

NSF Digital Government Research Program

Larry Brandt - Program Manager

lbrandt@nsf.gov

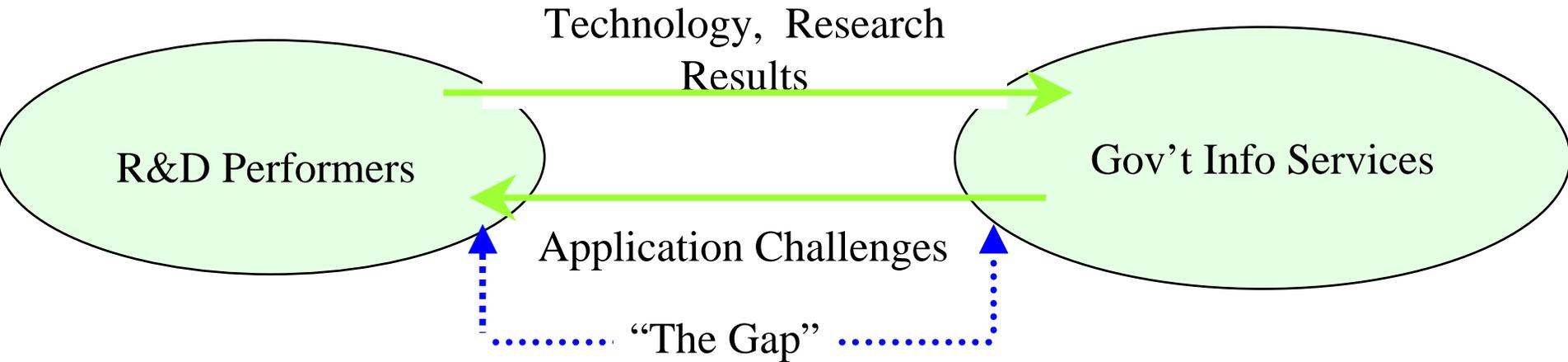
Mission and Vision

A carefully managed program to engage and support both CS researchers and social/political science researchers in working in a government IT context, in partnership with gov't agencies

DG Research

- Inherently interdisciplinary, cross-sector, expensive, collaborative, time consuming
- Presents researchers with unique, complex and valuable application drivers

Digital Government Model



**Digital Government Research Projects
Strategic Approach to Bridge
"The Gap"**

DG Research Areas

- Computer and Information Technologies, e.g.
 - Information and knowledge management
 - Collect, discover, access, visualize, archive, preserve
 - Privacy
 - E-Commerce technologies in government services
 - Models & simulation for decision-making
- Impact of IT on Governance, Democracy, e.g.
 - Public policy and decision making
 - E-voting
 - IT-enabled community activities
 - Organizational IT-based changes

DG Workshop Portfolio

- Some Assembly Required: Building a DG for the 21st Century (Oct. 1998)
- Research Directions in Biodiversity & Ecosystem Informatics (June 2000)
- Internet Voting: Issues and Research Agenda (Oct. 2000)
- Research Challenges in Digital Archiving: Towards a National Infrastructure for Long-Term Preservation of Digital Information (April 2002)
- Information, Institutions and Governance: Advancing a Basic Social Science Research Program for Digital Government (May 2002)
- Finding Our Future: A Research Agenda for the Research Enterprise (Dec 2001, Mar 2002)
- Responding to the Unexpected (March 2002)
- New Directions for Technology and Regulation (January 2003)
- CyberInfrastructure Research for Homeland Security (February 2003)
- The Virtual Citizen: A Civic Exploration of the Role of Identity in On-Line Governance (April 2003)
- ICT for Sustainable Development (June 2003 & January 2004)

Example Government Domains

- National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation (with Library of Congress)
- Public safety and law enforcement
- Crisis management and emergency response
- Environmental policy and management
- Public benefit programs
- Public decision-making
- Democratic practices – citizen engagement, voting, information on candidates, legislative processes and e-rulemaking

DIGARCH Solicitation

- Arose from joint NSF/LoC workshop - **It's About Time**
 - Margaret Hedstrom - U. Michigan; Chair and Author
- Solicitation released June 16 on NSF web site
 - NSF document 04-592
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04592/nsf04592.htm>
 - Intended to be responsive to recommendations of Workshop and NSF-EU DELOS working group
 - \$2M from LoC, seeking matching funds from NSF and other agencies

Solicitation Process

- Review by panel of experts
 - From all sectors
 - Suggestions welcome
 - Panel develops recommendations to LoC and NSF
- NSF standard review criteria
 - Intellectual Merit, Broad Impact
- Timeline
 - Proposals due Sept. 14
 - Panel meets late October 2004
 - Award decisions - Dec. 1
 - Grants made January 15

Seeking...

- High-Risk Small Scale planning proposals (up to \$100,000)
- Demonstration proposals (up to \$500,000)
- 6-12 month projects
- Innovative, catalytic, interdisciplinary
- Cost-sharing not required (but welcome)
- Technical topics clearly sought, but also e.g. economic, legal/policy, decision models

Future

- NSF and LoC have signed broad Memorandum of Understanding for continued collaboration
 - Variety of activities
- Offer open to other agencies to partner in future solicitations or enter into MOUs