



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM

DIVISION OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

**Date:** 1 November 2016  
**From:** Deputy Division Director, Division of Mathematical Sciences  
**Subject:** **Diversity and Conflict-of-Interest Report for the  
Division of Mathematical Sciences FY 2016 Committee of Visitors**  
**To:** Assistant Director, MPS

The Division of Mathematical Sciences held its triennial COV on 19-21 September 2016. The COV comprised 37 members of the research and education community in mathematics and statistics. These individuals were chosen for their scientific expertise and their breadth of understanding of issues impacting research and education in the mathematical sciences. Collectively, the COV membership represented a variety of perspectives and was balanced across the various sub-disciplines in the field. Inclusiveness in the COV membership is illustrated by the committee's geographic, institutional and demographic diversity, as shown below:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
<i>Member of MPS Advisory Committee</i>	1
<i>Academic Institutional Type</i>	
Ph.D.-Granting Inst.	24
Primarily Undergraduate Inst.	3
Public	18
Private	9
<i>Industry</i>	2
<i>Outside the US</i>	5
<i>Government</i>	3
<i>Location</i>	
Northeast	3
East / Mid-Atlantic	7
South / Southeast	2
Midwest	5
Southwest	3
West / Northwest	12
International	5
<i>Female</i>	15
<i>Male</i>	22
<i>Minority</i>	13
<i>No DMS Application in Five Years</i>	11

The COV was briefed on issues of Conflict of Interests for the purpose of one of the COV's statutory responsibilities, namely the reading of proposals, reviews, and recommendations and

commenting on the handling of actions and the appropriateness of recommendations. Each COV member completed a NSF Conflict of Interests form. In addition, COV members were instructed to reveal to all other COV members in the breakout sessions all such conflicts or appearances of conflicts as described in the NSF Conflicts of Interest Manual 10. Proposals and files were not available to COV members in those cases where the member had a conflict of interest. Furthermore, the COV members were instructed to leave the room during discussion of such actions.

Note: Due to a family medical emergency, Dr. Ali Pinar of Sandia National Laboratories was unable to travel to the COV meeting. However, he reviewed the COV material on-line prior to the meeting and furnished comments to the subcommittee chairs via e-mail.

The Division of Mathematical Sciences believes that the efforts of the COV were outstanding in all respects. The Division staff detected no situations in which conflicts of interest were not handled properly. The Division was pleased with the quality, professionalism, and thoroughness of the COV report and its findings.