



# National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program

*Spring 2009*

*National Council of Space Grant Directors*

*Washington, DC*

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# Program Office Update



- Minority Serving Institution Partnership Development Competition
- Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Solicitation
- IYA Student Ambassadors
- NASA Student Ambassadors
- 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation
- FY09 Budget Call



# Minority Serving Institution Partnership Development Competition

- Received 25 proposals
- Reviews/Panel completed
- Will announce results by end of March
- Anticipate up to 5 Awards
- Max. \$150,000/proposal



# Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Solicitation

- Project Management assigned to Johnson Space Center
- Proposals due February 19
- Proposals review process initiated
- Anticipate announcing results by end of April
- Anticipate up to 20 awards
- Max. \$70,000/proposal



# Networks: NASA IYA Student Ambassadors

- **Grant given to Space Grants Foundation**
  - 54 Student Ambassadors selected competitively from 50 different states
  - MA, NY, SD, WY funding one additional student each
  - DE, RI selections not yet made
- **2 of these selected to represent USA students at the IYA Opening Ceremony, Paris, January 14-15, 2009**
  - Rebecca Holmes, UNC Chapel Hill, NC
  - Norberto Gonzalez, University of Puerto Rico, Arecibo, PR





# NASA Student Ambassadors Program



- A virtual student community designed to foster greater interaction and mentoring relationships among outstanding interns of NASA higher education projects
- NASA Student Ambassadors will have the chance to participate in NASA events, and be apprised of employment opportunities and educational experiences
- The net result of these interactions and opportunities will be increased skill development and greater likelihood of successfully completing their STEM degree and entering the NASA workforce
- A major outreach effort of the community is to enhance communication with the 18- to 30-year-old STEM population



# NASA Student Ambassadors Program



- The NASA Student Ambassadors will work alongside NASA scientists and engineers and will perform the following duties at NASA events and other NASA-related activities:
  - **Serve on student panel and at exhibit areas during major NAA events, such as 50th Anniversary and Hubble Telescope events**
  - **Meet the Administrator: Spring 2009**
  - **Polling and blogging forums**
  - **Peer networking and mentoring**
  - **Recruitment and Career Fair events**
  - **Disseminate NASA internship, research, and education opportunities**



# 20<sup>th</sup> Year Program Evaluation



## Required every 5 years by the Space Grant Implementing Rules and Regulations (Federal Register Vol. 54, No. 88, Part 1259.400(b))

### Desired Results and Outcomes

- Agency-level
  - Demonstrate to NASA's constituents and stakeholders the impact and overall merit of the Space Grant consortium in each state as well as the overall benefit to the Agency in terms of Office of Education Outcomes I, II, and III.
- Programmatic level
  - Be able to make informed decisions about future allocations of Space Grant resources
  - Comply with OEd Strategic Coordination Framework for internal "evaluation of programs, projects, products, and activities"

