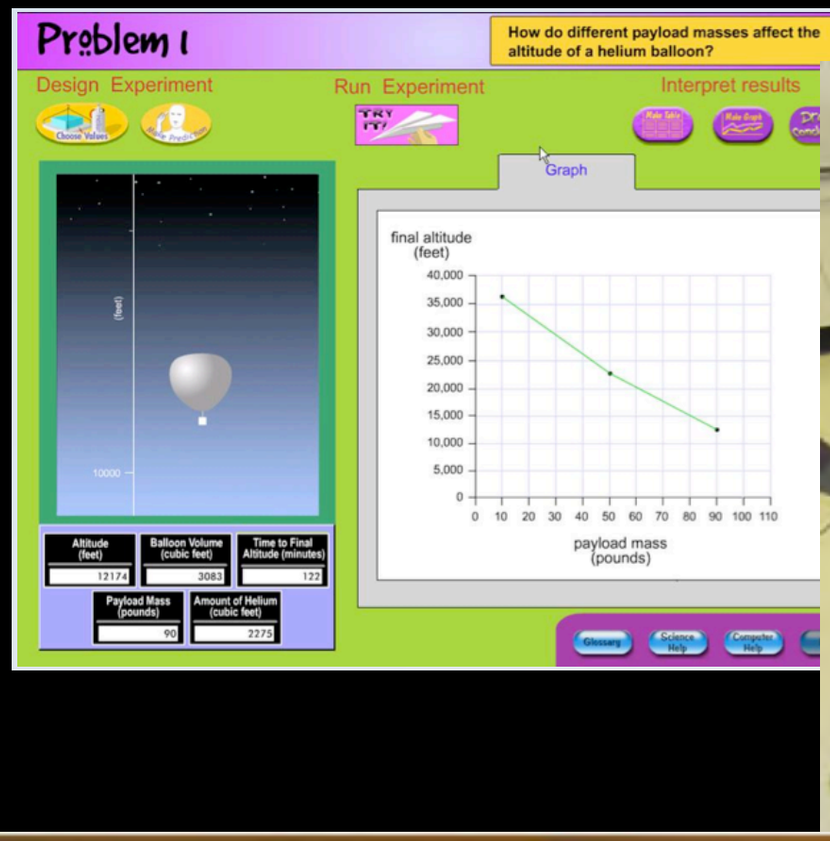
Fortunately, we have a pretty good story.

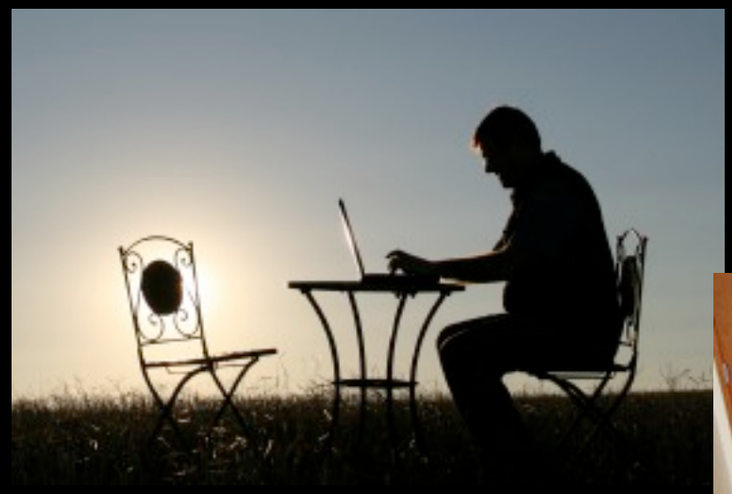
Advances in computing have changed all aspects of our lives...



Conduct commerce...

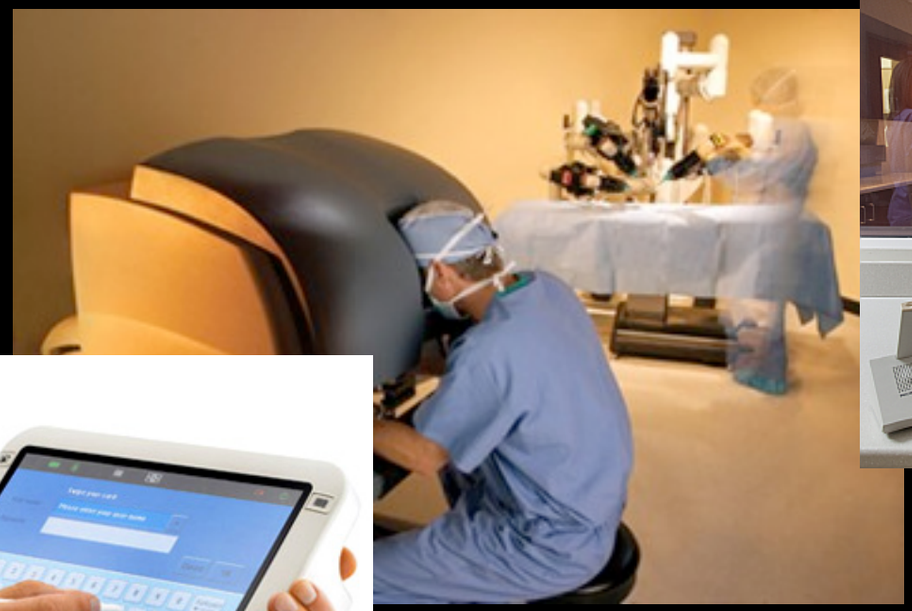
...how we learn...

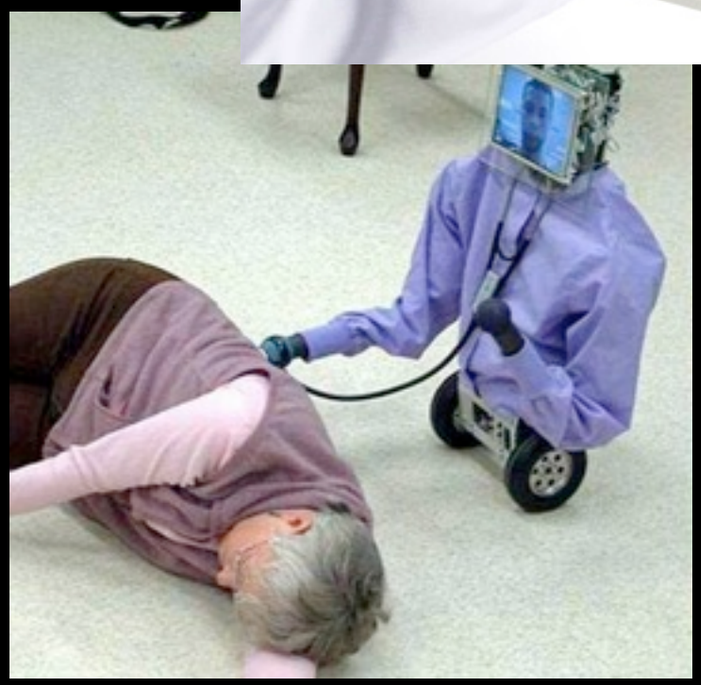

Problem 1
How do different payload masses affect the altitude of a helium balloon?
Design Experiment
Run Experiment
Interpret results
Graph
final altitude (feet)
40,000
35,000
30,000
25,000
20,000
15,000
10,000
5,000
0
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110
payload mass (pounds)
Altitude (feet)
12174
Balloon Volume (cubic feet)
3083
Time to Final Altitude (minutes)
122
Payload Mass (pounds)
90
Amount of Helium (cubic feet)
2275

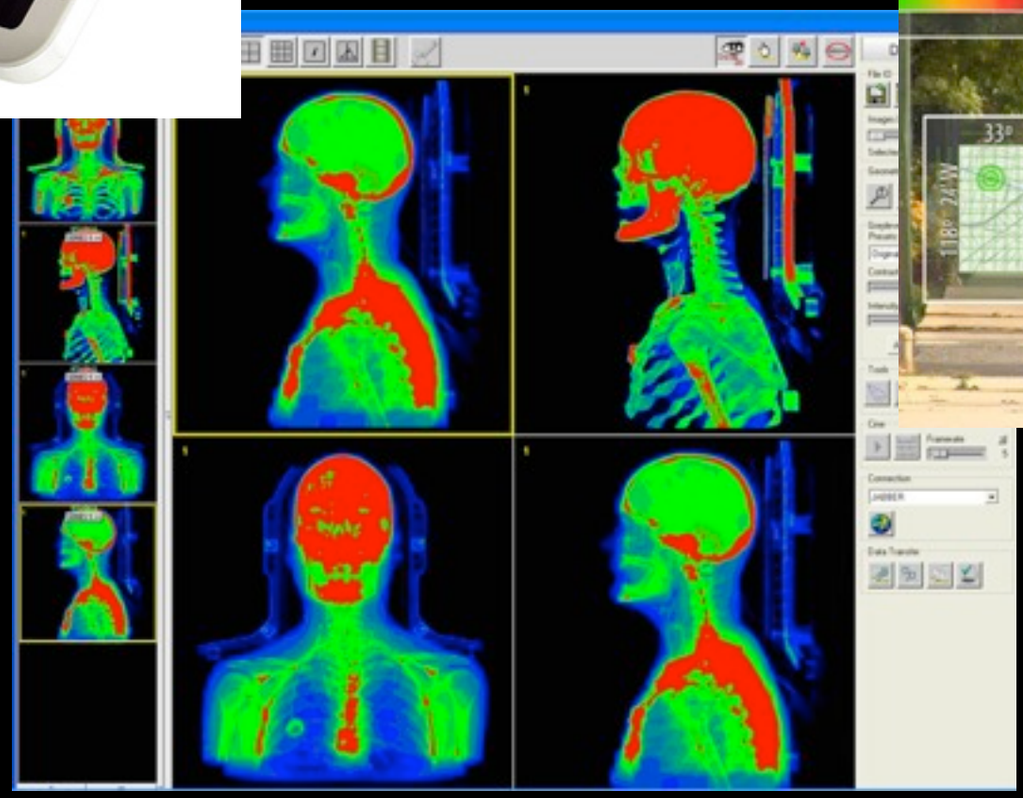


...our employment...

