

#### National Science Foundation

Dr. Joanne Tornow CUNY Convergence Workshop September 14, 2018

NOVA • PBS

### National Science Foundation (NSF)



"To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense..."



# NSF Champions Research and Education Across All STEM Fields







# NSF and the Scientific Landscape



- Part of larger research ecosystem
- NSF invests in basic, fundamental research
- Leverage partnerships across federal and international agencies, foundations, private industry

# NSF's 10 Big Ideas



The Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier



Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multimessenger Astrophysics Mid-scale Research Infrastructure



Harnessing the Data Revolution



Navigating the New Arctic



NSF 2026: Seeding Innovation





Understanding the Rules of Life: Predicting Phenotype







Growing Convergence Research at NSF



NSF INCLUDES: Enhancing STEM through Diversity and Inclusion

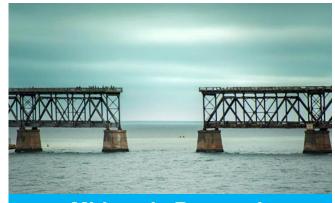


# Identifying and Closing Gaps





NSF 2026: Seeding Innovation



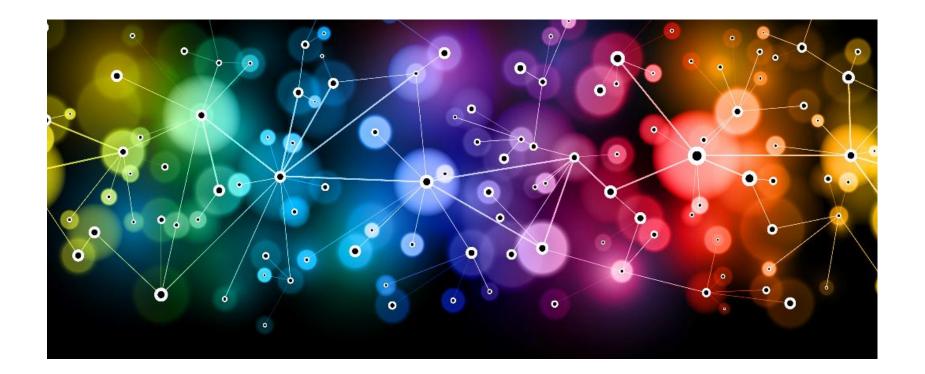
Mid-scale Research Infrastructure



Growing Convergence Research at NSF



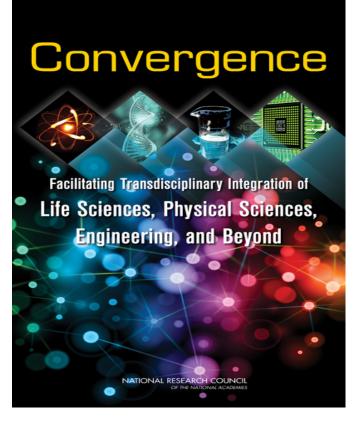
### Growing Convergence Research at NSF

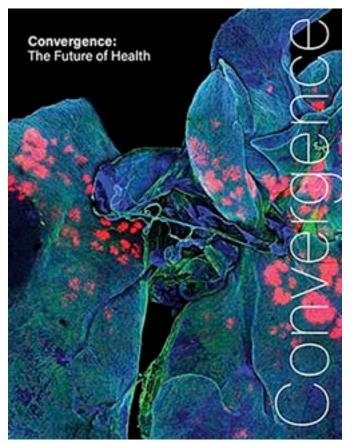


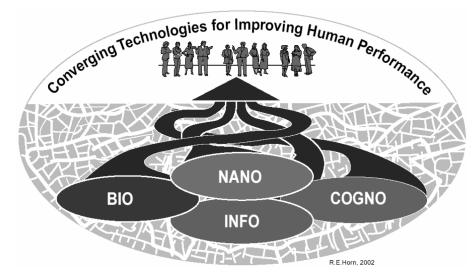
*"Framing challenging research questions at inception, and fostering the collaborations needed for successful inquiry."* 