**Anchored by the Space Grant  
Goal and Objectives**



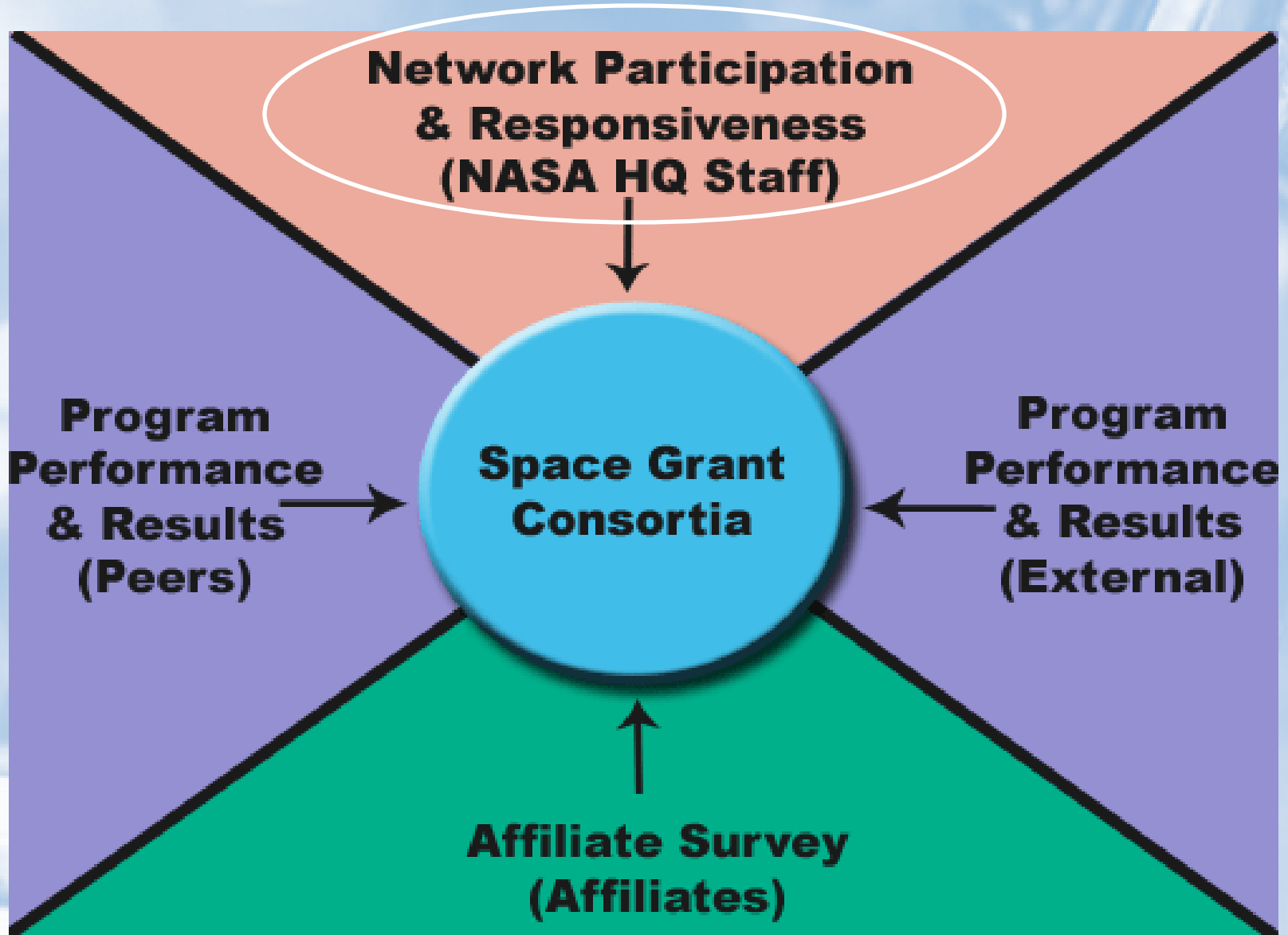


# Space Grant Goal and Objectives



- Goal: Contribute to the nation's science enterprise by funding **education, research, and public service** projects through a national network of university-based Space Grant consortia.
- Objectives (from the legislation):
  1. Establish and maintain a national network of universities.
  2. Encourage cooperative programs among universities, aerospace industry, and Federal, state, and local governments.
  3. Encourage interdisciplinary education, research, and public service programs related to aerospace.
  4. Recruit and train U.S. citizens, especially women, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities.
  5. Promote a strong science, mathematics, and technology education base from elementary through secondary levels.

# 20th Year Program Evaluation





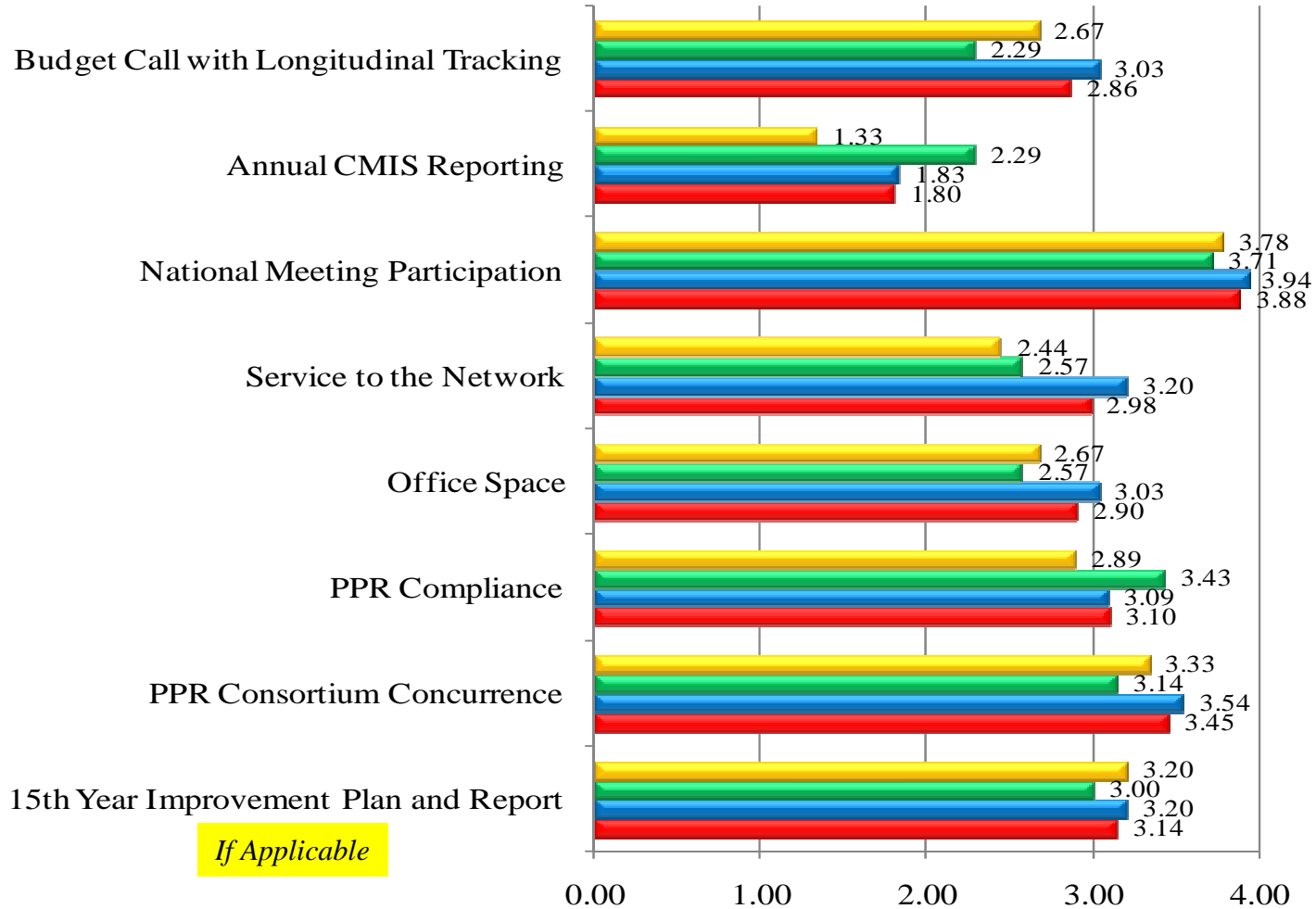
# Network Participation and Responsiveness



- Contents -- Evaluation of key elements of grant management
  - Compliance with deadlines and quality of submissions – Budget and CMIS
  - National meeting participation
  - “Contributions to the Network” beyond the consortium
  - Office space
  - Website review
  - After Hours Phone Check



# Network Participation and Responsiveness National Summary



**Scale**  
 4 = Excellent  
 3-2 = Good  
 1-0 = Poor

*If Applicable*

■ Capability Enhancement Mean ■ Program Grant Mean ■ Designated Mean ■ National Mean





