



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
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Dr. Robert McCoy  
Geophysical Institute  
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Fairbanks, Alaska 99775

Dear Dr. McCoy:

Thank you for submitting the report of the Committee of Visitors (COV) for the Geospace Sciences (GS) Section which was held on May 2-3, 2018. Both the COV report and the NSF response will be presented to the NSF Advisory Committee for Geosciences (AC-GEO) at their October 2018 meeting. Once approved by AC-GEO, the report and response will be public.

I sincerely appreciate the time and energy that you and each member of the COV dedicated to this process. NSF and the Geospace sciences community will benefit greatly from your thorough and thoughtful analysis of the Geospace Sciences section. I was pleased to hear the COV concluded that GS programs are well managed, and I am particularly appreciative of the constructive suggestions for improvements. Your insights and recommendations will help us balance the near-term and long-range strategic and management objectives of the Directorate for Geosciences.

I recognize that the COV's contributions went far beyond the two days of face-to-face meetings. The many hours of advance work, reviewing a portfolio of GS awards and declinations and other pertinent background information were clear from the informed discussion and insightful questions raised on-site. We owe you and the all members many thanks for mastering the Foundation's electronic business processes and reviewing the many documents in the weeks leading up to the COV meeting.

Michael Wiltberger, Section Head for Geospace Sciences, has provided a specific set of responses to your findings and recommendations in the enclosed document. Thank you again for your contribution to maintaining the tradition of close cooperation between NSF and the Geospace Sciences community through a process of periodic outside review by a COV.

Sincerely,

William Easterling  
Assistant Director

cc: AC GEO Chair  
COV Members