

GETTING DRESSED, *JETSONS* STYLE

QUICK STATS

- ✘ **CONFERENCE:** Spending
- ✘ **TEAM:** National Science Foundation
- **FUMBLE:** \$1.2 million for a robotic dresser
- **HOW TO RECOVER THE BALL:** Require a thorough disclosure and transparency process for federal grants to ensure funding focuses on items of national interest

Parents around the nation know the daily struggle of picking out clothes and ensuring their young children get dressed each day before school. It seems NSF believes the challenge does not get easier with age. NSF has spent nearly \$1.2 million to teach robots how to choose outfit combinations for and dress the elderly. NSF anticipates spending at least four years to work through the kinks.⁸⁶

RECOVERY

American families love television shows like *The Jetsons* because they provide good,

wholesome entertainment for all ages. However, American taxpayers do not want to see their hard-earned dollars funding projects that try to bring *The Jetsons* to life. The robotic dresser is only the newest project in a long line of NSF efforts to create robotic helpers, all funded by taxpayers. Congress needs to clearly define research priorities for the NSF to help protect taxpayer dollars. Incredible technological advancements can come from simple research, but not every idea needs taxpayer money as the national debt moves toward \$19 trillion.

For more information, please visit:

[NSF: Robotic Assistance with Dressing using Simulation-Based Optimization](#)

[The Washington Free Beacon: Feds Spend \\$1.2 Million for Robots to Dress Old People](#)