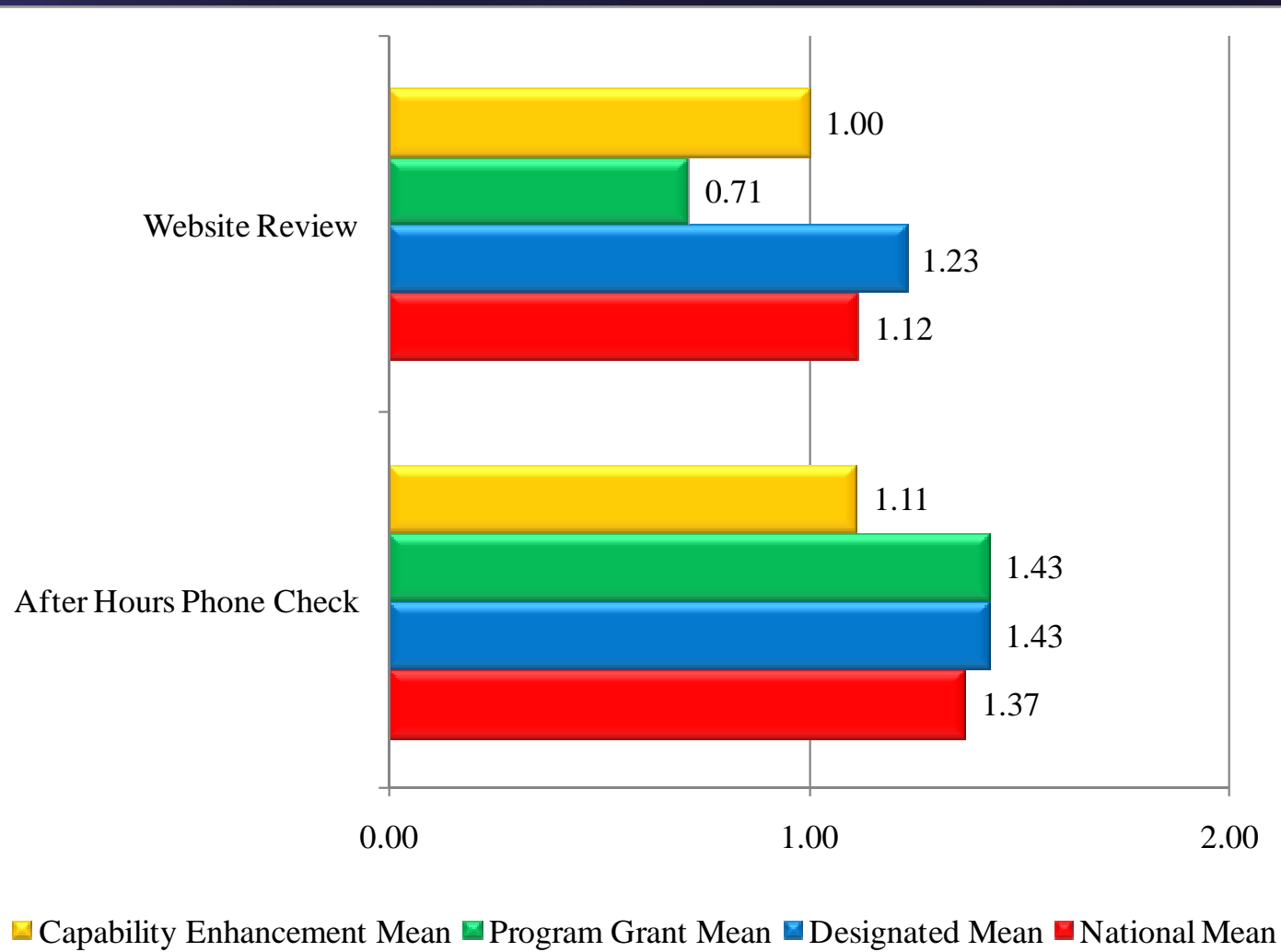
# 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation Observations NPR Weaknesses



- Budget Call
  - **TIMELINESS**
  - Accuracy of longitudinal tables
- CMIS
  - **TIMELINESS**
  - **QUALITY**



