

2026 EPSCoR Annual Summit Agenda

May 19-22, 2026 | Hilton New Orleans Riverside

Tuesday, May 19 - (PI, Co-PIs & PA's - Project Leadership)

1:00pm to close	Registration and stipend card pick up
2:30pm to 4:30pm	NSF Program Officer 1-on-1 & Small Group Meetings
5:00pm to 6:30pm	Welcome Plenary Dinner (I) • Welcome remarks by Travis York (AAAS) & Alicia Knoedler (NSF) • Keynote: Karen Soniat, President and CEO of Louisiana Art and Science Museum
6:45pm to 8:30pm	Birds of a Feather Affinity Groups <i>(Including E-CORE, E-RISE, FEC, BEC, ERF, EGFP, PD Council, PA Council)</i>

Wednesday, May 20 (AM - Project Leadership | PM – All Participants)

8:00am to Close	Registration and stipend card pick up
8:30am to 10:00am	Breakfast Plenary (II): EPSCoR Priorities and Updates • Speaker: Alicia Knoedler, Head, Office of Integrative Activities, NSF
10:00am to 10:15am	Break
10:15am to 11:45pm	Plenary (III): Maximizing the Full Talent of the Nation's AI Workforce • Moderator: Layne Scherer • Intros: Chi-Chi Nnakwe Whitley, Program Officer • Speakers: M.C. Brown, Thurgood Marshall College Fund, and Angle Bush, Black Women in AI
11:45am to 1:30pm	Explore NOLA- Lunch on Your Own
1:30pm to 2:30pm	Concurrent Sessions - NSF Sessions (4), Community Sessions (3)

2:30pm to 3:00pm	<u>***FULL SUMMIT BEGINS – ALL Participants***</u>
3:00pm to 4:30pm	Concurrent Sessions - NSF sessions, Community sessions, Skills Labs
4:30pm to 5:00pm	Break
5:00pm to 6:45pm	Summit opening plenary dinner (IV): An Evening with the Globe at Night • Welcome remarks by Travis York (AAAS), Alicia Knoedler (NSF), and Michael Khonsari (Louisiana EPSCoR) • Moderator: Travis York • Keynote: Connie Walker, Globe at Night

Thursday, May 21

8:00am to close	Registration and stipend card pick up
8:00am to 9:00am	Birds of a Feather Breakfast Affinity Groups <i>(Including: E-CORE, E-RISE, FEC, BEC, ETAP, ERF, EGFP, PDs, PAs, EOD (education, outreach, and workforce development), Cyberinfrastructure, Early career researchers (undergraduate & graduate students, Postdoctoral Researchers, Community members, Potential awardees)</i>
9:00am to 10:15am	Networking break and NSF PO meetings
10:15am to 10:30am	Break
10:30am to 12:00pm	Concurrent Sessions- NSF sessions, community sessions, skills labs (general), and skills labs (early career track)
12:00pm to 12:30pm	Break
12:30pm to 2:00pm	Lunch Plenary (IV): The Economics of Energy • Moderator: Travis York • Speakers: Greg Upton, Louisiana State University and Mark Zappi, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

2:00pm to 2:15pm	Break
2:15pm to 3:15pm	Poster session I: Early Career Researchers
3:15pm to 3:30pm	Break
3:30pm to 4:30pm	Concurrent Sessions - NSF Sessions, community sessions, and community flash talks
4:30pm to 4:45pm	Break
4:45pm to 5:45pm	Poster Session II: General session
5:45pm to 6:00pm	Break
5:30pm to 7:00pm	Early Career Researchers' Dinner: Skills for Building Professional Connections and Networks with the Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School of Louisiana State University <i>(for undergraduate, graduate, & postdoctoral researchers)</i>

Friday, May 22

8:00am to 9:00am	Summit Take-Away Breakfast Discussions
9:00am to 10:00am	Concurrent Sessions - NSF sessions, community workshops, and community flash talk
10:00am to 10:15am	Break
10:15am to 11:50am	Closing Plenary (V): Lessons in Storytelling – Communicating Science to the Big Screen - Emily Fairfax, University of Minnesota - Kellyn LaCour-Conant, BREC - Christopher Reid, Louisiana State University
11:50am to 12:00pm	Closing Remarks
12:00pm	Adjourn