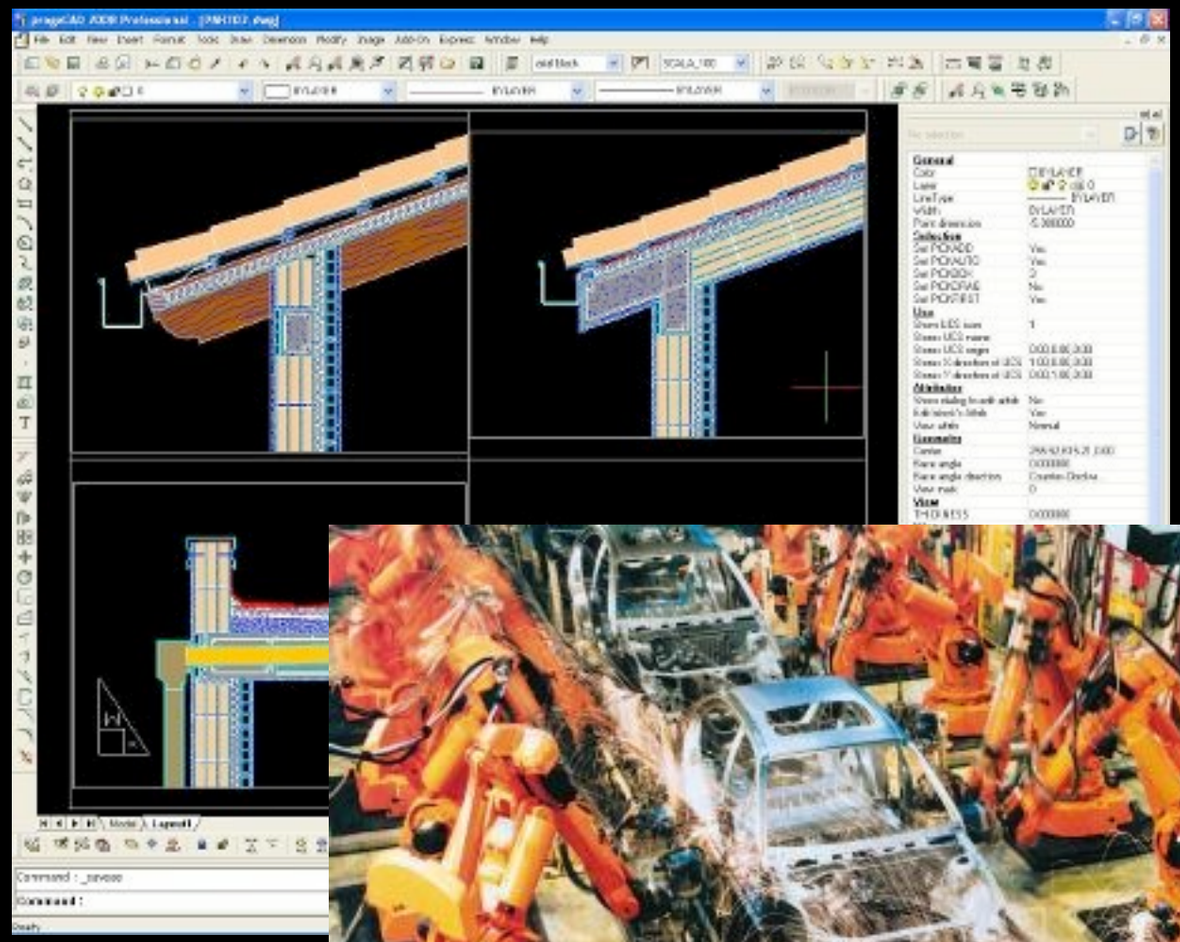
...our health care...

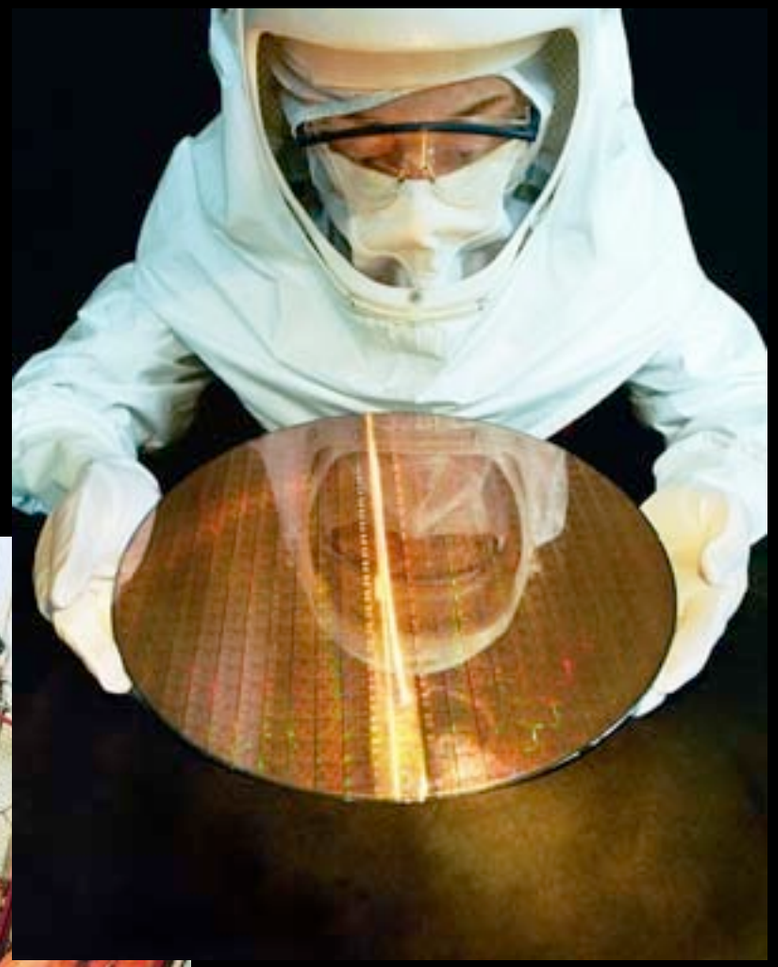


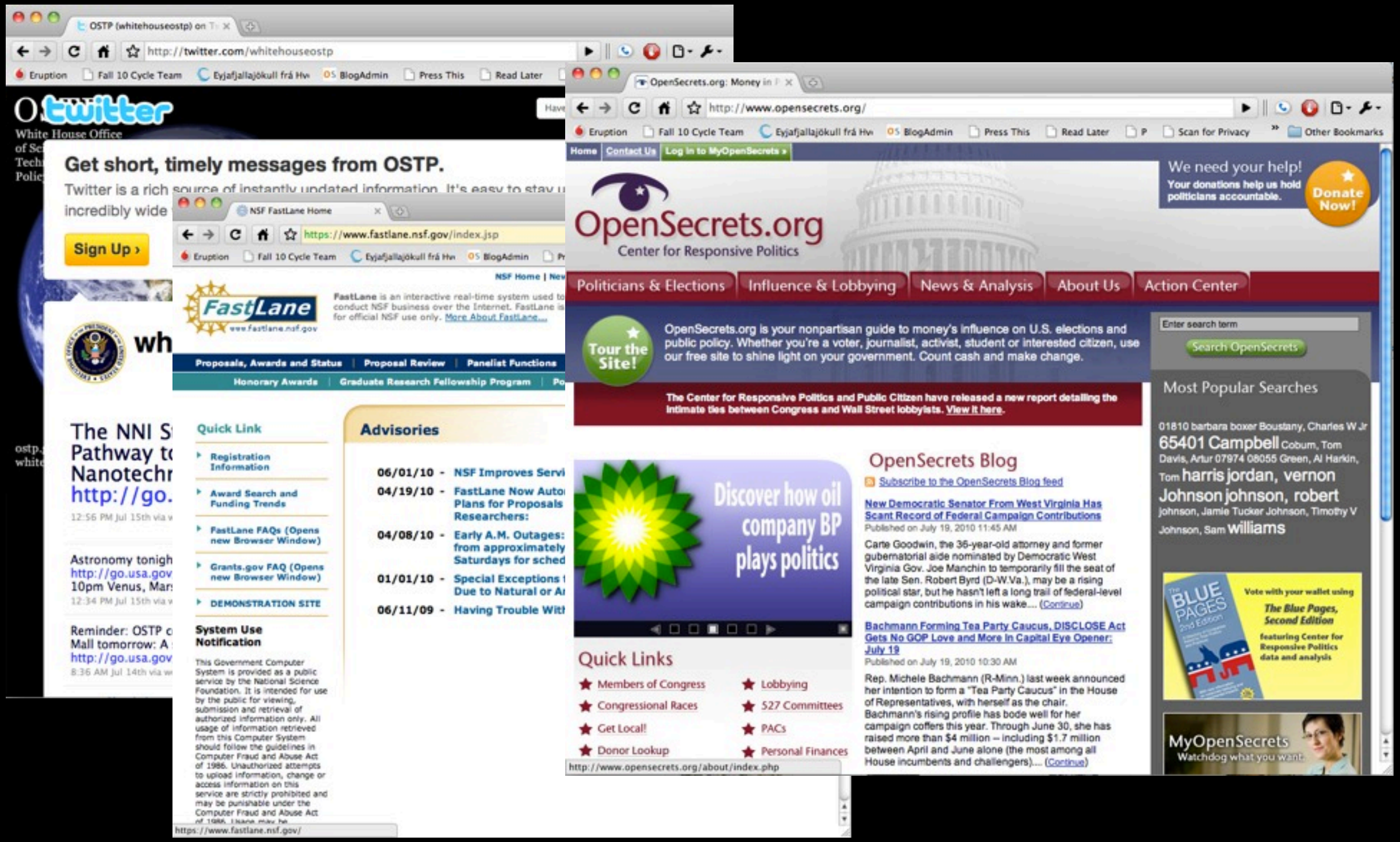




...how we manufacture...