# Network Participation and Responsiveness National Summary



*Scale*  
2 = Excellent  
1 = Good  
0 = Poor



# 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation Observations

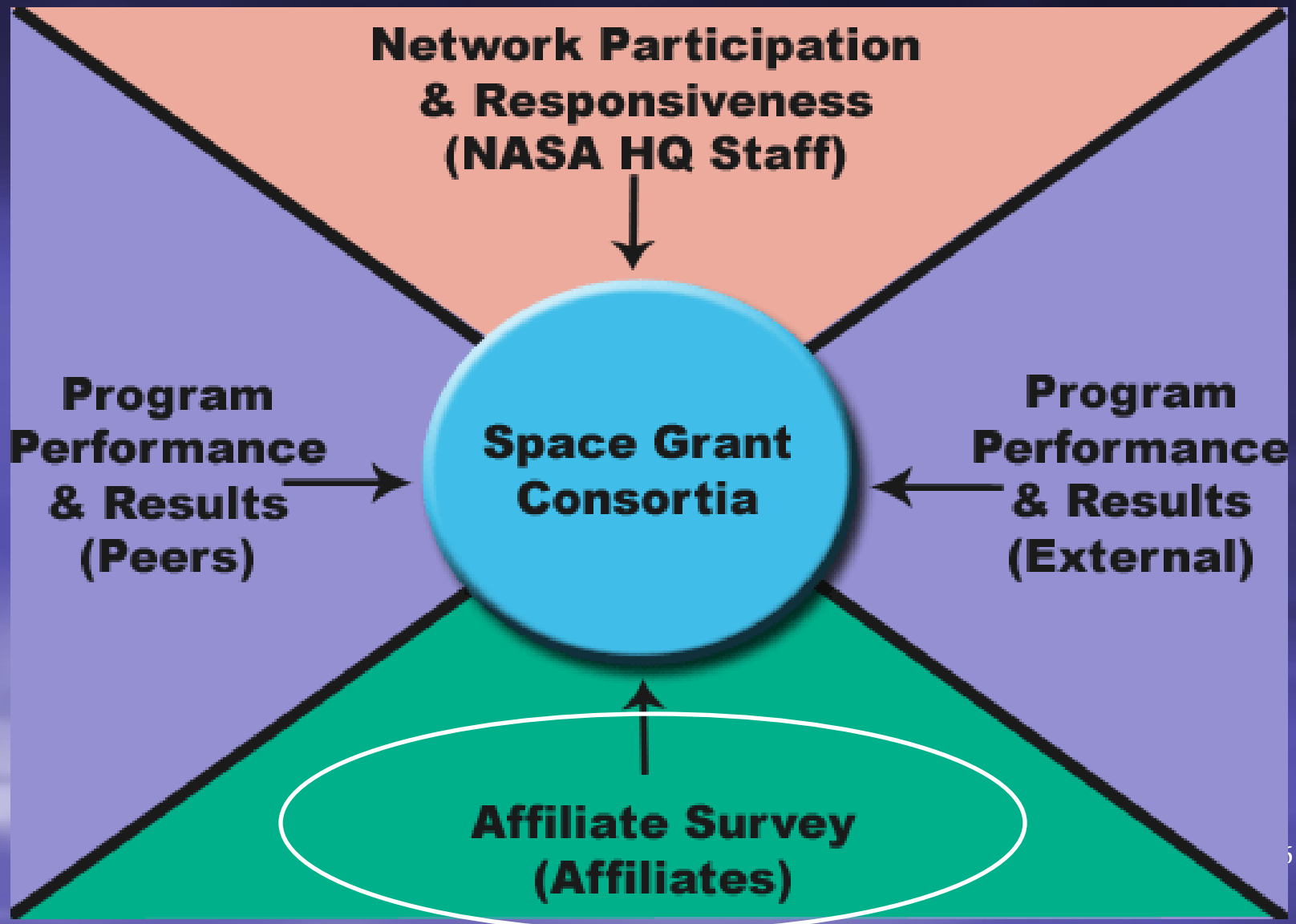
## NPR Weaknesses



- Website
  - 508 Compliance lacking
  - Using calspace (vs. NASA) link to the National Space Grant page <however, not penalized>
- After hours phone check
  - Information not useful and informative
  - Non-identification of Space Grant
  - Confusion regarding which phone number on the website to use to reach the consortium office



# 20th Year Program Evaluation







# Affiliate Survey



- Design, development, and methodology based on 2003 Survey
- Involved all affiliate or affiliate-like contacts in CMIS
- 28 Questions
  - Includes consortium goals and objectives, fellowship/scholarship program, consortium communications and interaction, consortium leadership, program impact, NASA and national program information
- Launched April 15, 2008
- Closed May 14, 2008
- 85% Response Rate (range = 62% - 100%)
  - 768 Surveys distributed/ 652 Valid surveys completed
- **39% of consortia had no avoidable issues with CMIS-contacts**



