

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS AND CONSULTANTS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the February 2-3, 2012 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 February 2012 meeting will also be posted on the Board's public Web site following Board approval at the May 2012 meeting.

Major actions and approvals at the 424th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board authorized the NSF Director, at his discretion, to make an award for the Operation of the International Gemini Observatory, Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) (NSB-11-75).
2. The Board approved the recipients for the 2012 Waterman Award. The names of the awardees will be revealed in a public announcement this spring.
3. The Board Chairman announced that the next annual Board retreat and off-site meeting and research visit will be held in San Diego, California on September 19-20, 2012.
4. The Board approved the Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators' (SEI's) Companion Piece to *Science and Engineering Indicators 2012* entitled, *Research & Development, Innovation, and the Science and Engineering Workforce*, subject to final edits approved by the SEI chairman and the Board Chairman.
5. The Board elected the following Board Members to the *ad hoc* Committee on Nominating for NSB Elections, informally called the Elections Committee: Dr. Bruer, chairman, and Dr. Galloway, Dr. Griffiths, and Mr. Reilly, members.
6. The Board Chairman discharged the Task Force on Merit Review with thanks to Drs. Bruer and Leshner, co-chairman, and Drs. Lanzerotti, Randall, Souvaine, and Taylor, members.

7. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the December 2011 meeting (NSB-11-85) <http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2011/1213/minutes.pdf>. Also approved were the Board minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed (NSB-11-83) and Plenary Closed Sessions (NSB-11-84) for the December 2011 meeting.

[signed]
Michael L. Van Woert
Executive Officer