

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the February 3-4, 2015 Meeting

This memorandum is made publicly available for any interested parties to review. The minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the February 2015 meeting will also be posted on the Board's public website (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/>) following Board approval.

Major actions and approvals at the 439th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board approved the Policy Companion Piece to *Science and Engineering Indicators 2014*, "Revisiting the STEM Workforce", subject to final edits approved by the Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI) Chairman and the Board Chairman.
2. The Board passed a resolution whereby the National Science Foundation (NSF) management and the Board jointly agreed to commission an external study to assess how cooperative agreements are used at NSF to support large-scale investments in science and technology (NSB-2015-4).
3. The Board Chairman established the *ad hoc* Committee on Nominating for NSB Elections, informally known as the Elections Committee, with Dr. Carl Lineberger as Chairman, and Drs. Arthur Bienenstock and Anneila Sargent serving as committee members.
4. The Board approved the recipient of the 2015 Vannevar Bush Award. The awardee will be publicly announced in the spring. The Vannevar Bush Award honors a truly exceptional lifelong leader in science and technology who has made substantial contributions to the welfare of the Nation through public service activities in science, technology, and public policy.
5. The Board approved the recipient of the 2015 Alan T. Waterman Award. The name of the awardee will be publicly announced in the spring. The Alan T. Waterman award recognizes an outstanding young researcher in any field of science or engineering supported by the National Science Foundation. The awardee receives a grant of \$1,000,000 over a five-year period for scientific research or advanced study at the institution of the recipient's choice.

6. The Chairman announced that the next annual Board retreat will be held in the Washington, DC metro-area, September 16-17, 2015.
7. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-14-61) from the November 2014 meeting. (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2014/1119/minutes.pdf>) The Board also approved the minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed Session (NSB-14-59) and the Plenary Closed Session (NSB-14-60) for November 2014.

[signed]
Michael L. Van Woert
Executive Officer