# 20<sup>th</sup> Year Program Evaluation



**Kudos!**

**No avoidable issues regarding CMIS  
Contacts as of March 17, 2008**

**Alaska**

**Colorado**

**District of Columbia**

**Delaware**

**Illinois**

**Mississippi**

**New York**

**Kentucky**

**Massachusetts**

**Maryland**

**Michigan**

**Minnesota**

**Missouri**

**Oklahoma**

**South Dakota**

**Tennessee**

**Virginia**

**Washington**

**Wisconsin**

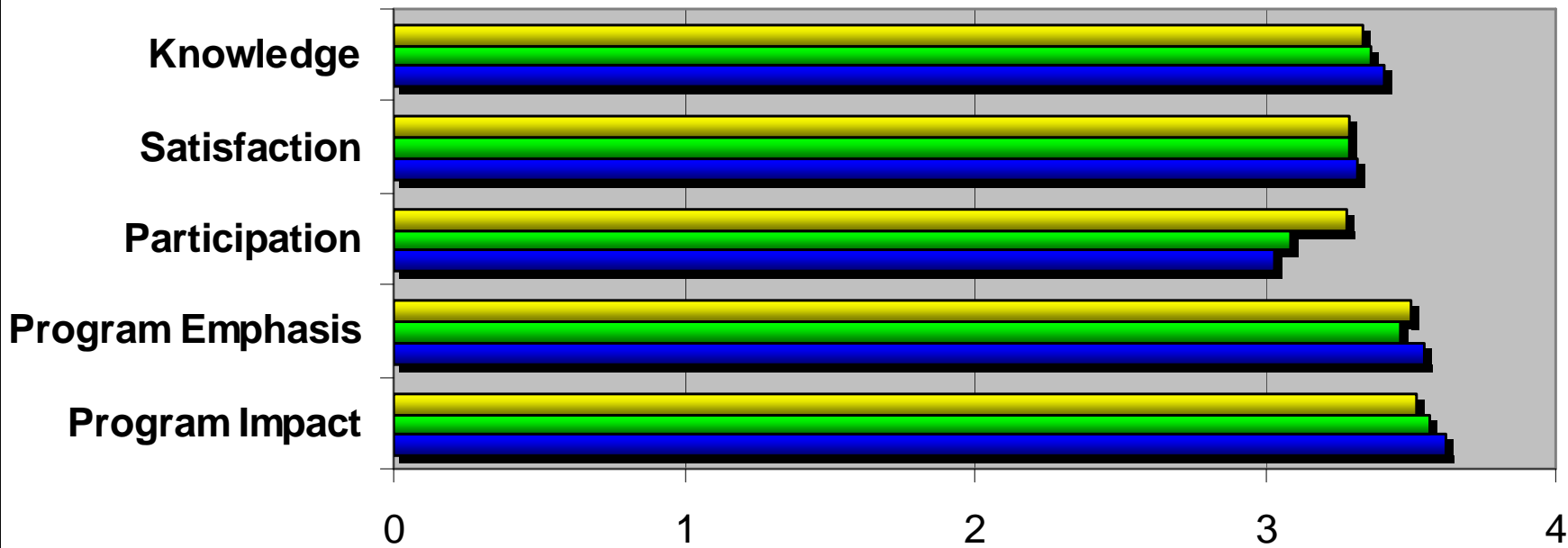
**Wyoming**



# Affiliate Survey Results



## 2008 Affiliate Survey Results

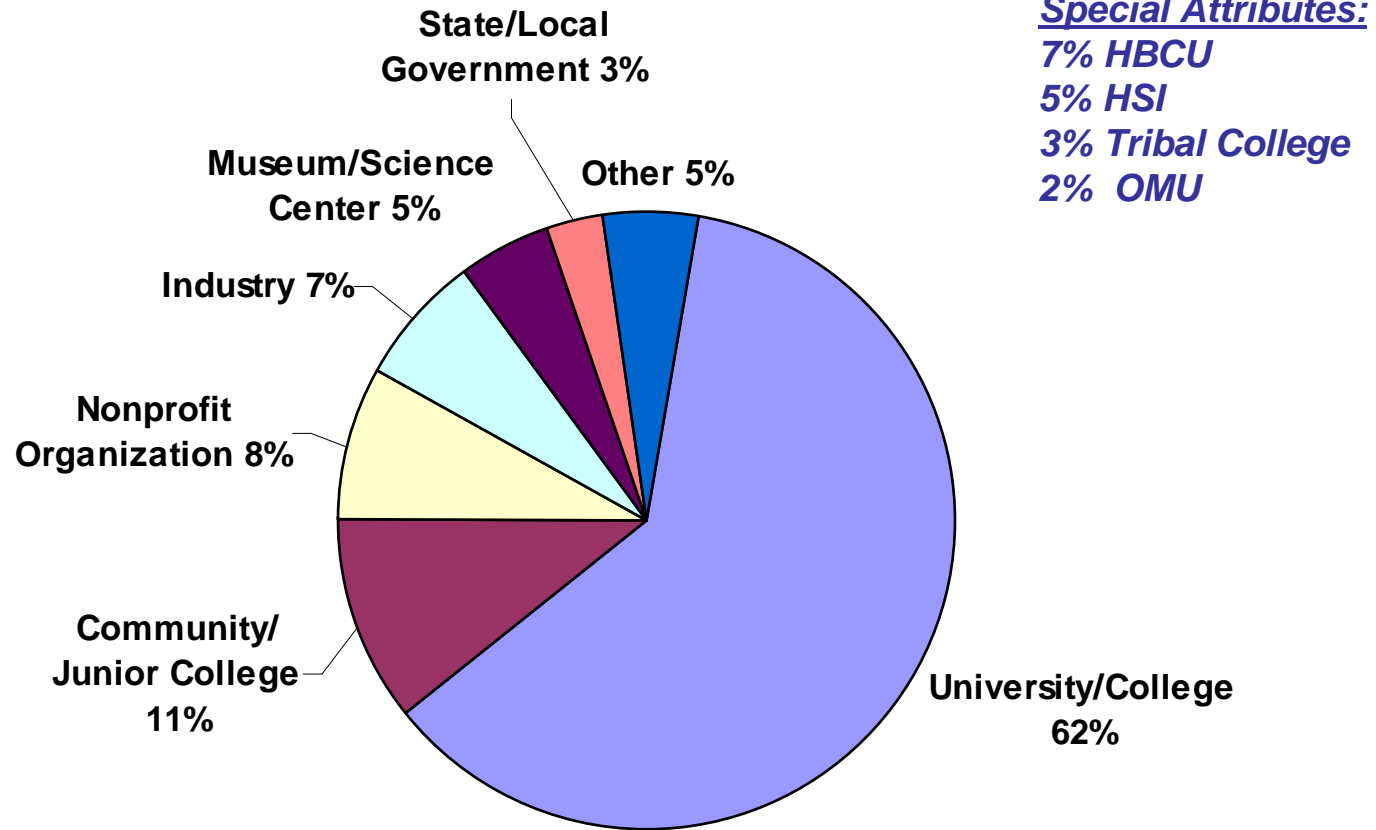


*Scale*  
 4 = Strongly Agree  
 3 = Agree  
 2 = Disagree  
 1 = Strongly Disagree

