

INSTITUTION-WIDE PROGRAMS

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2006 ACTUAL	1	6,479	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2007 ESTIMATE	0	6,953	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2008 ESTIMATE	0	6,953	0	0	0	0	0	0

STRATEGIC GOALS: INCREASED PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT; STRENGTHENED RESEARCH; AND ENHANCED MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective/ Program Category	FY 2007		FY 2008		Change	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
Increased Public Engagement						
<i>Public Programs</i>						
Engage and inspire diverse audiences	0	1,140	0	1,140	0	0
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	0	1,909	0	1,909	0	0
Strengthened Research						
<i>Research</i>						
Engage in research and discovery	0	1,641	0	1,641	0	0
Enhanced Management Excellence						
<i>Information Technology</i>						
Modernize the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure	0	2,263	0	2,263	0	0
Total	0	6,953	0	6,953	0	0

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

In 1993, Congress approved the Smithsonian's reallocation of funds to create two Institution-wide funding programs: the Research Equipment Pool to support the units' needs for state-of-the-art research equipment, and the Information Resources Management (IRM) Pool to systematically address information technology (IT) needs throughout the Institution. In FY 1995, the Institution first received funds to support the development of a third Institution-wide program, this one for Latino initiatives, including research,

exhibitions, and educational programming. In FY 1998, Congress approved a \$960,000 increase to the IRM Pool specifically dedicated to collections information systems (CIS) needs. The FY 2006 appropriation included an increase of \$1 million to establish another Institution-wide program — the Collections Care and Preservation Fund (CCPF). The Fund provides resources for the highest priority collections management needs throughout the Institution to improve the overall stewardship of Smithsonian collections. Like the other pools, CCPF resources are distributed annually to Smithsonian units on a competitive basis.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

Latino Initiatives Pool

To achieve the goal of Increased Public Engagement through research and educational initiatives, the Latino Initiatives Pool provides annual funding for Smithsonian programs that focus on U.S. Latino experiences and contributions to science, history, art, music, and society. Pool funds enhance programs addressing exhibits, collections management, live programs, education, research, and community/public outreach. Projects are selected on a competitive basis from proposals that demonstrate effective deployment of the pool funds, other Smithsonian resources, and external funding. The FY 2008 budget estimate for the Latino Initiatives Pool is \$1,140,000.

Research Equipment Pool

To support the Smithsonian's ambitious research agenda for the 21st century, it is imperative to conduct regular maintenance and replacement of basic research equipment. This basic research infrastructure is necessary to pursue the following goals: to develop new research capability; as leverage to support research proposals in competition for external grants and contracts; to support the discovery of knowledge; and ultimately to better serve the public by increasing the diffusion of knowledge. The FY 2008 budget estimate for the Research Equipment Pool is \$1,641,000.

Collections Care and Preservation Fund

The Smithsonian will achieve the goal of Increased Public Engagement by expanding access to and improving the preservation of the national collections. Because collections care is fundamental to the Smithsonian's mission, there is a critical and urgent need for resources to accomplish basic collections management activities for accountability, preservation, and accessibility of the collections.

Collections care is not a single process or procedure, but a series of components that are interwoven, interdependent, and ongoing. The condition of facilities housing collections, the quality of storage and preservation, and the ability to document collections in manual and electronic formats directly affect the Smithsonian's ability to protect, preserve, and make collections available to scholars, the general public, and future generations. During 2004 and 2005, the Smithsonian participated in the Heritage Health Index, a nationwide survey documenting the condition and preservation needs of the nation's cultural heritage. The survey found that Smithsonian collections are at serious risk of damage, deterioration, or loss due to declining resources for basic collections care, resulting in substandard or insufficient storage, inadequate object housing, and adverse environmental conditions.

Demonstrating the importance of collections among the Secretary's priorities, in June 2006, the Smithsonian Board of Regents held the first long-term planning meeting devoted solely to the content and management of Smithsonian collections. To ensure the ongoing use of and access to Smithsonian collections, the Regents concurred that it is critical that collections are carefully managed and preserved for present and future use. Moreover, support for the overarching issue of collections fulfills the Smithsonian's mandate for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge." In addition, a June 2006 White House letter defined stewardship of federal scientific collections as a key priority that is critical for maintaining America's excellence and leadership in science and technology. Smithsonian scientific holdings are vital to research in bio-security, invasive species, medical science, forensic analysis, and conservation policy worldwide. Accordingly, the Smithsonian has taken a pragmatic and systematic approach to improve the stewardship of Smithsonian collections. Critical steps taken to date include:

