

# Advisory Committee Reports and Responses

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# The Issue

- MPS divisions connect with a very broad range of advisory committees, and commission a variety of reports from the National Academies
- Advisory group recommendations are sometimes conflicting or inconsistent
- The divisions try, in good faith, to respond to the recommendations of these advisory groups
- Except for Committees of Visitors, we do not formally
  - Track recommendations long term
  - Provide information to the community about our responses



# Example 1: P5 report

- Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel (P5) is a subcommittee of the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel.
- P5 report on a strategic plan for U.S. particle physics was delivered to NSF and DOE in May 2014.
- PHY considered its responses to the recommendations in light of budget scenarios and overall mission of PHY.
- MPSAC P5 Subcommittee was asked to address 5 sets of questions on the PHY response, and delivered report in January 2015.
- PHY is now executing, and reporting generically on activities at HEPAP meetings.



# Example 2: Annual AAAC Reports

- Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee (AAAC) is a Congressionally chartered committee that reports to Congress, OSTP, NSF, NASA, and DOE, primarily on interagency activities as well as National Academies reports.
- AAAC writes an annual report, with recommendations, due on March 15.
- AST typically reports (in presentation format) on responses to major recommendations in the next 1-2 AAAC meetings after delivery of the annual report.
- Recommendations to NSF are not systematically tracked for long term.



## External Reports (from FY 2018 Budget Request)

- AAAC report delivered in March 2017; next report due March 2018.
- Astronomy mid-decadal review report published in August 2016
- Centers for Chemical Innovation evaluation to be completed in late FY 2018 or early FY 2019.
- Decadal survey *Frontiers of Materials Research* under way, with report anticipated in June 2018.
- Also a large listing of past/upcoming workshops that provide reports.



# Some Other Standing Advisory Committees

- These do not generally issue formal recommendations, but may write letters with sense of the committee, or may spawn subcommittees that make formal recommendations.
- NAS Board on Physics and Astronomy
  - Committee on Astronomy and Astrophysics
  - Committee on Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Sciences
  - Committee on Plasma Science
  - Condensed Matter and Materials Research Committee
- NAS Board on Mathematical Sciences and Analytics.
- Direct agency advisory committees
  - High Energy Physics Advisory Panel
  - Nuclear Science Advisory Committee



# The Questions

- Should we be responding and tracking responses to advisory committees in a more systematic and public way?
- Is there a role for the MPSAC in advising on responses through subcommittees or other means?



# Questions & Discussion

