



OFFICE OF THE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FOR MATHEMATICAL AND
PHYSICAL SCIENCES

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

October 28, 2014

Advisory Committee
Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to welcome you to our annual in-person meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate Advisory Committee (MPSAC), scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, November 3 and 4. The agenda is on the [MPSAC website](#), and a copy accompanies this letter.

Once again, the agenda focuses on discussion of materials posted for your pre-meeting review, reinforcing our plans for the AC to provide the Directorate with advice from the community. I look forward to these discussions, some of which I preview here.

NSF/MPS Budget: The FY 2015 President's budget is with Congress, and we are currently operating under a continuing resolution. I will provide a few comments on the situation.

Staffing: We welcome Steve Bernasek as the Division Director for Chemistry for the next six months. The selection process for the next Division Director and Deputy Division Director for Chemistry is underway. During this time, Linda Sapochak is serving as Acting Deputy Division Director for Chemistry. The search for a Deputy Division Director for Materials Research is also in progress, and Carol Bessel is serving as Acting Deputy Division Director during this time.

Report Responses: We will hear and discuss responses to the Optics and Photonics report, the Food Systems report, and the Materials Instrumentation report.

Updates: We will hear updates on several MPS activities and initiatives including Public/Private Partnerships, Astronomical Sciences Division (AST) divestment and new partnerships, and the Mathematical Sciences Innovation Incubator. Representatives will provide information about plans and progress, and they will solicit your feedback.

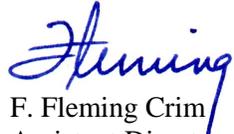
Eduardo Misawa is the new liaison for the MPSAC. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact him at 703-292-5353 or at emisawa@nsf.gov. Caleb Autrey has sent you information concerning logistical arrangements for participating in the meeting, including registration (which you must complete for each day in order to receive payment). You may reach Caleb at 703-292-5137 or at cautrey@nsf.gov.

Please see the accompanying email message for more detailed instructions, including those for remote participation. You may contact Keith Bennett (kebennett@nsf.gov; 703-292-8802) if you need technical assistance.

Finally, I thank Kelsey Cook for his outstanding service as staff adviser in our the MPS office and, particularly, for his excellent work as the liaison with the Committee for the past two years.

I look forward to seeing you next week and to our having a productive meeting.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "F".

F. Fleming Crim
Assistant Director, National Science Foundation
Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences