

NSF CISE Directorate

Updates and
strategic directions

Speaker:

Irina Dolinskaya
Directorate Head

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Recognizing the moment



What remains steady

- **We have not changed our mission:** supporting basic, curiosity-driven research.
- Core programs remain central to how we support the computing research community.
- We continue to value programs that build people and pathways.
- New opportunities are on the horizon.



Change is challenging, but it gives us a chance to strengthen how CISE serves the community — with greater focus, clearer pathways and more stability where we can provide it.



Agility

Take a holistic view of our work to increase agility and adapt more dynamically without compromising rigorous science.



Focus

Align investments where CISE has a distinctive national impact.



Connection

Leverage cross-directorate opportunities and external partnerships available to the CISE community.



Ellen Zegura
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NSF CISE's reorganization



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Behrooz Shirazi
Senior Science
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Six science sections

**Human Centered
Computing and
Education (HCCE)**

**Computing and AI
Foundations
(CAIF)**

**Cyber, Physical and
Intelligent Systems
(CPI)**

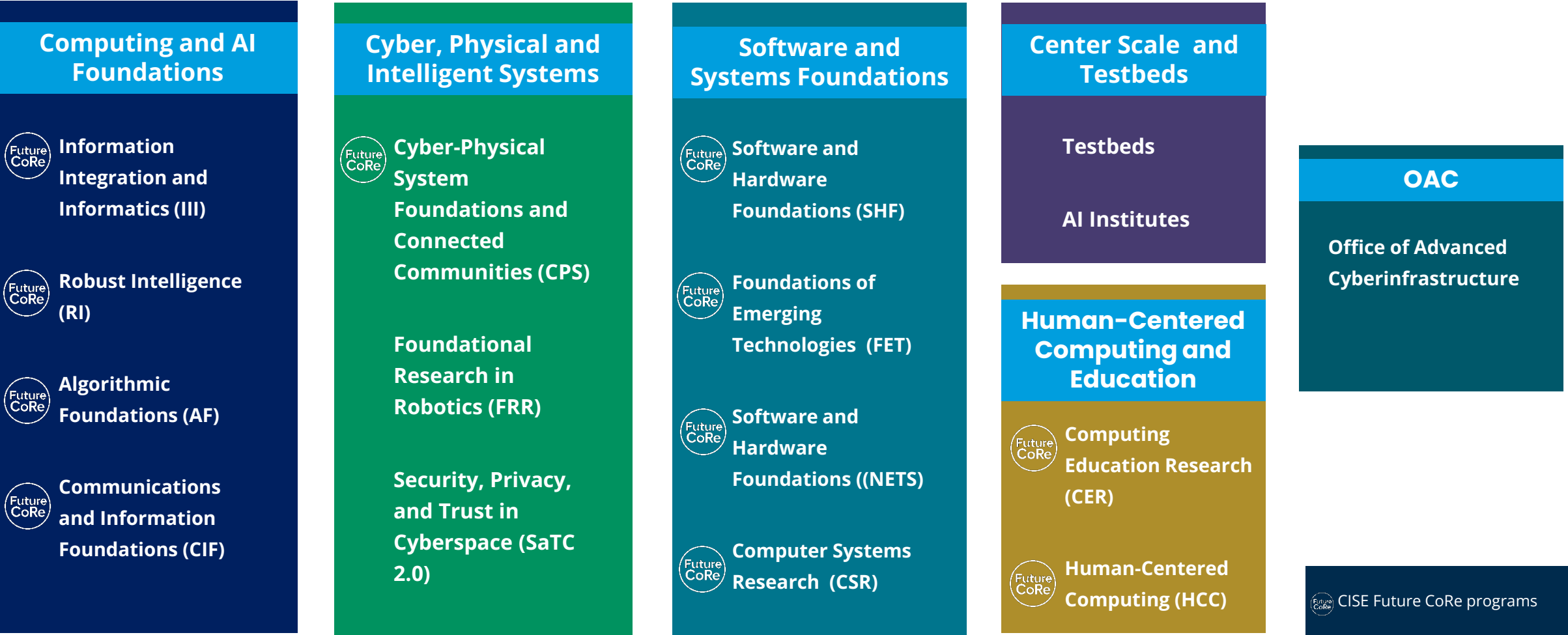
**Software and
Systems Foundations
(SSF)**

**Center-Scale and
Testbeds
(CST)**

**Office of Advanced
Cyberinfrastructure
(OAC)**

Reorganizing for computing futures

CISE CoRe continues to be at the center of our efforts



CISE's role

Invest in **foundational** computing research, STEM-ready talent and national-scale research infrastructure for the next generation of innovation.

CISE helps define the questions

Support research that asks the basic questions needed to advance computer information science and engineering.

