



# Securing support for large-scale research facilities



Mary O'Regan



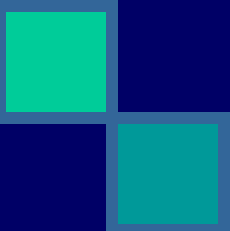

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# Questions

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- Should Ireland present as a possible location for Big Science?
  - How important are champions as drivers of Big Science?
  - What strategies can Ireland use to engage in the area of Big Science?
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# What have other countries done?

- Jefferson Lab Virginia USA Newport News(1985)
  - Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania ELI
    - Operation date 2013 - Construction costs 7bn
    - Operation costs per year 70m
  - Sweden ESS
    - Operation date 2019 - Construction costs 1.5bn
    - Operation costs 110m
- 



# Why?

- Economic Impact – Huge competition
  - Move the research agenda of a nation
  - Attract researchers – stem “brain drain”
  - Contribute to a country’s scientific stature
  - Credit and prestige to a nation
  - Visible platform for further funding
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# Situation in Ireland today

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- Prioritization 14 priority areas
  - Collaboration with Industry
  - SFI and EU funding small science
  - 4 to 5 year  
policy/government/project/funding cycles
  - No Big Science Policy
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# Big Science B.C.



- Newgrange (c 3,200 B.C.) predates the ancient pyramids by 400 years and Stonehenge by 1000
- Newgrange used 200,000 tons of stone. It took 30 years to build using a workforce of approximately 300.
- Astronomical effect - winter solstice sun.




# Going forward

- Hosting Big Science is a far reaching and important science policy issue
  - It is often connected with the re-evaluation of research policies
  - European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures - coherent and strategy-led approach to science policy in research infrastructures
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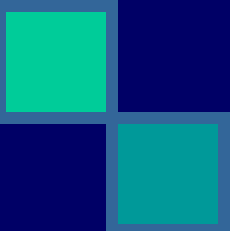

# Available Options

- Research Infrastructures and the Europe 2020 Strategy
  - Substantial structural funds available in specific areas
  - Compensation deals could be offered to smaller countries
  - EU/US collaboration
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# Dreams of Big Science

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- Ireland to host a Global Research Centre  
– In the Marine?
  - Ireland to actively engage with EU Research Infrastructure
  - Major long-term project of great economic impact to Ireland
  - Best fit for Ireland?
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Thank You for Listening.  
Any Questions?



Special thanks to my supervisor  
Dr. Seamus O'Tuama  
UCC