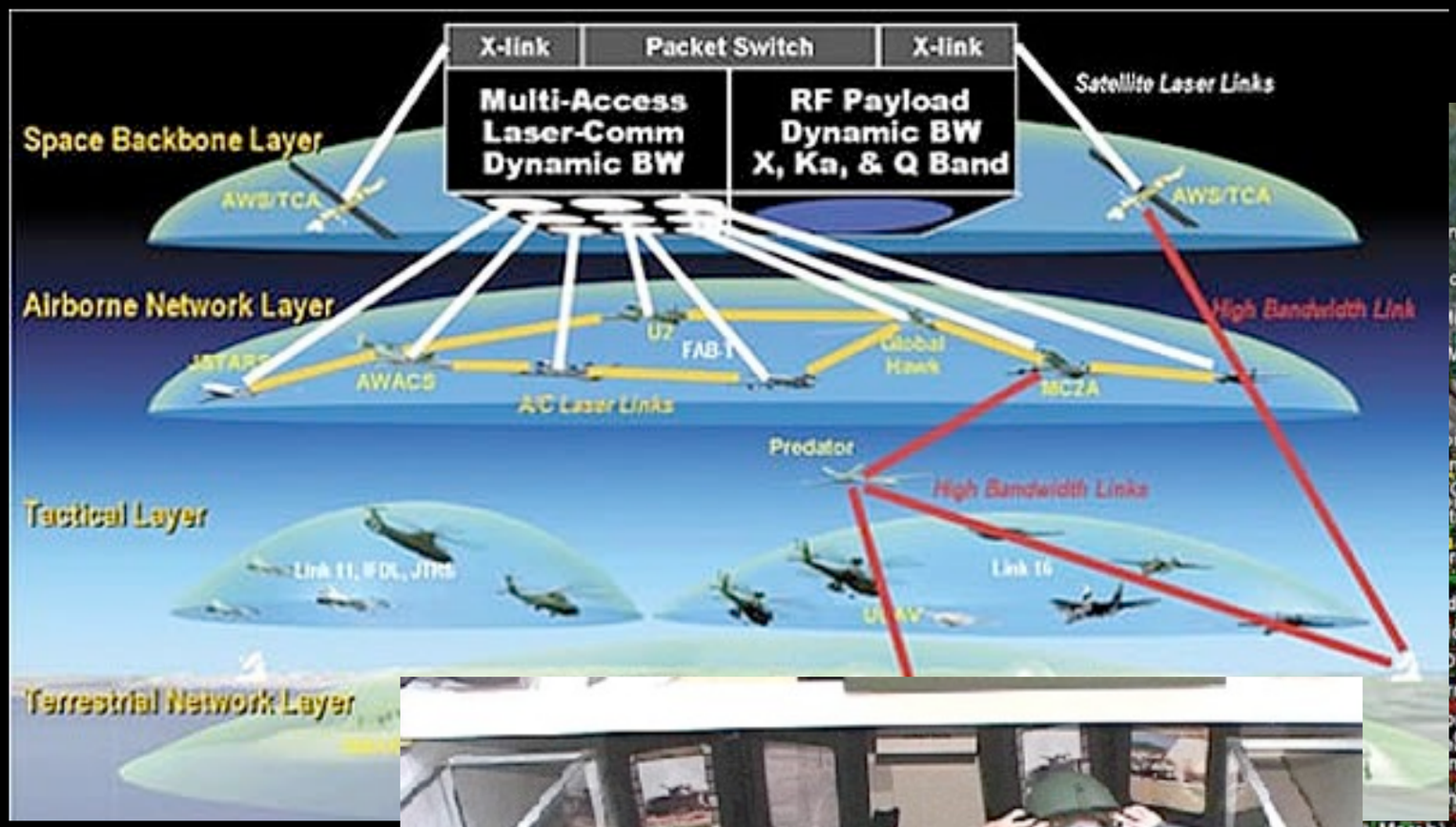


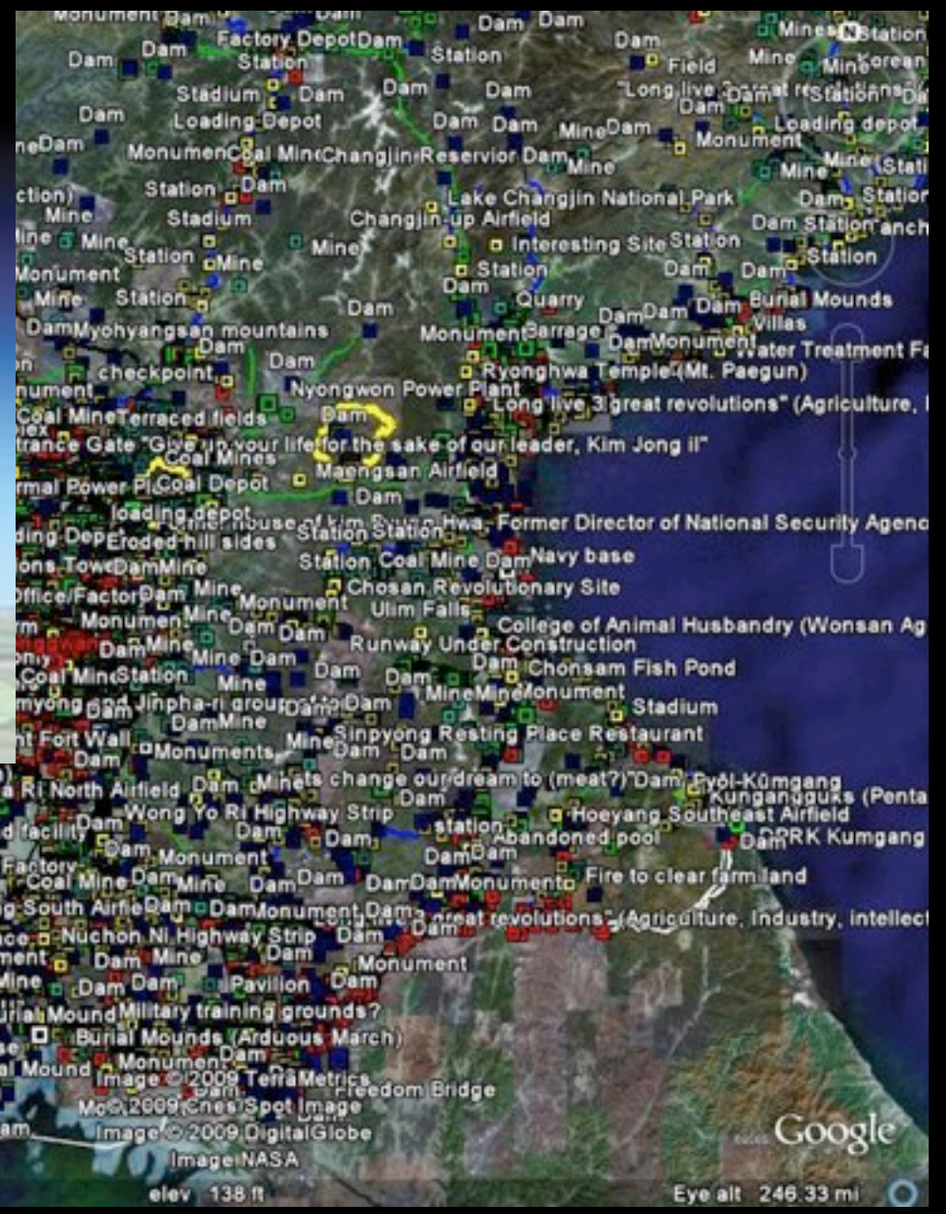


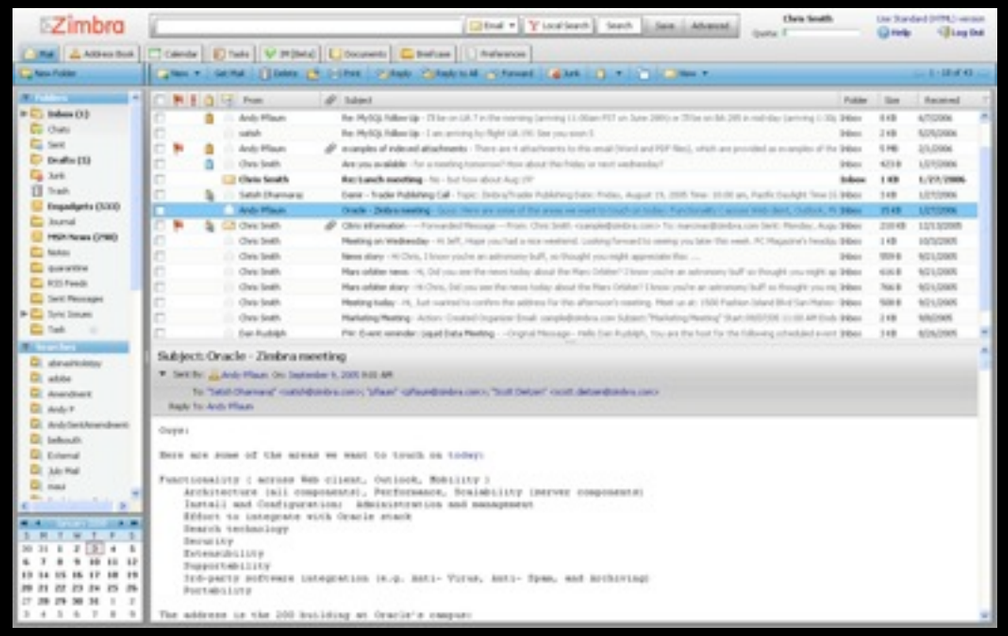


...how government functions...

...how we preserve our national security...







...how we communicate...

...and how we're entertained.

There's a compelling economic case

- Computing drives our economy, not just through the growth of the IT industry, but also through productivity gains across the entire economy

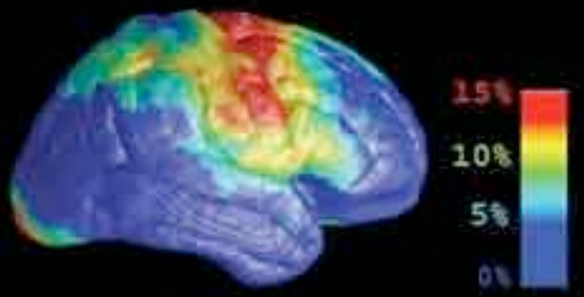
- Remarkable economic growth between '95 and '02 was spurred by productivity growth enabled almost completely by factors related to IT[1]

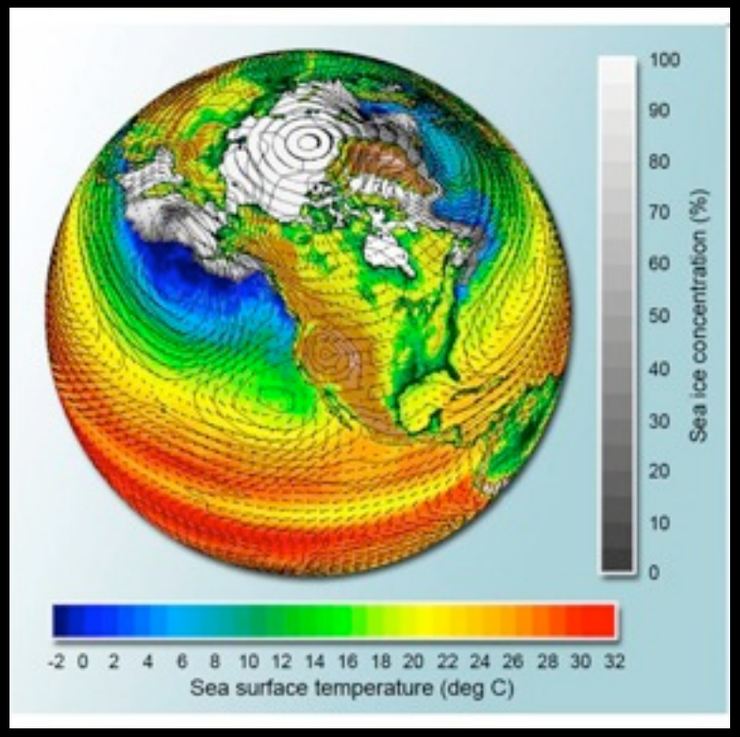
- IT enables productivity growth, enables the economy to run at full capacity, enables goods to be allocated more efficiently and the production of higher quality goods and services[2]