CISE helps answers those questions

Invest in discoveries across AI, systems, infrastructure, cybersecurity, education and human-centered computing.

CISE helps prepare the talent

Develop the PIs, students and educators, who can recognize, shape and steward high-quality AI research.



Targeted investments

CISE’s mission impacts the full computing research ecosystem: individual investigators, teachers and students; collaborative teams; centers; community-based organizations; industry partnerships and national scale infrastructure.

CISE’s impact is at a system-level role, not just a program role.



Support for national priorities

CISE investments help advance Administration priorities that depend on AI, data, cyberinfrastructure, computing research and a skilled technical workforce.

National priority signals

- 1

America’s AI Action Plan
Expand access to AI research, advance the science of AI, build AI-ready scientific infrastructure, strengthen AI workforce pathways,.
- 2

K-12 AI education executive order
Expand AI literacy, educator training, AI education research and early pathways into AI skills and careers.
- 3

Administration R&D priorities
Prioritize applied AI for scientific discovery and critical technologies including quantum, semiconductors, advanced communications, cybersecurity and future computing.
- 4

Genesis Mission
AI, data, software, networking and advanced computing research that enable AI-driven scientific discovery.

Common through-line

- **AI leadership requires strong computing foundations.**
- **Discovery increasingly depends on data, compute and secure systems.**
- **Workforce pathways must start earlier and scale nationally.**
- **Infrastructure must support research, education and deployment.**



CISE Efforts in quantum computing

CISE investments in quantum computing contribute to broader NSF efforts that advance U.S. leadership in quantum innovation and support national priorities for research, infrastructure and translation:

1

NSF Project Triad

New NSF-led initiative, seeks to demonstrate the potential of bringing together three domains of quantum technology — sensors, computers and networks — in a unified, functional system.

2

NSF Quantum Leap Challenge Institutes

Large-scale, interdisciplinary, focused on advancing quantum information science, engineering and technology through collaboration, education and innovation

3

NSF National Quantum Virtual Laboratory

Part of NSF Project Triad, now in design phase, seeks to deliver a proof-of-concept integrated quantum system for experimentation and testing.

Aligned with national priorities

- [National Quantum Initiative Act](#)
- [Executive Order on “Ushering in the Next Frontier of Quantum Innovation”](#)



NSF is hiring!

Growing the workforce to support CISE's core mission of funding research and managing the rigorous merit review process.

You can track active vacancies on the official [NSF Careers Portal](#) or browse openings on [the USAJobs](#).

Help shape the future of computing research and education at NSF.

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Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment Opportunities at the U.S. National Science Foundation, Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (NSF CISE)

Directorate: Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE)
Job Type: STEM
Appointment Type: Temporary / Rotator

Position Description

The U.S. National Science Foundation Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (NSF CISE) is seeking highly qualified individuals interested in serving in science, technology, engineering and mathematics positions through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Mobility Program. This NSF CISE directorate-wide informal outreach effort is intended to identify candidates with strong scientific, technical, leadership and program management expertise who are interested in contributing to NSF's mission to promote the progress of science and advance the national health, prosperity and welfare.

IPA assignments provide a unique opportunity for eligible individuals from academic institutions, nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to contribute their expertise while gaining valuable federal experience supporting national science and engineering priorities.

Appointment options

The position recruited under this announcement will be filled under the following appointment option(s):

Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment: Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides the negotiated funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

This job is open to the public

Application Timeline

Date posted: May 26, 2026
Closing date: Open until filled

This is a rotator position.

NSF offers a chance for scientists, engineers, and educators to join us as temporary program directors - called rotators. Rotators make recommendations about which proposals to fund; influence new directions in the fields of science, engineering, and education; support cutting edge interdisciplinary research; and mentor junior research members. As a rotator, you will be in a prime position to collaborate with others and increase your visibility as you survey the entire breadth of U.S. and international science, engineering, and education in real time. In addition, as a temporary program director, you can retain your ties to your current institution and return to it with new insights and experience for your team.

[Learn more about rotator programs at NSF](#)

NSF is an Equal Opportunity Employer Committed to Employing a Highly Qualified Staff that Reflects the Diversity of Our Nation.

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Stay connected



New CISE website

Updated public-facing home for CISE priorities, investments and opportunities.

[nsf.gov/cise](https://www.nsf.gov/cise)



Subscribe to the CISE newsletter:

Stay informed on new solicitations, events, and policy updates.

<https://www.nsf.gov/cise/newsletter>



Volunteer as an NSF Reviewer:

Learn about evolving priorities across NSF CISE.

<https://www.nsf.gov/funding/merit-review/volunteer>



Additional resources:

Receive timely reminders and community highlights.

- [NSF CISE funding opportunities](#)
- [NSF events](#)



NSF CISE
40TH Anniversary

Thank you!

