Grant Proposal Reviewing

Le Gruenwald
National Science Foundation

CRA Conference
Snowbird, July 14 2008
The number of proposals has been more than quadrupled in the last 10 years in IIS:

- Year 1998: 448 (1884 in CISE)
- Year 2007: 1912 (5745 in CISE)

FY06-FY08: IIS limited 2 proposals/PI per solicitation

Use pre-proposals for very large competitions or very large effort proposals
Proposal Resubmissions

- NSF does not have a category for proposal resubmission
- NSF does not share previous reviews with panelists
- Some resubmitted proposals have very few changes → increase number of proposals unnecessarily
- Duplicate concurrent submissions
- NSF has PI history databases
- Software for problem auto-detection => suggestions?
Proposal Review Process: Online vs. In-person

- Norm: organize in-person panels at NSF
- Some combinations:
  - in-person panel + ad-hoc reviewers + teleconference panelists + video conference panelists => how well would this work?
Recruiting Panelists

- NSF is working on a reviewer management system => suggestions?
- NSF COI rules
- Need panelists from both academia and industry
- Organizations (academia and industry) should provide incentives for their staff to serve on panels => what would they be?