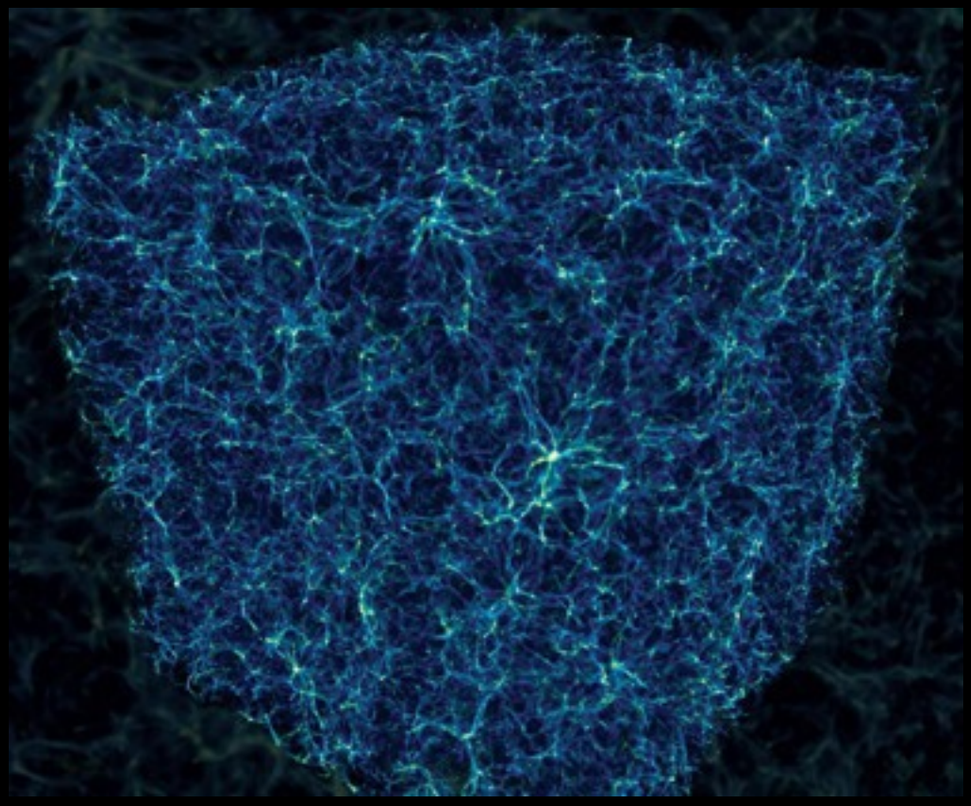
1. Jorgenson, Dale W., Mus S. Ho, and Kevin J. Stiroh. Productivity, Volume 3: Information Technology and the American Growth Resurgence. MIT Press. 2005.
2. Atkinson, Robert D., Andrew S. McKay. Digital Prosperity: Understanding the Economic Benefits of the Information Technology Revolution. Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. 2007.

Advances in computing are enabling innovation in all other fields...

In Science and Engineering...







Created by Matthew Hall of NCSA's Advanced Visualization Laboratory

Computer modeling, visualization and data analysis have joined observation, theory, and experiment as the drivers of scientific discovery.

And advances in computing continue unabated...

The history is compelling, but the future opportunities are even more compelling:

- The future of networking
- Revolutionizing transportation
- Delivering personalized education
- Enabling the smart grid
- Empowering the developing world
- Improving health care
- Driving advances in *all* fields of S&E

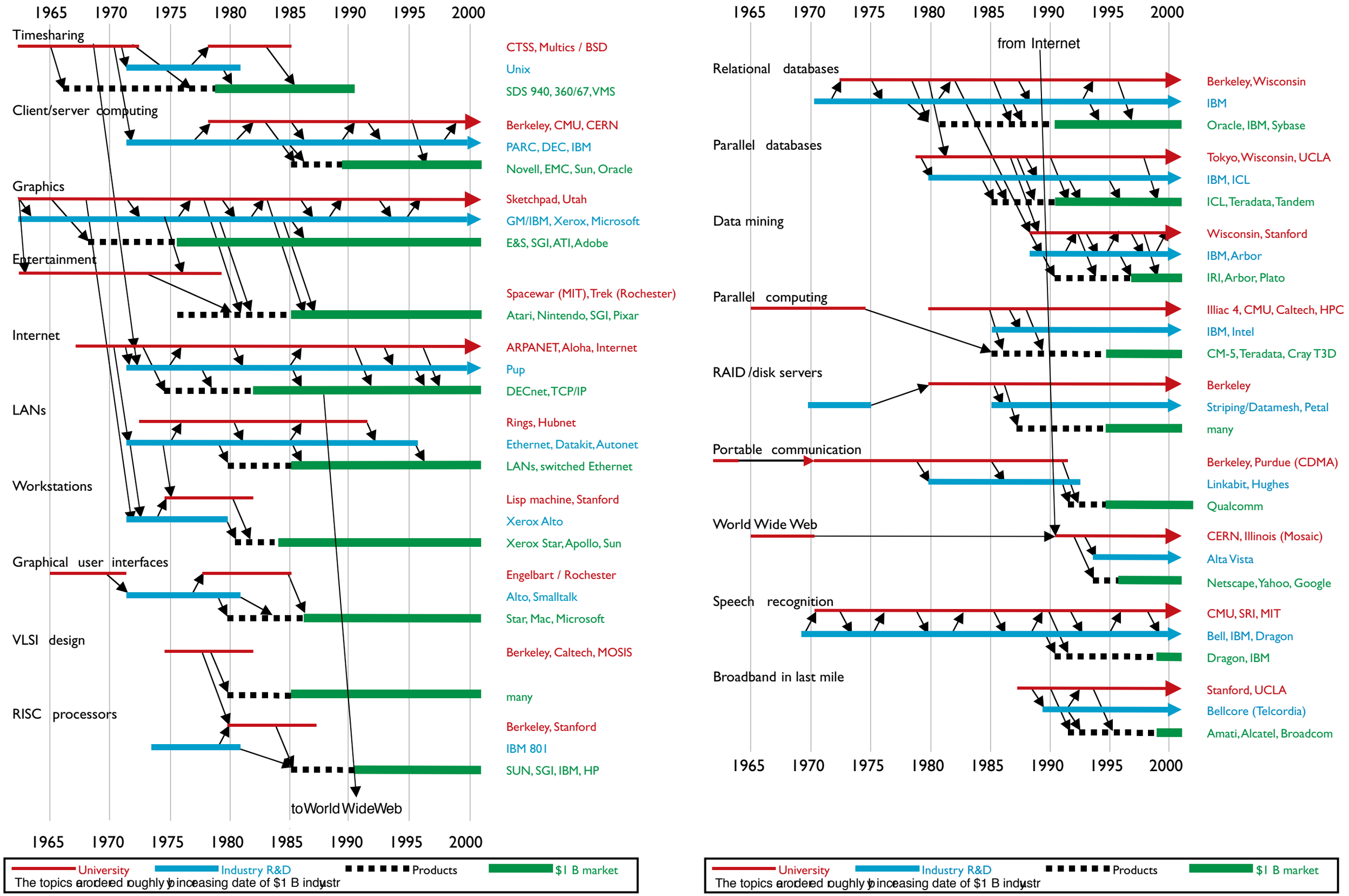
It's impossible to imagine a field with greater opportunity to change the world

So why is this a concern for federal policymakers?

Federal research is at the heart of the IT R&D Ecosystem

“ [An] extraordinarily productive interplay of federally funded university research, federally and privately funded industrial research, and entrepreneurial companies founded and staffed by people who moved back and forth between universities and industry.”

-NRC on the federal IT R&D Program



Source: From [6], reprinted with permission from the National Academy of Sciences, courtesy of the National Academies Press, Washington D.C. ©2003.

