

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 Wilson Boulevard
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230



OFFICE OF THE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FOR GEOSCIENCES

September 24, 2013

Dr. Roberta Rudnick
Department of Geology
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Dr. Rudnick:

Thank you for submitting the report of the Committee of Visitors (COV) for the Division of Earth Sciences (EAR) Instrumentation and Facilities (IF) Program, which was held May 29-31, 2013. I am grateful for your committee's thorough and valuable analysis of the Program.

I was delighted to learn that you concluded that this Program has been effective and efficient in providing both operational and strategic support to the full spectrum of research and education endeavors supported by EAR.

I am deeply appreciative of the time that very busy people like yourself have committed to helping NSF and the community, not only in providing a retrospective of performance by the EAR/IF Program 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 the investment priorities required for the health of the EAR community's tools needed in research and education. Your suggestions regarding the NSF cost-sharing policy and mid-sized infrastructure are especially helpful.

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 EAR community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger Wakimoto".

Roger Wakimoto
Assistant Director