Homework Assignment #2, "Project Summary"

Prepare a jargon[*]-free summary of your summer project that would be suitable for a proposal to a federal funding agency. You may have to time-shift work that you have already done into work that is proposed for the future.

Your summary should adhere to the "recipe" presented in class and specifically address the following elements:

1. <u>The problem and why it is important</u>. Explicitly state the scientific objectives of the project. What new knowledge will be created? What implications would this project, if successful, have for future work in your field?

2. <u>The "broader impacts" of the project</u>. How will it contribute to your training as a scientist? To what extent will your project enhance the institution's infrastructure for research and education (facilities, instrumentation, networks, collaboration)? How will the results be disseminated broadly to enhance scientific understanding? How will your project benefit society?

Your summary ***must conform*** to National Science Foundation's proposal margin-and-spacing requirements (q.v. http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf15001/gpg_2.jsp#IIC2b) and ***may not exceed one page***.

This assignment is not just busywork; you'll be able to use these descriptions in your applications for graduate school, for jobs, and for research fellowships.

Due: **Friday, September 11, 9:00 PM**. Upload your completed summary to Peerceptiv (www.peerceptiv.com) for peer review by the deadline (no grace period this time).

Complete your three assigned reviews on Peerceptiv by **Wednesday, September 16, 9:00 PM** (hard deadline—no grace period). No back evaluations are required for this assignment.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will not be eligible for rewrite points. All revisions must be submitted by October 10 for regrading.

Total—50 points for the summary and 50 "participation" points for your reviews.

Notes/Questions to Ask:

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[*] I learned this summer that the word *jargon* comes from an Old French word that meant "the twittering or chirping of birds" and is related to the root word for *gargle*. Too often, jargon-dense science writing sounds like gargling to the uninitiated and conveys about as much meaning as chirping. Inquiring minds want to know.—*cme*