"Tire Tracks" circa 1995

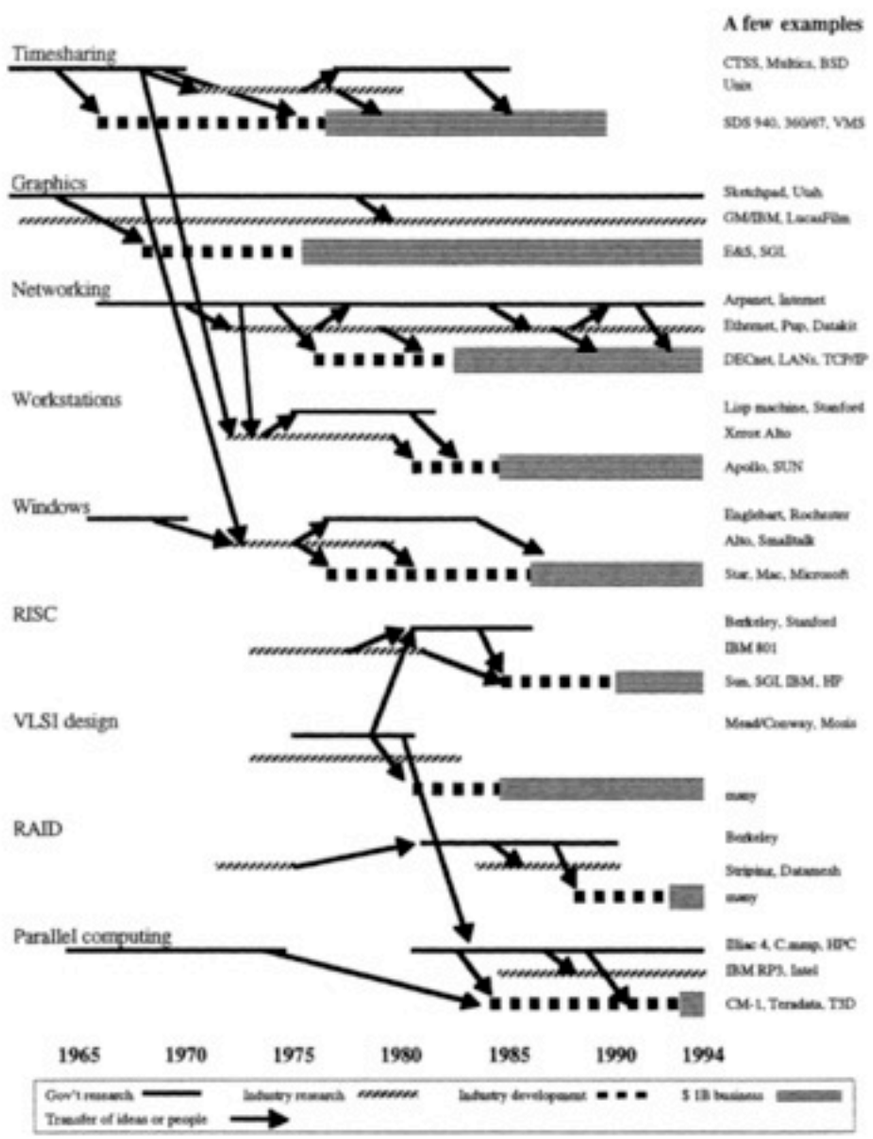
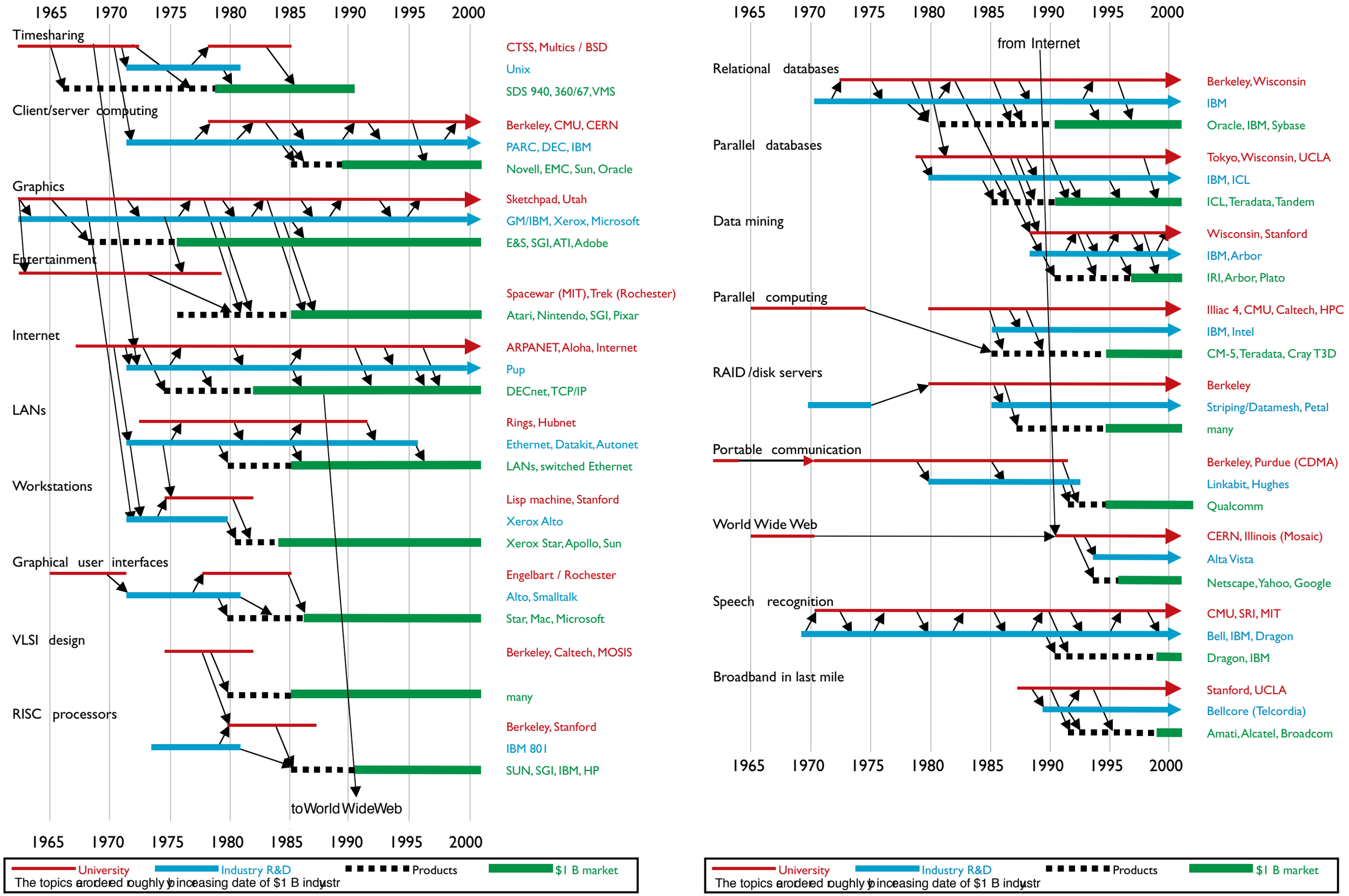


FIGURE 1.2 Government-sponsored computing research and development stimulates creation of innovative ideas and industries. Dates apply to horizontal bars, but not to arrows showing transfer of ideas and people. Table 1.1 is a companion to this figure.



Source: From [6], reprinted with permission from the National Academy of Sciences, courtesy of the National Academies Press, Washington D.C. ©2003.

Essentially every aspect of IT on which we rely today bears the stamp of federal support.

So, we have a pretty compelling story.

How do we use it?

We're opportunistic...

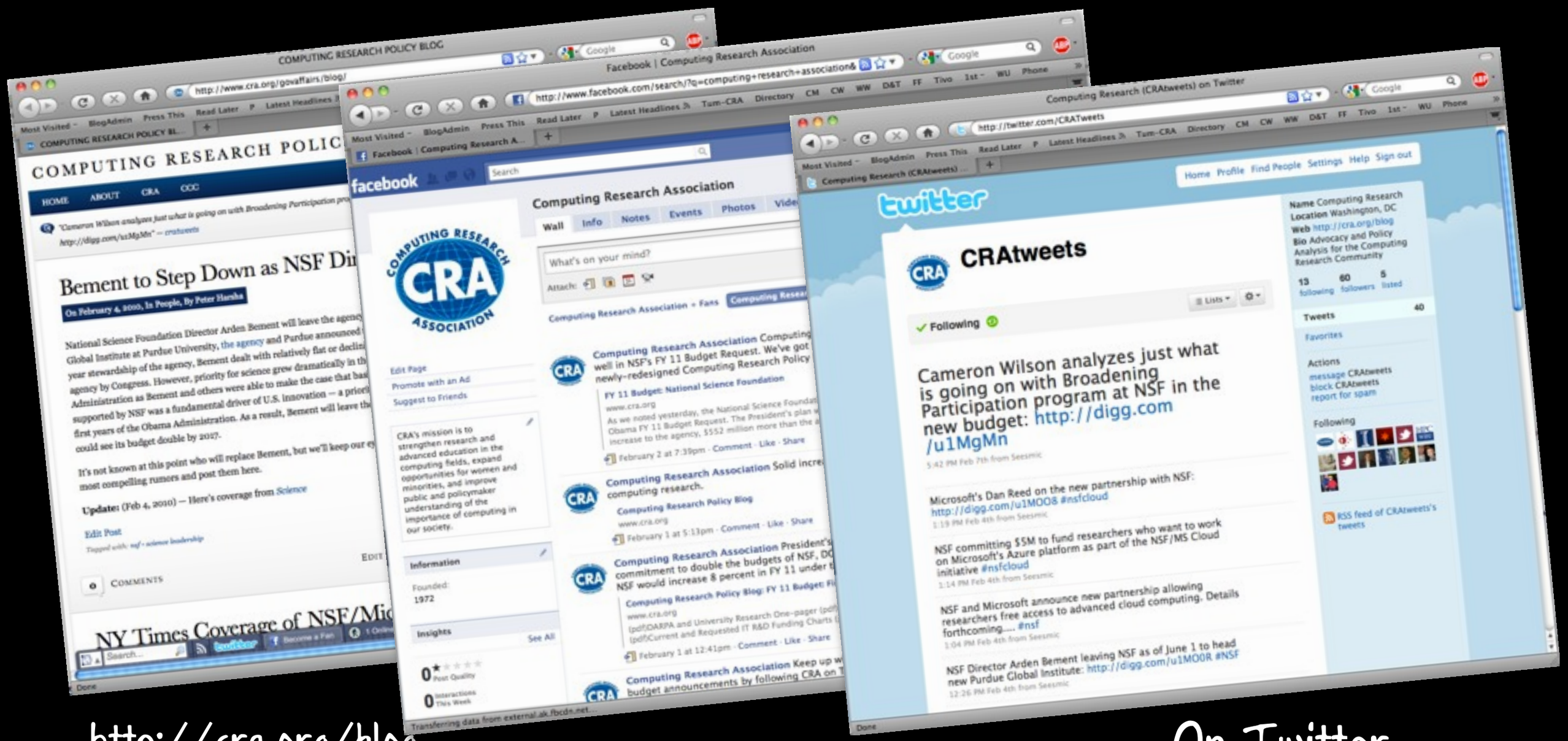
- Congressional testimony
- We host our own events and partner with others
- We've developed a "good brand"
- We strive to engage the community in policymaking

We're opportunistic...

- Part of a broader science advocacy community that's looking for good stories to tell
    - Join coalitions around our interests
        - CNSF, CNSR, TFAI, ESC, AHPDM
- We leverage our interactions with the press

We're opportunistic...

- We leverage new media (or try to)



http://cra.org/blog

On Facebook

On Twitter
@CRATweets

We're opportunistic...

- Try to use events like Snowbird to reach out to our own community and to policymakers

And we've had reasonable success.

Where do we stand now?

Good news first...

