

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS AND CONSULTANTS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the December 13-14, 2011 Meeting

This memorandum is made publicly available for any interested parties to review. A more detailed summary of the meeting will be forthcoming and posted on the National Science Board (Board, NSB) public Web site (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/>). The minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the December 2011 meeting will also be posted on the Board's public Web site following Board approval at the February 2012 meeting.

Major actions and approvals at the 423rd meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board approved a revised charge to the Committee on Programs and Plans (CPP), Task Force on Unsolicited Mid-Scale Research (MS) (NSB-10-59), which includes a revised timeline.
2. The Board approved the Committee on Strategy and Budget (CSB), Subcommittee on Facilities (SCF) draft *Report to Congress on Mid-Scale Instrumentation at NSF* (NSB/CSB-11-25), subject to final edits approved by the SCF chairman, CSB chairman, and the Board Chairman.
3. The Board approved the CSB Task Force on Data Policies (DP) draft report, *Digital Research Data Sharing and Management* (NSB/CSB-11-24), subject to final edits approved by the DP chairman, CSB chairman, and Board Chairman.
4. The Board approved the Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI) motion to prepare a second Companion Piece to *Science and Engineering Indicators*, on the topic of state funding for public universities.
5. The Board approved the Task Force on Merit Review draft report, *NSF's Merit Review Criteria: Review and Revisions* (NSB/MR-11-22), subject to final edits approved by the MR chairman and the Board Chairman.
6. The Board Chairman discharged the *ad hoc* Committee on Nominations for the Class of 2012-2018 with thanks to Dr. Droegemeier, chairman, and Drs. Córdova, Lineberger, Randall, and Peterson, members.
7. The Board approved the recipients for the 2012 Vannevar Bush Award and the 2012 NSB Public Service Awards. The names of the awardees will be revealed in a public announcement this spring.

8. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the September 13, 2011 meeting (NSB-11-70) <http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2011/0913/minutes.pdf>. Also approved were the Board minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed Session for September 13, 2011 (NSB-11-69) as well as minutes for the Plenary Closed Sessions for July 2011 (NSB-11-55) and September 6, 2011 (NSB-11-65).

[signed]
Michael L. Van Woert
Executive Officer