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Connecting Strength of Big Science June 8th, 2017

Key Takeaways



- Large science and technology projects (Big Science) are cornerstone elements of scientific and economic development
- Industry engagement is enabling Big Science, which must therefore position itself correctly in the business space too
- Changes in the economic and social context require Big Science to adapt in order to maintain relevance

Outline



Big Science of yesteryears
The changing context
Challenges for industrial involvement
Achieving buy-in

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Google big science definition Web Videos Shopping News More 👻 Search tools Images About 96,200,000 results (0.44 seconds) big science noun informal scientific research that is expensive and involves large teams of scientists.

Circa 3100 BC





1580 AD























Expenditures for Scientific Research in the United States

Dollars Per \$1,000 of National Income





- Recognition of S&T as growth driver (Roosevelt 1944, Bush 1945)
- Concern about militarization of Big Science (Eisenhower 1961, Weinberg 1961)

21 July 1961, Volume 134, Number 3473

SCIENCE

Is Big Science Ruining Science?

Impact of Large-Scale Science on the United States

Big science is here to stay, but we have yet to make the hard financial and educational choices it imposes.

Alvin M. Weinberg

Throughout history, societies have ex- and the motivations of the church buildpressed their aspirations in large-scale, ers and the pyramid builders. We build monumental enterprises which, though our monuments in the name of scientific not necessary for the survival of the truth, they built theirs in the name of

The English astronomer Fred Hoyle recently set off a lively controversy by arguing against the United Kingdom's going into large-scale space research. His argument, which applies to much of Big Science, is twofold: first, that the intrinsic scientific interest of space research is not worth the money and manpower that goes into it and certainly does not justify spending more on it than on any other branch of science; and second, that wherever science is fed by too much money, it becomes fat and lazy. He claims to see evidence that the tight intellectual discipline necessary for science is, especially in America, being loosened. I shall touch later upon Hoyle's first point: Is Big Science giving us our money's worth? For the moment I want to discuss his



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- Concern about militarization of Big Science (Eisenhower 1961, Weinberg 1961)
- New focus on civilian Big Science (Kennedy 1962)

JFK Pledges U.S. Will Be First On Moon

WASHINGTON (AP)-President Kennedy has returned from a twoday tour of major space installations, determined the United States will be first in space and have a man on the moon by 1970. The President also made clear during the exhaustive inspection tour ending late Wednesday at the McDonnell Aircraft plant in St. Louis, that he intends to press his challenge to Russia to reserve



- Recognition of S&T as growth driver (Roosevelt 1944, Bush 1945)
- Concern about militarization of Big Science (Eisenhower 1961, Weinberg 1961)
- New focus on civilian Big Science (Kennedy 1962)
- Driving role of a Big Science in scientific and industrial collaboration (de Solla 1963)





Further debate during following 40 years, not changing context

Big Science as strategic cultural, economic and foreign policy tool

Large, concentrated public investment cornerstone of science, innovation, competitiveness and industrial development







- Total R&D expenditure around 2-3% of GDP ...
- ... 1% of GDP in large science and technology projects
- Essential opportunity for technology-engaged industry









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- Higher fragmentation in R&D funding
- Decreasing infrastructure spending, less than 0.1% of GDP
- Larger fraction of non-public R&D
- Big Science less relevant to industry



Decreasing infrastructure spending



	Total research investment, 2014 (billion €)	Estimate for infrastructure, 2014 (billion €)
European Union	191	8
United States	298	12
Rest of the Word	423	16
Total	912	36

Source: Vejen til en Big Science industri i Danmark, September 2014

Decreasing impact on economy



Compared to present economy (company profits)



















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Inefficiencies in supply chain







Time variability in projects procurement volume and technology needs

- Gap between companies' interest in projects and skills/resources to perform
- Competition among S&T projects for production capacity and human resources

Long term plans: ITER experience



- Long term engagement needed
- Decade-long product development lifecycles



Need and business model not aligned





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Improving the appeal for industry





Improving the appeal for industry





Big Science as industrial pathfinder



Promoting effective business models



Product-centric

Components Big Science as any other business

Technology-centric Sub-systems Big Science as springboard into mainstream

Skill-centric

Pooling capabilities to deliver systems Big Science as core business

Coordinating with other S&T projects







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