

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the February 2-3, 2016 Meeting

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

Major actions and approvals at the Board's 444st meeting included the following in no particular order of priority:

1. The Board approved a resolution authorizing the Director of the National Science Foundation to make an award for a period of 72 months (from January 1, 2017) to Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc. for the management and operation of the Gemini Observatory.
2. The Board approved a resolution authorizing the Director of the National Science Foundation to make an award for a period of 48 months to the Texas Advanced Computing Center at the University of Texas at Austin for Stampede 2: The Next Generation of Petascale Computing for Science and Engineering.
3. The Board approved a "Companion Brief" for the *2016 Science and Engineering Indicators*, as well as a "Sense of the Board Statement on the Value of Higher Education."
4. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session from the November 2015 and the December 2015 meetings (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/>). The Board also approved the minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed Session and the Plenary Closed Session for November 2015.



Michael L. Van Woert
Executive Officer