Science agencies fared OK in FY10 Approps

FY 2010 Funding for Some Key Science Agencies (in millions)

Agency	FY 09 Estimate	FY 10 Request	FY 10 Conference	$ change	%change
NSF	$4,833	$5,290	$5,188	$356	7.4%
DOE Sci	$4,326	$4,468	$4,431	$105	2.4%
Defense	$14,537	$12,263	$14,801	$264	1.8%
NIST	$550	$637	$603	$53	9.6%
NIH	$29,747	$30,184	$30,427	$680	2.3%

FY 2010 Computing Research Accounts at NSF (in millions)

	FY 09 Estimate	FY 10 Request	FY 10 Conference	$ change	%change
NSF CISE	$574	$633	$620	$47	8.1%
NSF OCI	$199	$219	$215	$15	7.7%

FY 2010 Computing Research Accounts at DOE Sci (in millions)

	FY 09 Estimate	FY 10 Request	FY 10 Conference	$ change	%change
DOE ASCR	$369	$409	$394	$25	6.8%

FY 11 Request - Total Research (basic and applied) by agency, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
NSF	$4,673	$5,104	$430	9.2%
DOE	$6,993	$7,731	$738	10.6%
Defense	$6,330	$6,477	$147	2.3%
NIST	$439	$513	$74	16.9%
NIH	$30,334	$31,265	$931	3.1%

FY 11 Request - NITRD
by agency, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
NSF	$1,091	$1,171	$80	7%
Defense	$1,278	$1,107	-$171	-13%
HHS	$986	$1,019	$33	3%
Energy	$495	$524	$29	6%
Commerce	$104	$119	$15	14%
NASA	$82	$82	--	--
EPA	$6	$6	--	--
NARA	$5	$5	--	--

Computing Research Accounts at NSF
FY 11 Request, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
NSF CISE	$619	$685	$66	10.6%
NSF OCI	$214	$228	$14	6.4%

NSF Funding by Directorate
FY 11 Request, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
BIO	$715	$768	$53	7.5%
CISE	**$619**	**$685**	**$66**	**10.6%**
ENG (-SBIR/STTR)	$618	$683	$65	10.5%
GEO	$890	$955	$66	7.4%
MPS	$1,352	$1,410	$58	4.3%
SBE	$255	$269	$14	5.3%

- Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES) – $29.3 million in CISE; $765 million Foundation-wide

- Cyberlearning for Transforming Education (CTE) – $15 million in CISE; $41 million Foundation-wide

- Also, continued participation in CDI ($50 M) and SEBML ($15 M)

- $70 million bump to Trusted Computing research

Defense R&D
FY11 Request, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
DOD 6.1	$1,830	$1,998	$168	9.2%
DOD 6.2	$4,500	$4,479	-$21	-0.5%
DARPA	$2,991	$3,103	$112	3.7%

Key Accounts at DARPA
FY 11, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
Defense Research Sciences	$206	$328	$122	59.2%
Math and CS	*$46*	*$73*	*$27*	*58.7%*
Transformative Sciences	--	*$53*	*$53*	--
ICT	$272	$281	$9	3.3%
Cog Comp	$144	$90	-$54	-37.5%
Machine Intelligence	--	$44	$44	--

DOE Office of Science
Advanced Scientific Computing Research
FY 11 request, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
ASCR	$394	$426	$32	8.1%
ARPA-E	--	$300	$300	--

DOE NNSA
FY 11 request, in millions

	FY 10 Estimate	FY 11 Request	$ change	%change
Adv. Sim and Computing	$568	$616	$48	8.5%

Congress seems inclined to continue "doubling" trajectory

House Commerce, Justice, Science markup provided NSF with its requested increase (with a little change)

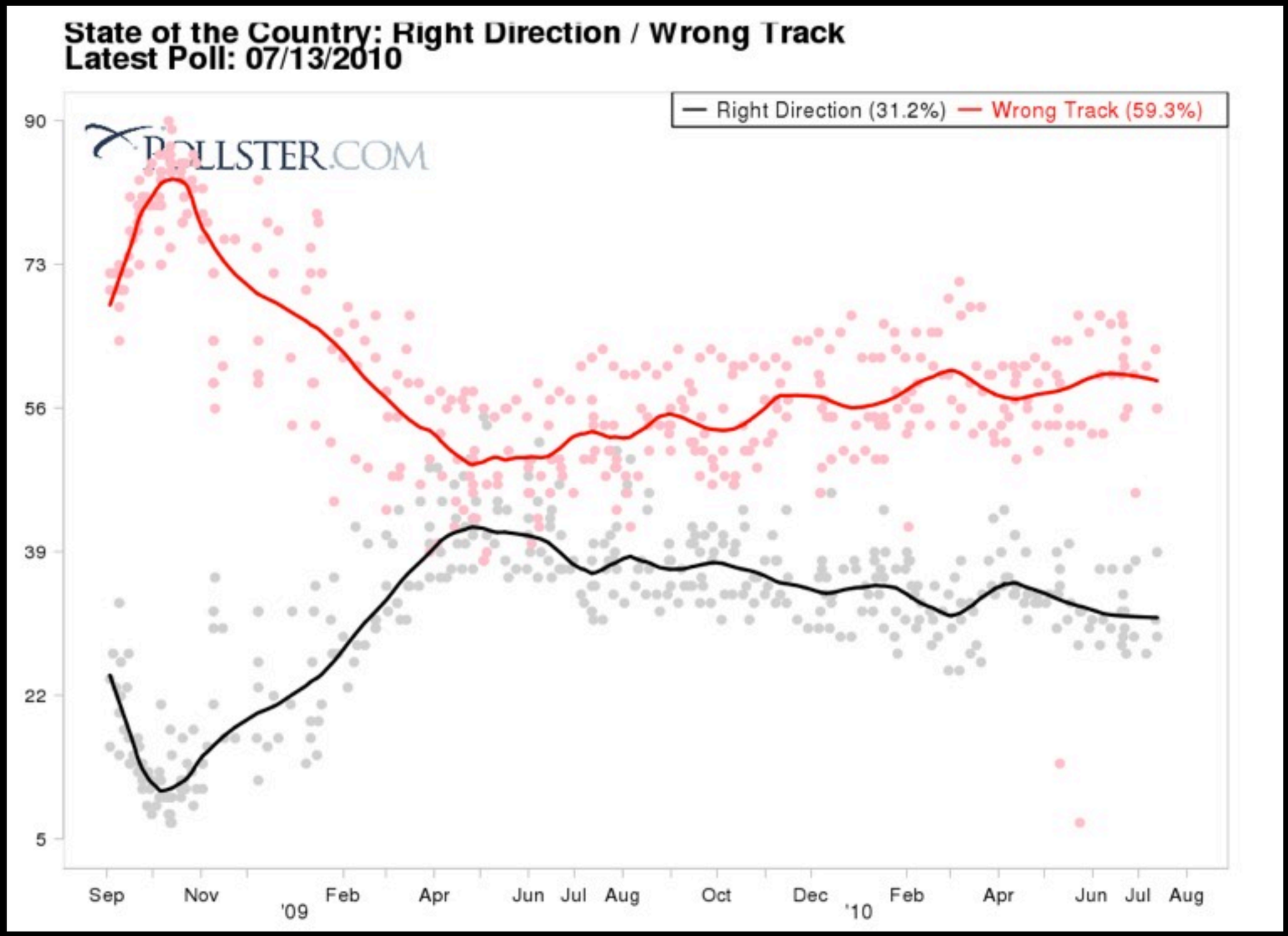
House Energy & Water mark also looks good (but a long way to go)

