

## MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS AND CONSULTANTS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

**SUBJECT:** Major Actions and Approvals at the December 4-5, 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 December 2012 meeting will also be posted on the Board's public Web site following Board approval at the February 2013 meeting.

Major actions and approvals at the 429th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board approved a draft letter to the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) regarding scientific communication and travel restrictions, subject to minor edits approved by the Chairman.
2. The Board Chairman established the Task Force on Administrative Burdens with Dr. Arthur Bienenstock, chairman, and task force members TBD.
3. The Board approved a draft Charge to the Task Force on Administrative Burdens, subject to minor edits approved by the task force chairman and the Board Chairman.
4. The Board Chairman discharged the Committee on Programs and Plans (CPP), Subcommittee on Polar Issues (SOPI) with thanks to Dr. Thomas Taylor, chairman, and members Drs. Camilla Benbow, France Córdova, Patricia Galloway, Alan Leshner, Carl Lineberger, Douglas Randall, and Robert Zimmer.
5. The Board approved the recipients for the 2013 Vannevar Bush Award and the 2013 NSB Public Service Award. The names of the awardees will be revealed in a public announcement this spring.
6. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-12-43) for the July 2012 meeting [http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2012/0717\\_2/minutes.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2012/0717_2/minutes.pdf). Also approved were the minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed Sessions (NSB-12-30) and (NSB-12-41) and minutes for the Plenary Closed Sessions (NSB-12-42) and (NSB-12-56) for meetings and teleconferences of the Board held in July and August 2012.

*[signed]*

Michael L. Van Woert  
Executive Officer