

Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs March 2015 Constituent Newsletter

FY 2016 NIST Budget Testimony

On February 26, 2015, Dr. Willie E. May, Acting NIST Director testified before the House Committee on Science Space and Technology Subcommittee on Research & Technology on "An Overview of the FY 2016 Budget for the National Institute of Standards and Technology". A copy of his written testimony is available [here](#). The archived webcast of the Hearing is accessible [here](#).

On February 20, 2015, Dr. May briefed constituents on the Obama Administration's FY 2016 NIST budget proposal. The slide presentation from that webinar can be downloaded [here](#).

SBIR & MEP Federal Funding Opportunities

NIST invites small businesses to submit Phase I research applications under the [FY 2015 Federal Funding Opportunity](#) (FFO) announced on March 9, 2015. The NIST Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program is offering to fund research projects that address specific challenges in the fields of advanced manufacturing, climate change and clean energy, cybersecurity, health care and bioscience. More information on the SBIR program and a link to the full announcement is available [here](#). The deadline for applications is May 15, 2015.

NIST also invites applications from eligible organizations in connection with NIST's funding up to twelve separate Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) cooperative agreements for the operation of an MEP Center in the States of Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin. NIST anticipates awarding one cooperative agreement for each of the identified States. The objective of the MEP Center Program is to provide manufacturing extension services to primarily small and medium-sized manufacturers within the whole State designated in the applications. The selected organization will become part of the MEP national system of extension service providers, currently comprised of more than 400 Centers and field offices located throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Complete information on the FFO is available [here](#) including instructions to register for a March 30, 2015 informational webinar. A link to the FFO announcement on grants.gov is accessible [here](#). The deadline for proposals is June 1, 2015.

Standards Services Curricula Development Announcement

NIST is offering support to qualified institutions interested in developing teaching materials and curricula that instruct graduate and undergraduate students in the nature, role and importance of technical standards in modern society and commerce. The competitively awarded cooperative agreement programs, which are expected to be funded in the range from \$25,000 to \$75,000 for eighteen months, could develop either undergraduate or graduate level curricula. A link to this Federal Funding Opportunity is accessible [here](#). The deadline for applications is April 13, 2015.