**Capability Enhancement**    **Program Grant**    **Designated**



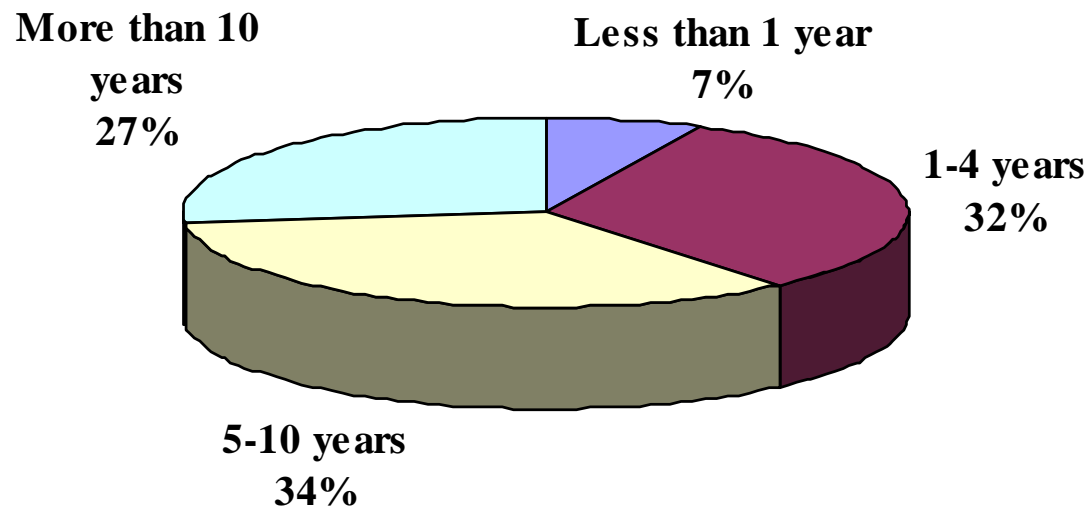
# Affiliate Survey Demographics







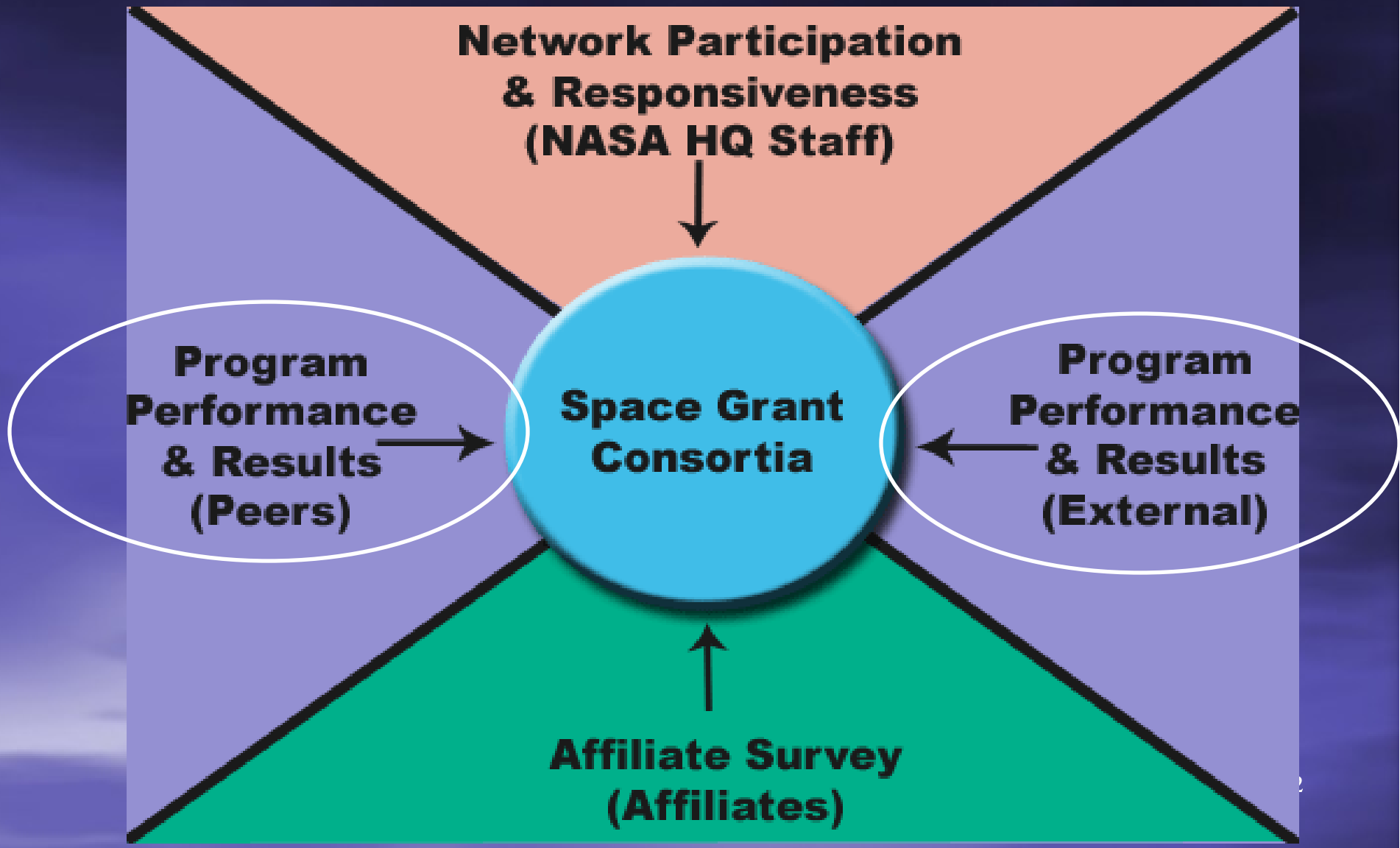
# Affiliate Survey



**Respondent Tenure with Space Grant Consortium**



# 20th Year Program Evaluation





# Program Performance and Results



Outcome

Clear evidence of demonstrable contributions to NASA Education Outcomes and alignment with national Program goal and objectives

Process



PPR Elements

- Management & Operations**
- Outcome I (Primary Investment)*
  - Fellowships/Scholarships
  - Research Infrastructure
  - Higher Education
- Outcome II (Secondary Investment)*
  - Pre-college
- Outcome III (Tertiary Investment)*
  - General Public
  - External Relations



# Program Performance and Results



- Engaged services of *Evaluation and Action Research Associates L.L.C.* for development of rubrics, reviewer training design and conduct, analysis of reviewer scores, preparation of reports, and interpretation of overall results
- PPR Reports submitted on October 3, 2008
- **Reviews complete**
  - 88 Reviewers: Space Grant Directors, Space Grant staff, NASA HQ and Center personnel, and others familiar with Space Grant
  - Minimum of 6 reviews of each PPR Report – 4 directors, 1 staff, 1 NASA/Other (most PPR Reports received 7 reviews)