But there are some looming clouds

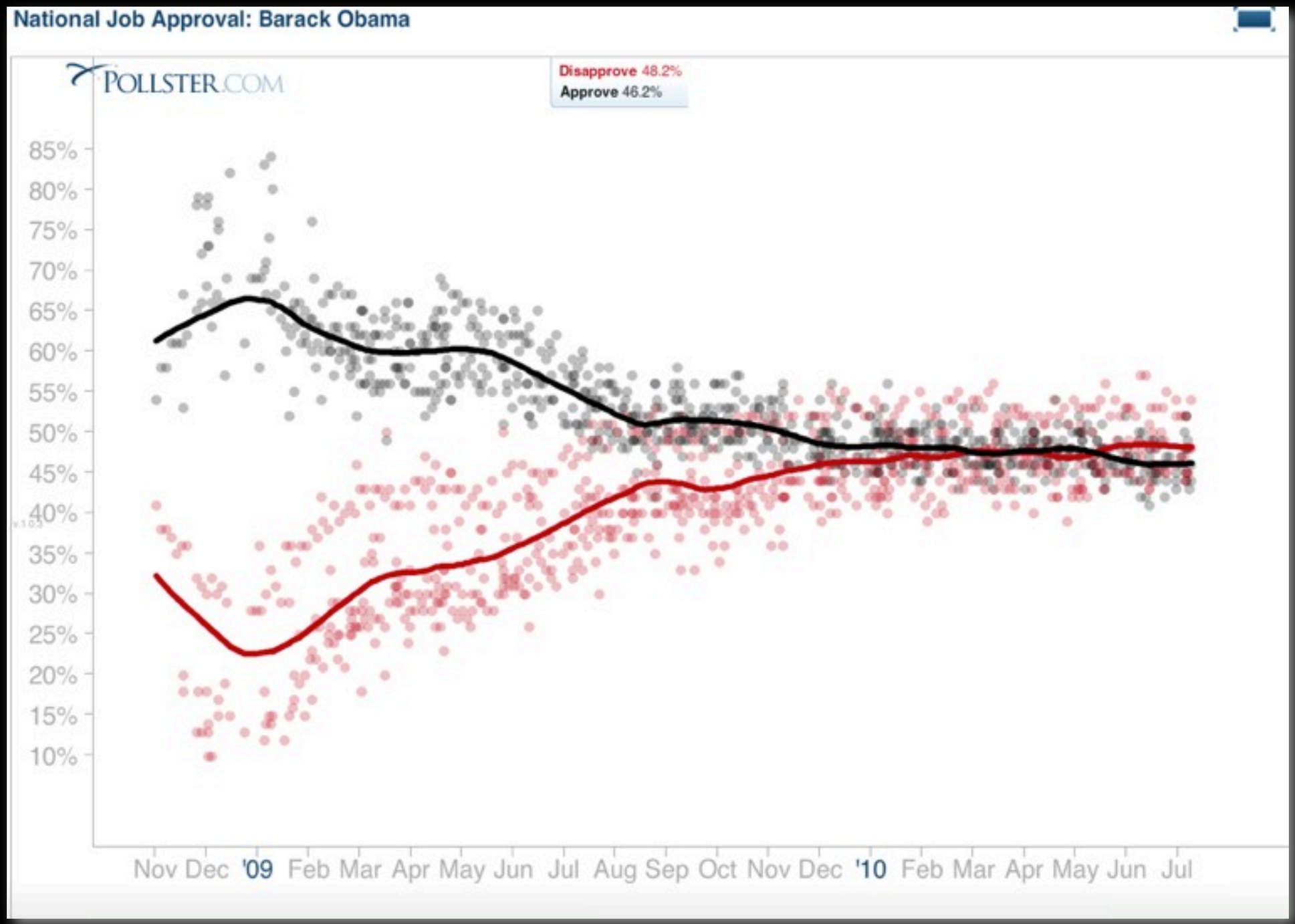
House and Senate Defense Authorization

Election-year politics is making a mess of the calculus

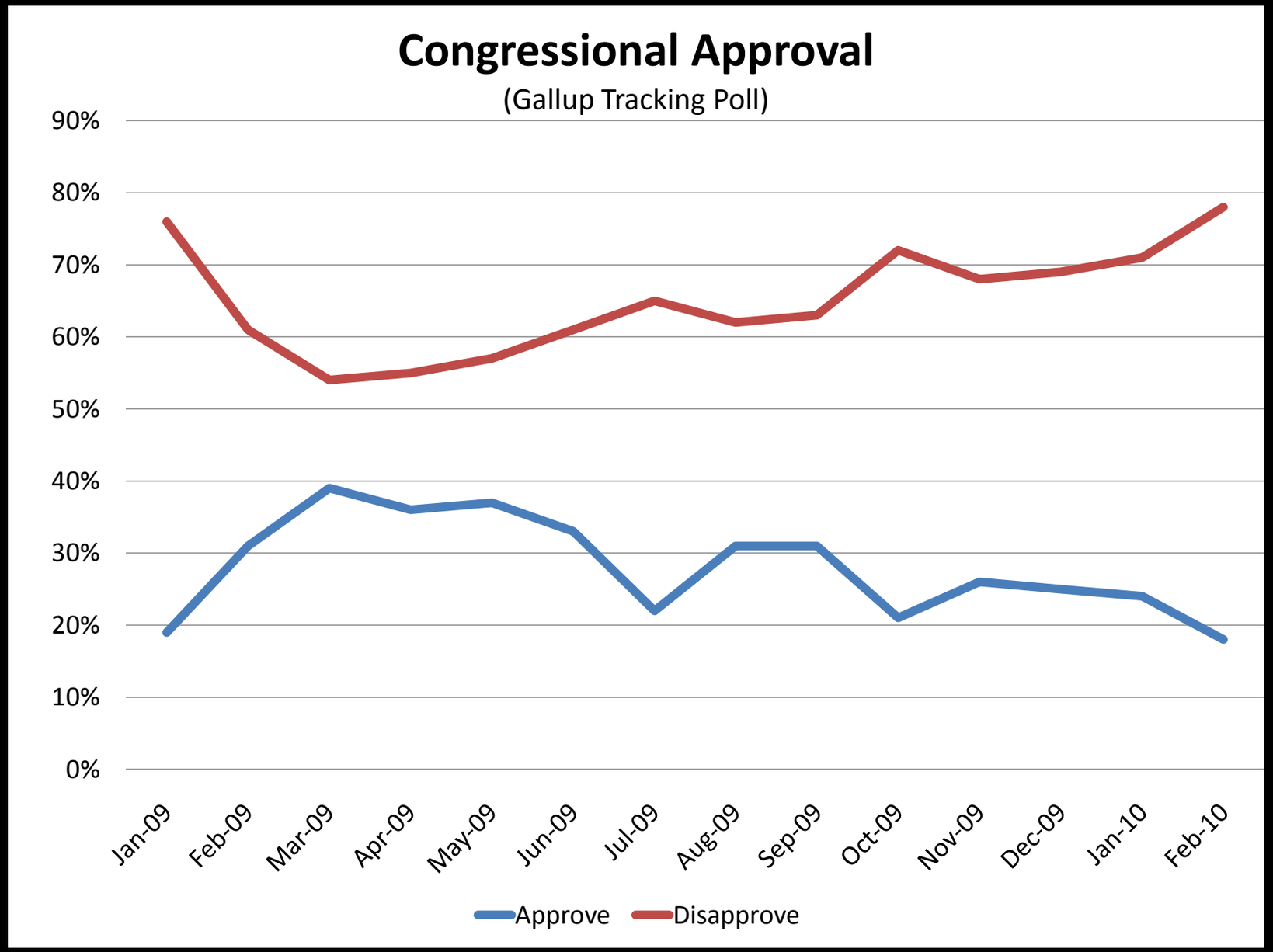
Right Direction / Wrong Track



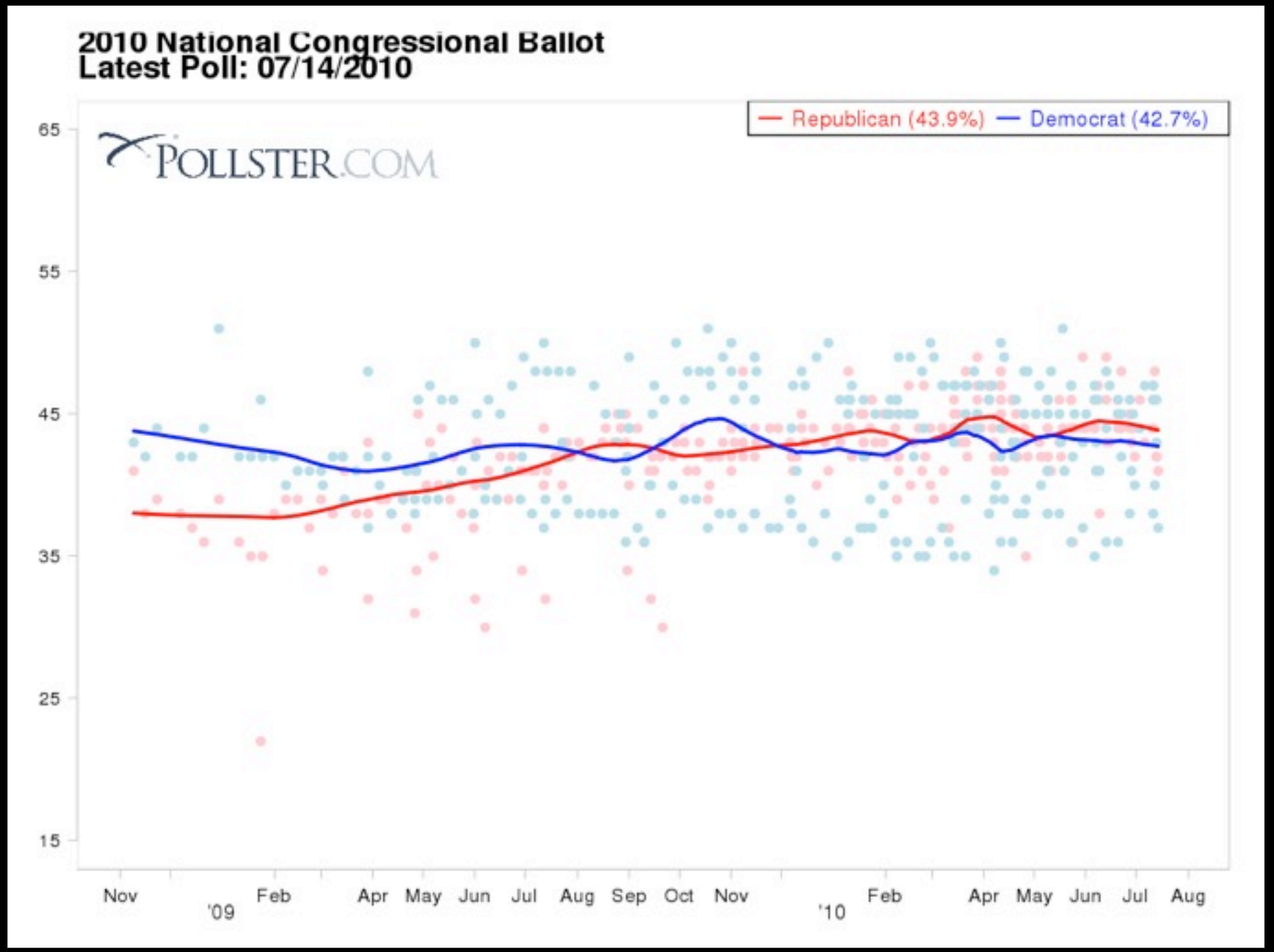
President Obama's Job Approval



Congressional Approval



Generic House Ballot



GOP smells blood.

Votes that should be slam dunks, aren't.

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5116

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 9, 2010
Received

JUNE 29, 2010
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

AN ACT

To invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Case study:
America COMPETES
Reauthorization of 2010

Reauthorization goes a bit beyond the original bill:

- Authorization increases from 3 to 5 years
- Includes NITRD and NNI bills
- Includes new programs to bolster Industrial Innovation
- Rate of increase "steeper"

"I remain committed to the underlying goals of the America COMPETES Act and believe that we should continue to prioritize investments in basic research and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. However, this bill spends too much money and goes far beyond the original intent and scope of the COMPETES legislation."

-Rep. Ralph Hall (R-TX), Ranking Member, House S&T Committee

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

Register/Login · Online Sections · Blogs · Scientific American Magazine · Scienti

Basic Science · Space · Evolution · Energy & Sustainability · Mind & Brain · Health & Medicine

ScientificAmerican.com > News Blog

60-Second Science

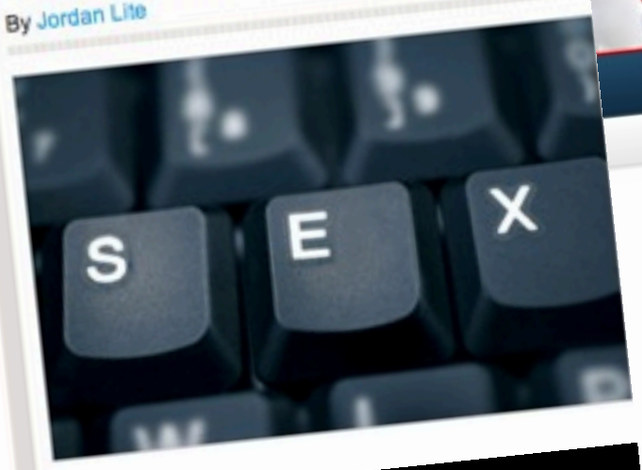
Got a minute?

About · RSS Feed · More Blogs

Jan 29, 2009 06:00 PM in Basic Science | 18 comments

Porn among National Sci "research"

By Jordan Lite



Porn Surfing Rampant At U.S. Government Agency

First Posted: 09-29-09 04:11 PM | Updated: 11-29-09 05:12 AM

Print

WHAT'S YOUR REACTION?

Inspiring · Funny · Obsolete · Scary · Must-Have · Amazing · Innovative · Nerdy

Search HuffPost

Read More: Employee Misconduct, Government Agency, National Science Foundation, Nsf, NSF Misconduct, NSF Porn Surfing, Online Porn, Online Pornography, Porn, Porn Surfing NSF, Pornography, Worker Misconduct, Technology News

Like · Be the first of your friends to like this

nvestigative report by The Washington
s reveals porn surfing by employees has
rampant at the National Science
ation, a government agency that received
on in taxpayer funding in 2008.

ations into employee misconduct, which
y involved workers looking at x-rated
government computers, grew sixfold
ast year.

misconduct cases at the NSF, at least
ved workers viewing online
.

cutive at the foundation was found
at least 331 days looking at porn
ith naked or scantily-clad women
nputer. When confronted, he tried
charitable act:

Search

ON AIR NOW » America's News HQ Hosts Jamie Colby and Kel...

