

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 Wilson Boulevard
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230



OFFICE OF THE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FOR GEOSCIENCES

September 6, 2012

Dr. Robert A. Duce, Distinguished Professor Emeritus (Chair)
Departments of Oceanography and Atmospheric Sciences
Texas A&M University, TAMU-3146
College Station, Texas 77843-3146

Dear Dr. Duce:

Thank you for submitting the report of the Committee of Visitors (COV) for the research and education programs of the Division of Ocean Sciences, which was held June 4-5, 2012. I am grateful for your thorough and valuable analysis of these programs.

I was delighted to learn that you concluded that these programs have been well managed and efficiently run by dedicated program managers, that the Division of Ocean Sciences provides leadership and vision, and that planning, and execution prioritization have been excellent.

I am deeply appreciative of the time that very busy people like yourselves have committed to helping the NSF and the community, not only in providing a retrospective of performance over the past three years, but also in looking toward the future. You have provided many constructive comments on broad issues fundamental to the business operations of NSF and facilities required for the health of the community going forward.

Once again, thank you for recognizing the quality of our staff and operations. We will continue to strive to maintain the tradition and challenge of close cooperation with the Ocean Sciences community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Margaret Cavanaugh".

Margaret Cavanaugh
Acting, Assistant Director

Enclosure

Copy to: COV Members
Louise Kellogg, AC/GEO Chair