

# The Federal Science Budget Process: Making Policy Sausage in Less Than One Hour

**Joel Parriott**  
Program Examiner  
Office of Budget and Management  
Washington DC

## **Abstract**

This talk will present a general description of how policy is formulated, how priorities are set, and how these priorities are translated into budgets for science and technology within the Federal Government. Some specific examples will be taken from fusion science. While the talk will cover the Congressional appropriation process that ultimately translates into things like paying massive graduate student stipends, the speaker will describe the process from a decidedly White House perspective. There will be plenty of time allotted for questions and (perhaps) answers.

## **Short Bio**

Born and raised in Minnesota.

College: Hamline University, St. Paul, MN (BA, Physics, 1992)—Honors thesis in experimental atomic physics

Grad school: Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (PhD, Astronomy, 1998)—Dissertation in computational astrophysics (massively parallel supercomputing)

Work experience: Program Officer, National Research Council, Board on Physics and Astronomy (1998–2002)—Study director on many high profile reports covering hot topics in astronomy and physics; Program Examiner, Office of Management and Budget, Energy Branch (2002–Present)—DOE Office of Science account oversight.