

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230



OFFICE OF THE  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
FOR GEOSCIENCES

August 18, 2015

Dr. John W. Farrington, Dean Emeritus  
Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry MS#8  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
360 Woods Hole Road  
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1041

Dear Dr. Farrington:

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, 2015.

I sincerely appreciate the time and energy expended by you and the members of the COV. NSF and the oceanographic community will benefit from your thorough and valuable analysis of these programs.

I am pleased to hear that you were favorably impressed with the operations and management of the five OCE programs over the review period (FY 2012 – 2014) and with the staff support that was provided to the COV. As you noted in your report, these programs have worked hard to serve the people of the United States by enabling our Nation's ocean scientific and education community to pursue cutting-edge discoveries and innovative learning.

The Section Heads of the Division of Ocean Sciences have provided a set of specific responses to your findings and recommendations in the enclosed document.

Thanks for your contribution to maintaining the tradition and challenge of close cooperation with the oceanographic community through this process of periodic external review by a COV.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roger Wakimoto".

Roger Wakimoto  
Assistant Director

Enclosure

CC: George Hornberger, AC/GEO Chair  
COV Members