

**MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD**

**SUBJECT:** Major Actions and Approvals at the May 5-6, 2015 Meeting

This memorandum is made publicly available for any interested parties to review. The minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the May 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 440th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board passed a resolution authorizing the Director, at her discretion, to include construction of two Regional Class Research Vessels (RCRVs) in future budget requests (NSB-2015-17).
2. The Board passed a resolution authorizing the Director, at her discretion, to issue an award, pursuant to the terms of the resolution, to the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc. (AURA) for the management and operation of the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO). (NSB-2015-21).
3. The Board passed a resolution authorizing the Director, at her discretion, to make an award, pursuant to the terms of the resolution, to Associated Universities, Inc. (AUI) for the management and operation of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) and for the management and operation of the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) (NSB-2015-16).
4. The Board passed a resolution authorizing the Director, at her discretion, to issue an award, pursuant to the terms of the resolution, to AURA for the management and operation of the Gemini Observatory (NSB-2015-15).
5. The Board passed a resolution authorizing the Director, at her discretion, to provide to the Board for its consideration a renewal of the award for the operation and management of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (MagLab) (NSB-2015-13).
6. The Board passed a resolution requesting policy options regarding the "Two-Month Salary Support Compensation Policy" be developed by the National Science Foundation in collaboration with the Audit and Oversight Committee, and then presented to the full Board for its consideration (NSB-2015-22).

7. The Board passed a resolution strongly endorsing the principle that all Foundation-funded research and education must further the national interest by contributing to the Foundation's mission (NSB-2015-9).
8. Drs. Bud Peterson and Diane Souvaine were elected to 2-year terms, May 2015 - May 2017, as members of the Executive Committee.
9. The Board Chairman discharged the *ad hoc* Committee on Nominating for NSB Elections with thanks to Dr. Carl Lineberger, chairman, and Drs. Arthur Bienenstock and Anneila Sargent, members.
10. The Board accepted the 2014 Annual Report of the Executive Committee as presented by the committee chairman, Dr. France Córdova, NSF Director. This report covers the period from May 2014 through April 2015 (NSB-EC-2015-1).
11. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-2015-8) from the February 2015 meeting. (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2015/0203/minutes.pdf>) The Board also approved the minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed Session (NSB-2015-6) and the Plenary Closed Session (NSB-2015-7) for February 2015.

*[signed]*  
Michael L. Van Woert  
Executive Officer