- creation of the first-ever Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee to establish the Institution's priorities for collections management
- development of collections-specific performance goals and standards for senior management and museum directors
- revision of the Smithsonian's collections management policy and implementation standards
- two-day symposium to discuss collections planning and set short- and long-term collection goals for Smithsonian units
- development of an inventory of current Smithsonian collections space, including the identification of unit collections space requirements
- distribution of the FY 2007 CCPF to Smithsonian units to improve collections care, mitigate collections deterioration, and ensure the longevity and accessibility of the national collections

In FY 2008, the Smithsonian will continue to build on these initiatives and follow an action plan for systematically addressing the critical needs of collections, including short- and long-term priorities, goals, and objectives. The collections care and preservation resources will enable the Smithsonian to conduct preservation assessments of specific collections, preserve collections, and store them in better conditions for use. The FY 2008 budget request for the Collections Care and Preservation Fund is \$985,000.

Information Resources Management Pool

IRM Pool funds support network operations and server administration. Specifically, funds are used for:

- upgrades and enhancements to the Smithsonian's IT infrastructure
- contractor support in the Network Operations Center
- provision of Active Directory and desktop migration technicians
- network hardware/software maintenance

Collections information systems serve as a cornerstone for accountability, public education, and research. Digitizing collections information helps achieve the goal of improving the stewardship of the national collections by providing system hardware, software, and storage infrastructure to support CIS throughout the Institution, as well as to provide public access to collections via the Web. Throughout the Institution, there is a critical need to enrich digital collections records with textual information and images; continue implementing and maintaining state-of-the-art collections information systems; provide adequate digital storage; and increase access to collections and their associated information.

The CIS IRM funds within the IRM Pool will support the deployment, maintenance, and enhancement of unit-specific collections information systems; fund the continued digitization of collections; and improve access to digital information on collections for scientific inquiry and public use. The FY 2008 budget request for the IRM Pool is \$3,187,000 which includes \$2,263,000 for the IRM Pool and \$924,000 for the CIS Pool.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND FY 2008 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE GOALS

Increased Public Engagement — Latino Initiatives Pool

Engage and inspire diverse audiences (\$1,140,000)

- Support Smithsonian collections, exhibitions, programs, research, educational activities, and other Smithsonian initiatives of interest to the national Latino community, including the acquisition of additional, relevant Latino art and artifacts

- Facilitate the infusion of materials with relevant Latino themes and data into Smithsonian exhibits and programs to ensure that diversity is well-represented in Smithsonian venues
- Develop internal and external partnerships to help bridge Smithsonian initiatives into the national Latino community, and connect the national Latino community with the Smithsonian

Strengthened Research — Research Equipment Pool

Engage in research and discovery focused on understanding the origin and evolution of the universe, Earth and planets, biological diversity, and human culture (\$1,641,000)

- Acquire cutting-edge technology that will support priority areas of research defined by the Smithsonian Science Strategic Plan and other Smithsonian research priorities
- Increase the capability to digitize and manipulate various types of electronic data, including images and remote sensing data, and to make these data available to researchers around the world via the Web
- Increase the capacity to conduct scientific and historical research by placing costly analytical equipment under contract to ensure that it is maintained properly
- Put core research equipment on a routine replacement cycle to support the Smithsonian's research mission and enhance the Institution's ability to compete for external funding

Increased Public Engagement — Collections Care and Preservation Fund

Improve the stewardship of the national collections for present and future generations (\$985,000)

- The CCPF will provide resources to improve collections care and mitigate collections deterioration throughout the Institution by providing funds to:
 - continue essential stabilization and treatment of specific collections at risk to ensure the longevity and accessibility of the national collections
 - continue purchasing compact storage and housing for collections and replace obsolete cabinetry and materials detrimental to objects and specimens
 - conduct collections-level assessments, preservation surveys, and inventories to establish priorities and strategic plans for the allocation of collections care resources

Increased Public Engagement – IRM/CIS Pool

Improve the stewardship of the national collections for present and future generations (\$924,000)

- The IRM/CIS Pool will support the continued digitization of collections and improve accessibility to collections information for scientific inquiry and public use by providing funds for:
 - deployment and maintenance of new commercial collections information applications to manage and improve access to Smithsonian collections
 - contractors to enhance online access to collections through cataloguing, photography, database administration, and technical services
 - hardware, software, and storage to preserve Smithsonian digital assets, maintain systems operability, and improve public accessibility to electronic collections information

Enhanced Management Excellence – IRM Pool

Modernize the Institution's information technology systems and infrastructure (\$2,263,000)

- Support the Managed Information Technology Infrastructure initiative
- Support the Institution's information technology requirements