



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

**Astronomy  
& Steward Observatory**

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October 26, 2017

Dr. Denise Caldwell, Division Director, Division of Physics, NSF  
Dr. Eric Saltzman, Section Head, Ant. Sciences, Div. of Polar Programs, NSF  
Dr. James Siegrist, Associate Director of Science for High Energy Physics, DOE  
Dr. Richard Green, Division Director, Division of Astronomy, NSF  
Dr. Jim Ulvestad, Acting Assistant Director, Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, NSF

Dear Drs. Caldwell, Saltzman, Siegrist, Green, and Ulvestad:

In response to your letter of November 2016 requesting that the Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee (AAAC) establish a Cosmic Microwave Background Stage 4 Concept Definition Task force (CMB-S4 CDT) as a subcommittee of the AAAC to develop a concept for a CMB-S4 experiment, I appointed Charles Lawrence, Chief Scientist for Astronomy and Physics at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, as chair of the subcommittee.

Over the last nine months, he and his task force have expeditiously and quite impressively completed a tremendous amount of work to inform their response to your charge. Their report to the AAAC was provided to us on October 16, 2017. Members of the AAAC read the report and we sent questions to Charles Lawrence and his task force prior to our telecom with Charles on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. After a few minor revisions to clarify a couple of points in the report, the AAAC unanimously voted to accept the report of the Task Force. We hope their hard work meets your needs. A copy of the report accompanies this letter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Buell T. Jannuzi  
Chair, Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee

Cc: Dr. Kathy Turner, DOE  
Dr. Richard Barvainis, NSF  
Dr. Paul Hertz, NASA