FOX NEWS .com

Fair & Balanced

FULL COVERAGE · It's Your Land · Disaster in the Gulf · America's Election HQ · WATCH LIVE

Home · Video · US · World · Politics · Entertainment · Leisure · Health

Politics Home · Executive Branch · U.S. Senate · House of Representatives · State & Local · Supreme Court

AMERICA'S ELECTION

ELECTIONS

Grassley Launches Inquiry Into Reports Alleging Fed Computers Used to View Porn

Published January 28, 2009 | FOXNews.com

Text Size

Print · Email · Share · Recommend

The ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee launched an inquiry Tuesday into reports that National Science Foundation officials are using government computers to view pornographic Web sites during working hours.

In a letter sent to the NSF's inspector general Tuesday, Chuck Grassley requested access to all documents related to the "numerous reports" and seven investigations into "Abuse of NSF IT Resources" -- which are referenced in the agency's 68-page semi-annual report.

In one instance, the report cites an NSF "senior official" who allegedly spent 20 percent of his work hours "viewing sexually explicit" Web sites -- amounting to a potential loss of $58,000 in employee compensation.

Grassley has asked the NSF to disclose all "specific reports of investigations, audit reports, evaluations and information supporting the examination of the NSF network drive" by Thursday to "ensure that NSF

January 2009

Hall crafts "Motion to Recommit With Instructions"

- Eliminates "duplicative" programs
- Reduces authorization to 3 years
- Freezes agency budgets unless "budget is balanced"
- Adds some veterans benefit language
- Prohibits agencies from paying the salaries of any federal workers disciplined for viewing pornography on federal computers

Do you believe a few days suspension is "good enough" for federal workers who waste taxpayer dollars looking at pornography on the job?

Congressman Cole does.

Vote John Doe in November!

House Vote 993, on HR 5116

"Every body raise your hand that's for pornography. Come on, raise your hand. Nobody? Nobody is for pornography? Well, I'm shocked. So I guess we need this little bitty provision that means nothing. That's going to gut the entire bill. This is an embarrassment, and if you vote for this, you should be embarrassed."

-Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN), Chair of the House Science and Technology Committee and sponsor of H.R. 5116

Gordon's Revenge

- Reintroduces COMPETES a few days later with minor changes (including anti-porn language), calls it a "Jobs Bill"
- Wants to force Republicans to be "anti-Jobs"
- Uses "Suspension of the Rules," loses vote (expectedly)
- Berates Republicans for killing U.S. jobs

Gordon's Revenge

- Reintroduces the original COMPETES Reauthorization
- Brings up the Motion to Recommit
- Asks the Chair to "Divide the Question"
- Dems defeat all the controversial measures, pass the anti-porn language
- COMPETES Reauthorization finally passes

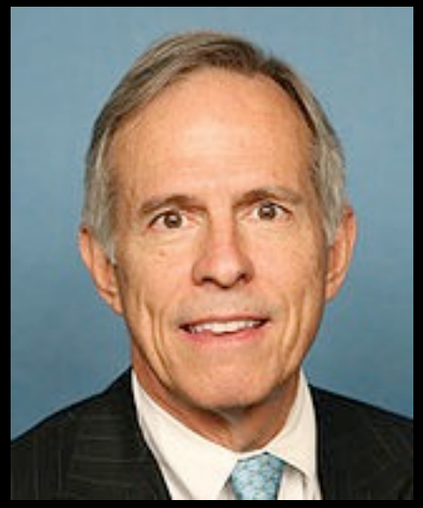
On to the Senate for COMPETES

What happens next?

- Appropriations won't get done in regular order
- Headed for a Continuing Resolution
- Likely resolved with an Omnibus - When?

Turnover among some key Members

Vern Ehlers (R-MI)



Bart Gordon (D-TN)

David Obey (D-WI)

Brian Baird (D-WA)

Bob Inglis (R-SC)

Alan Mollohan (D-WV)

Long term forecast

Google Reader (1000+) | Nation Demands Tax Dollars

http://www.theonion.com/articles/nation-demands-tax-dollars-only-be-wasted-on-stuff,17704/

Eruption | Fall 10 Cycle Team | Eyjafjallajökull frá Hv | BlogAdmin | Press This | Read Later | P | Scan for Privacy | Tum-CRA | Other Bookmarks

NEWS

Nation Demands Tax Dollars Only Be Wasted On Stuff That's Awesome

JULY 13, 2010 | ISSUE 46•28

Protesters called on Congress to redirect excess spending toward the development of robotic bees equipped with live-streaming night vision.

WASHINGTON—Acknowledging that the outrageous misappropriation of public funds is inevitable, an estimated 500,000 Americans gathered in the nation's capital Sunday to demand their misused tax dollars at least be squandered on something really awesome that everyone can enjoy.

Protestors from every state in the union voiced concerns that the federal government is misusing its wasteful spending on special interests, bloated no-bid contracts, and other

ARTICLE TOOLS

DIGG

FACEBOOK

STUMBLE

POPULAR | FAXED | RECENT

Nation Demands Tax Dollars Only Be Wasted On Stuff That's Awesome

George Steinbrenner Dead After Firing Underperforming Heart

Repeal Of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Paves Way For Gay Sex Right On Battlefield, Opponents Fantasize

Rock Fans Outraged As Bob Dylan Goes Electronica

Fuck, I Just Realized I'm Going To Be One Of The People Who Die In This Heat Wave

New Apple Friend Bar Gives Customers Someone To Talk At About Mac Products

twitter Stories on Twitter

866 George Steinbrenner Dead After Firing Underperforming Heart

303 Nation Demands Tax Dollars Only Be Wasted On Stuff That's Awesome

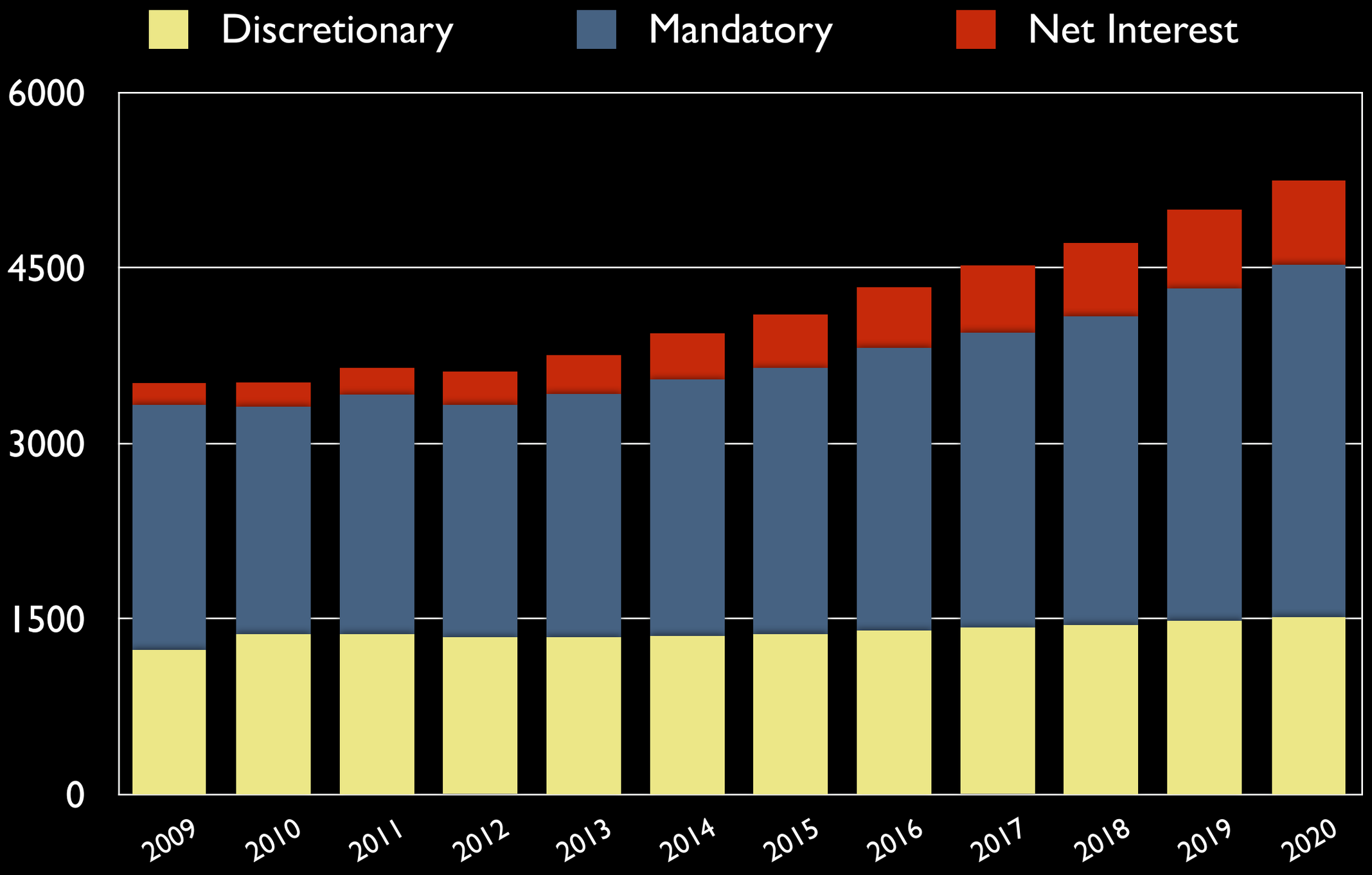
133 More Americans Concerned Illegal Immigrants Will Take Their Spot On Couch

98 Umpire's Perfect Game Goes Completely Unnoticed

FEATURED SECTION »

ECONOMY

Growth in Mandatory Spending vs. Discretionary



The situation was competitive when deficits were in the billions...

Without a strong case and support from a broad community — industry, higher education, scientific societies — research funding and the innovations it enables will face a chilly reception among policymakers

What else are we looking to do?

- Improve opportunities at other mission agencies
- Improve the pathway to funded initiatives
- Make sure the community is represented on advisory boards and in national initiatives
- Continue to support our partners

We're looking for your help, too.

(you knew that was coming)

Join the Computing Research Advocacy Network (CRAN)

http://www.cra.org/govaffairs/advocacy/cran/

Get "Action Alerts" and updates from CRA staff
so you don't miss important opportunities to speak
out on behalf of computing research

A Proposal:

Congressional Visits Day Fly-in

Computer Science

EDUCATION WEEK

csedweek.org

With your help, we'll continue to make the case for computing research wherever we can.

Thanks!

email: harsha@cra.org
twitter: @peterharsha
facebook: http://facebook.com/peter.harsha
blog: http://cra.org/blog
CRA Twitter: @CRATweets

phone: 202.556.4335