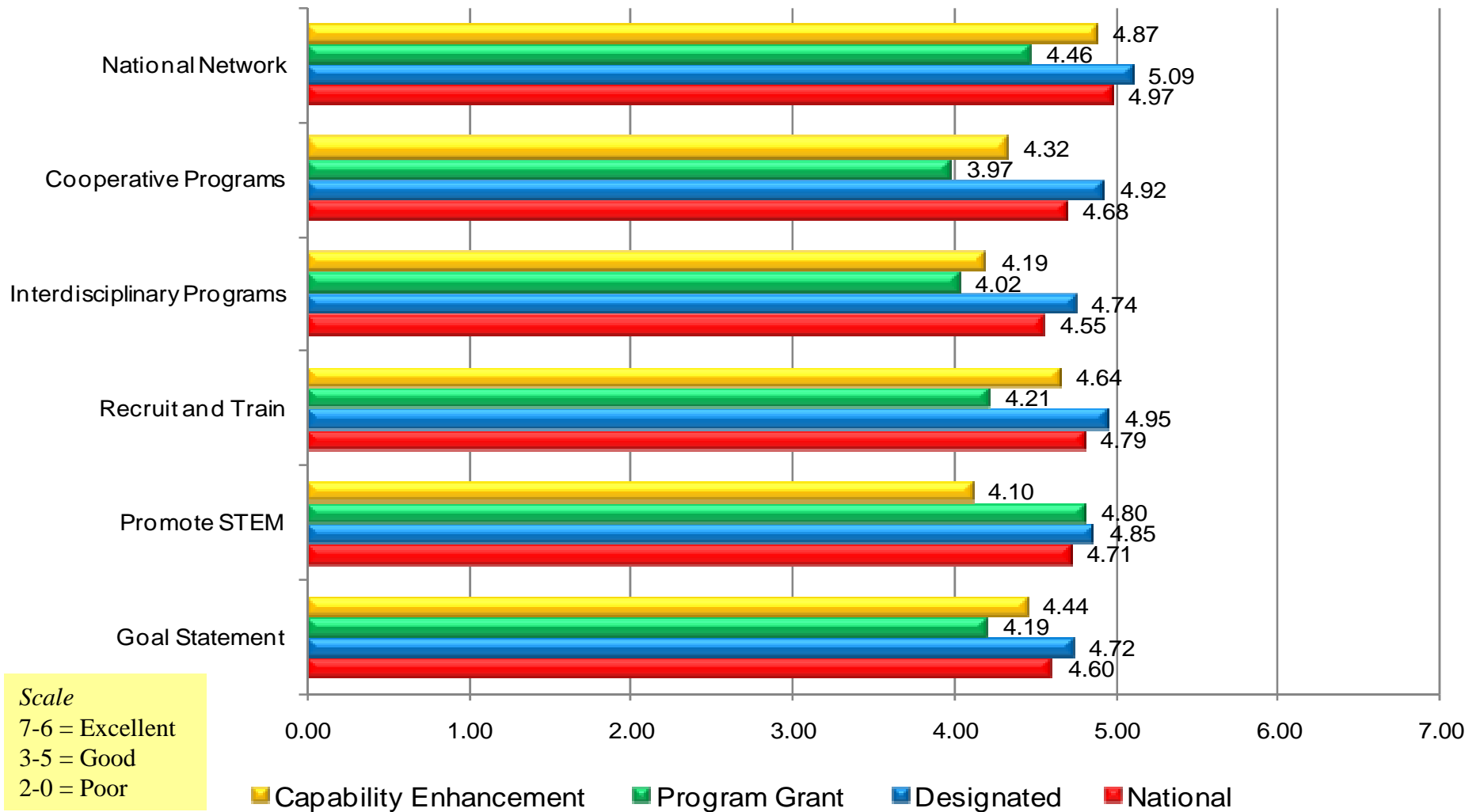




# PPR Results Summary



## Results Graph

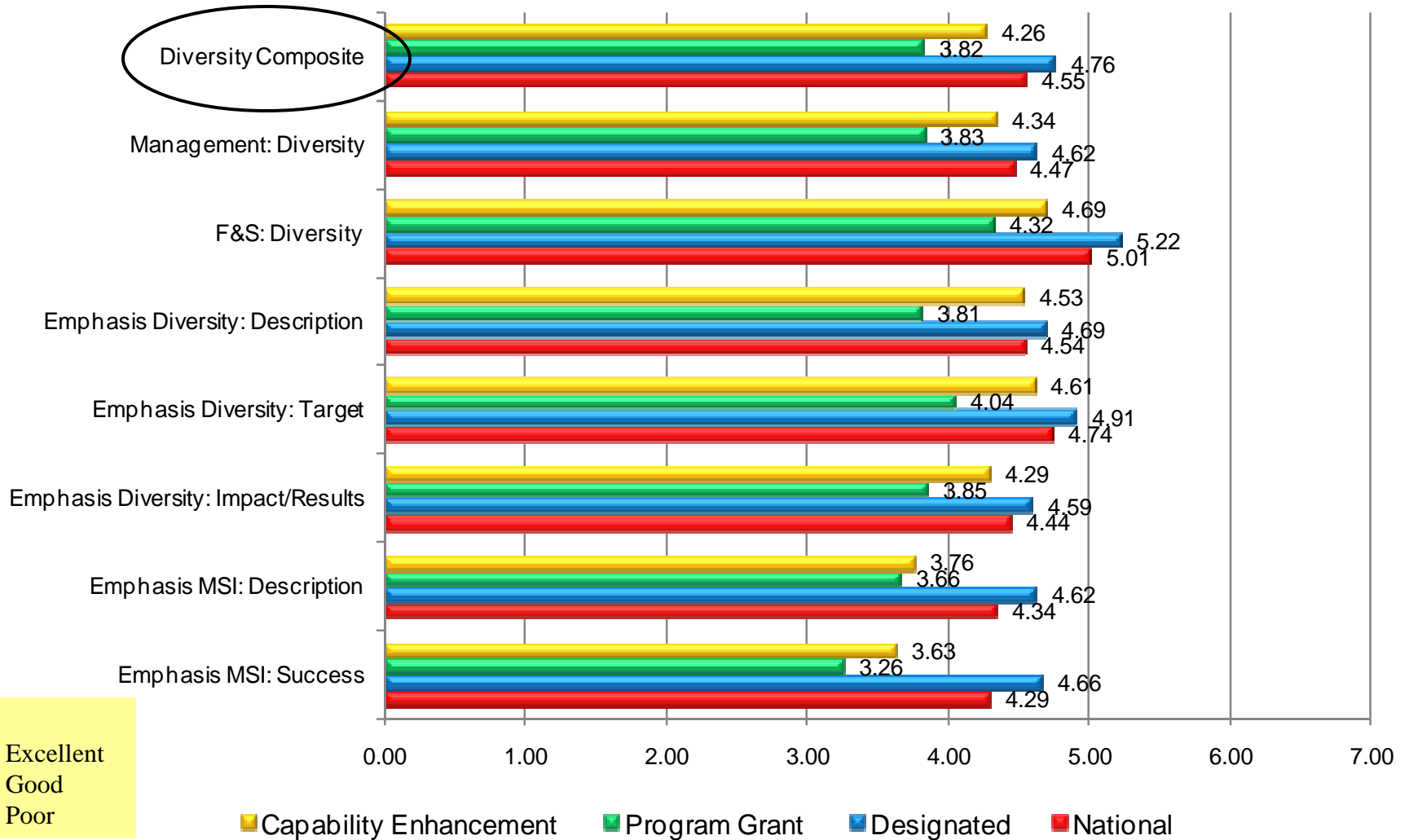




# Diversity Rubrics



## Results Graph



### Scale

7-6 = Excellent

3-5 = Good

2-0 = Poor

■ Capability Enhancement   
 ■ Program Grant   
 ■ Designated   
 ■ National



# 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation Observations

## Frequent PPR Weaknesses



- PPR Writing
  - Clear articulation of Goals and Objectives
  - Report not written in a manner which facilitated review
  - *Impact and Results* not adequately presented
- CMIS data and PPR text concordance
- Articulation of SMART Goals
- Target metrics
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Longitudinal tracking of significant awards – more than just fellowship/scholarship participants



# 20th Year Program Evaluation Results



- *Pass*
- *Pass (with Weakness)*
- *Pass with Deficiency*
- *Serious Deficiencies*

*All three components were factored in for the final determination*

- *NPR*
- *Affiliate Survey*
- *PPR*



# 20th Year Program Evaluation Results



## *Pass*

- Overall clear evidence that consortium is making demonstrable contributions to NASA Education Outcomes and is aligned with National Program Goal and Objectives
- 5-year grant (FY 2010 – 2014)

## *Pass (with Weakness)*

- Generally clear evidence of demonstrable contributions
- Weakness(es) will be noted in results cover letter and will need to be addressed in FY09 Proposal
- 5-year grant (FY 2010 – 2014)





# 20th Year Program Evaluation Consequences



## *Pass with Deficiencies*

- Insufficient evidence that consortium is making demonstrable contributions to NASA Education Outcomes and is aligned with National Program Goal and Objectives in *some elements*
- Improvement plan to be included with FY09 Proposal
- Staff mentoring
- Satisfactory improvement after one year as evidenced through review of FY 2009 Progress Report = 5-year grant (FY 2010 – 2014)
  - Unsatisfactory improvement after one year will initiate changes in consortium management



# 20th Year Program Evaluation Consequences



## *Serious Deficiencies*

- Insufficient evidence that consortium is making demonstrable contributions to NASA Education Outcomes and is aligned with National Program Goal and Objectives across *several programmatic elements* as well as deficiencies that appear to be *systemic in nature*
- Improvement plan to be included in FY09 Proposal
- Staff mentoring
- Staff site visit
- Meeting with all affiliates
- Satisfactory improvement after one year as evidenced through review of FY 2009 Progress Report = 5-year grant (FY 2010 – 2014)