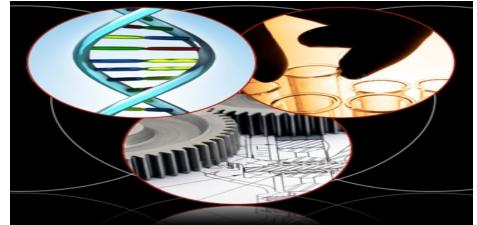


# History of Convergence at NSF











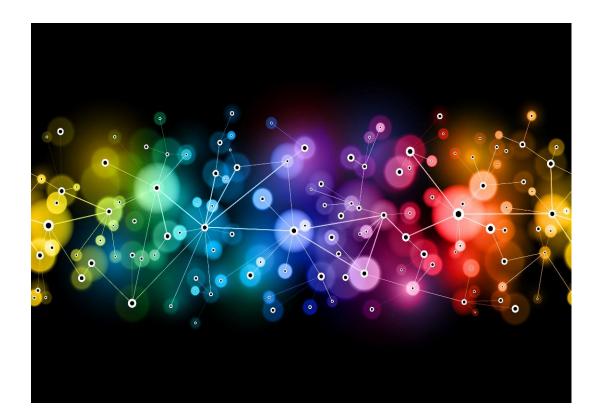
### How is NSF thinking about convergence now?

A SPECIFIC AND COMPELLING CHALLENGE

DEEP INTEGRATION ACROSS DISCIPLINES



# What are the essential elements of successful convergence research?



- **Need** for a convergent approach
- **Readiness** to engage in convergence
- Integration of knowledge, tools, and modes of thinking
- Involvement of the next generation of convergence researchers



### What are we converging on?



Harnessing the Data Revolution

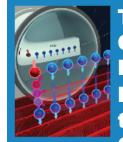


The Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier



Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multimessenger Astrophysics





The Quantum Leap: Leading the Next Quantum Revolution Understanding the Rules of Life: Predicting Phenotype

**Navigating the New Arctic** 

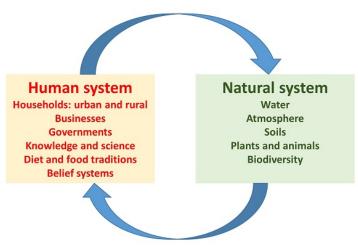






# How can convergence happen organically?



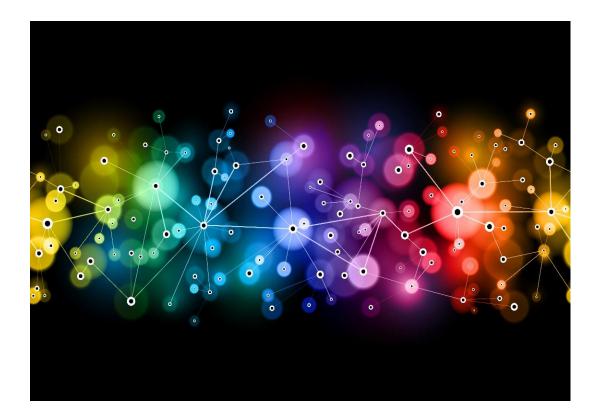




• Use different tactics and specific skill sets to ask the same question • Investigate different aspects of a common problem  Use similar tools and technologies to ask different questions



# What is NSF doing to support/enable convergence research?



- Big Ideas
- Dear Colleague Letters



# Dear Colleague Letters: Growing Convergence Research



#### NSF 17-065 Dear Colleague Letter: Growing Convergence Research at NSF

April 3, 2017



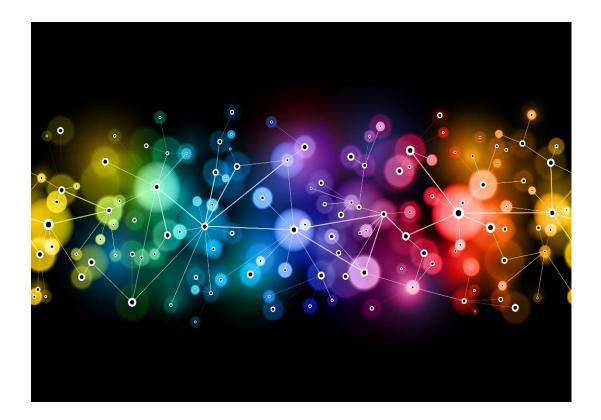
NSF 18-058

Dear Colleague Letter: Growing Convergence Research

March 23, 2018



# What is NSF doing to support/enable convergence research?



- Big Ideas
- Dear Colleague Letters
- Opportunities in Core Programs
- Priorities:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Build capacity within community  $\;$
  - Enable researchers to demonstrate ability to collaborate effectively
  - Ensure merit review process responds to new challenges



### Questions?