  - Unsatisfactory progress after one year will initiate changes in consortium management



# 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation Results Package



## In March:

- Cover Letter notifying Director of Result
- Executive Summary Report – PPR, NPR, Affiliate Survey Summary graphs
- PPR Results Report – includes graphs and reviewer comments
- NPR Results Report – includes graphs and reviewer comments
- Affiliate Survey Results Report – includes graphs and other quantitative and qualitative data
- Guidance on interpreting Results
  
- Will receive Cover Letter directly
- Will be required to download package of results reports from 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation website



# FY 2009 Budgets



- Different format and guidelines for FY 08 Progress Reports
  - Reduce the amount of time required to prepare
  - Streamline the progress report
  - Based on “key grantee performance data” for all Office of Education projects
- Reports currently being reviewed
  - Have received approval to begin incremental funding in March
- FY 2009 Budget Call will depend upon final NASA appropriation passed by Congress and 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation results





# FY 2008/2009 Budget Comparison



	<u>FY 2008</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>
<b>Progress Report Call</b>	12/18/2007	1/8/2009
Initial Budget Figure	No	Yes
Progress Report Format	Full	<b>Condensed</b>
<b>NASA Appropriations</b>	12/19/2007	<b>HAS NOT BEEN PASSED</b>
Congressional Approval of NASA Operating Plan	Final budget was contingent upon Op Plan	<i>Final budget (probably) not contingent upon Op Plan</i>
Agency determination of Space Grant budget available	Contingent upon Congressional approval of NASA Operating Plan	Contingent upon NASA Appropriations
<b>Final Space Grant Budget Call</b>	3/12/2009	Contingent upon Agency determination of Space Grant budget
1st Incremental Funding	4/21/2008	[March 2009 – funds made available from Continuing Resolution allowance]





*Thank you for all your  
efforts this past year!!*



# “One Stop Shopping for NASA Internships”



- *A Work in Progress*
- All “Internship” opportunities funded by NASA will use a single entry point – national and Center-based
  - Interns (undergraduate) and Fellows (graduate)
- Single application site
- Consistent due dates – probably 3 x/year
- “Broker-facilitators” will assist students in completing applications and identifying best-fit programs
- Students would get a standard ID for the system which they would keep as they applied for additional opportunities