

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

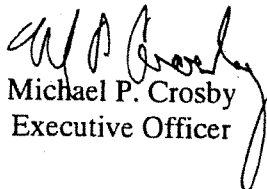
SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the August 10-11, 2005 Meeting

This memorandum will be made publicly available for any interested parties to review. A more detailed summary of the meeting will be posted on the National Science Board (NSB, the Board) public Web site within 10 business days. A comprehensive set of NSB-approved Open Session meeting minutes will be posted on the Board's public Web site following its September 2005 meeting.

Major actions and approvals at the 387th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-05-76) for the May 2005 meeting of the NSB (http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2005/0505/open_min.pdf). Minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed and Closed Sessions for the May 2005 meeting of the NSB were also approved.
2. The Board approved a resolution to close portions of the upcoming September 28-29, 2005 NSB meeting dealing with staff appointments, future budgets, pending proposals/awards for specific grants, contracts, or other arrangements, and those portions dealing with specific Office of the Inspector General investigations and enforcement actions, or agency audit guidelines (NSB-05-83) (Attachment 1).
3. The Board concurred with the recommendation that the Rare Symmetry Violating Processes (RSVP) project be terminated before the start of construction as a result of the significantly increased construction and operations costs identified during the final stages of planning and the negative impact on the NSF portfolio that would result from proceeding with the project under such circumstances. The National Science Board noted the significant lost scientific opportunity that would result from this project termination.
4. The Board authorized the Director, at his discretion, to make an award to Washington University, St. Louis, for "Sequencing the Maize Genome."

5. The Board approved resolutions for the Fiscal Year 2007 budget requests to the Office of Management and Budget for the Office of the Inspector General (NSB-05-95) (Attachment 2), the National Science Board (NSB-05-96) (Attachment 3), and the National Science Foundation (NSB-05-97) (Attachment 4).
6. The Board selected Boulder, Colorado as the site of the annual Board retreat, site visit, and meeting on February 9-10, 2006.
7. The Board approved a resolution that supports the Director's actions to meet the polar icebreaking requirements of the U.S. Antarctic Program and to charter an icebreaking vessel from a non-Federal source in order to obtain necessary icebreaking services (NSB-05-100) (Attachment 5).
8. The *ad hoc* Committee on Nominations for NSB Class of 2006-2012 was discharged, with thanks to the chairman, Dr. Mark Wrighton. Committee members were Drs. Barry Barish, Kenneth Ford, Diana Natalicio, Douglas Randall, and Daniel Simberloff.
9. The Board approved the *Science and Engineering Indicators 2006* "Orange Book," subject to final revisions and copy-editing approved by the Chairman of the National Science Board and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Science and Engineering Indicators.


Michael P. Crosby
Executive Officer

Attachment 1: NSB-05-83
Attachment 2: NSB-05-95
Attachment 3: NSB-05-96
Attachment 4: NSB-05-97
Attachment 5: NSB-05-100

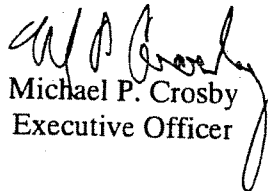
**MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS AND CONSULTANTS OF THE NATIONAL
SCIENCE BOARD**

SUBJECT: Closed Session Agenda Items for September 28-29, 2005 Meeting

The Government in the Sunshine Act requires formal action on closing portions of each Board meeting. The following are the closed session agenda items anticipated for the September 28-29, 2005 meeting.

1. Staff appointments
2. Future budgets
3. Grants and contracts
4. Specific Office of Inspector General investigations and enforcement actions

A Proposed resolution and the General Counsel's certification for closing these portions of the meetings are attached for your consideration.


Michael P. Crosby
Executive Officer

Attachments

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
TO CLOSE PORTIONS OF
388th MEETING
NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

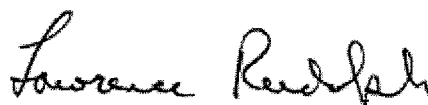
RESOLVED: That the following portions of the meeting of the National Science Board (NSB) scheduled for September 28-29, 2005 shall be closed to the public.

1. Those portions having to do with discussions regarding nominees for appointments as National Science Board members and National Science Foundation (NSF) staff appointments, or with specific staffing or personnel issues involving identifiable individuals. An open meeting on these subjects would be likely to constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
2. Those portions having to do with future budgets not yet submitted by the President to the Congress.
3. Those portions having to do with proposals and awards for specific grants, contracts, or other arrangements. An open meeting on those portions would be likely to disclose personal information and constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy. It would also be likely to disclose research plans and other related information that are trade secrets, and commercial or financial information obtained from a person that are privileged or confidential. An open meeting would also prematurely disclose the position of the NSF on the proposals in question before final negotiations and any determination by the Director to make the awards and so would be likely to frustrate significantly the implementation of the proposed Foundation action.
4. Those portions having to do with specific Office of the Inspector General investigations and enforcement actions, or agency audit guidelines.

The Board finds that any public interest in an open discussion of these items is outweighed by protection of the interests asserted for closing the items.

CERTIFICATE

It is my opinion that portions of the meeting of the National Science Board (NSB) or its subdivisions scheduled for September 28-29, 2005 having to do with nominees for appointments as NSB members and National Science Foundation (NSF) staff, or with specific staffing or personnel issues or actions, may properly be closed to the public under 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c) (2) and (6); those portions having to do with future budgets may properly be closed to the public under 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c) (3) and 42 U.S.C. 1863(k); those portions having to do with proposals and awards for specific grants, contracts, or other arrangements may properly be closed to the public under 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c) (4), (6), and (9) (B); those portions disclosure of which would risk the circumvention of a statute or agency regulation under 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c) (2); and those portions having to do with specific Office of the Inspector General investigations and enforcement actions may properly be closed to the public under 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c) (5), (7) and (10).



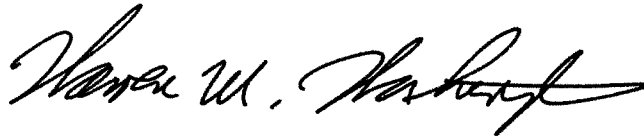
Lawrence Rudolph
General Counsel
National Science Foundation

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET SUBMISSION

RESOLVED, that the National Science Board approves the proposed National Science Foundation, Office of the Inspector General Fiscal Year 2007 budget request for transmittal to the Office of Management and Budget, as recommended by the Audit and Oversight Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren M. Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Warren M. Washington
Chairman

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD
FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the National Science Board approves the proposed National Science Board Fiscal Year 2007 budget request for transmittal to the Office of Management and Budget, as recommended by the Committee on Strategy and Budget.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren M. Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Warren M. Washington
Chairman

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET SUBMISSION

RESOLVED, that the National Science Board approves the proposed National Science Foundation Fiscal Year 2007 budget request for transmittal to the Office of Management and Budget, as recommended by the Committee on Strategy and Budget.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren M. Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "W" and a long, sweeping underline.

Warren M. Washington
Chairman

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD
ICEBREAKING ISSUES FOR THE U.S. ANTARCTIC PROGRAM

WHEREAS U.S. policy requires maintaining an active and influential presence in Antarctica through year-round occupation of South Pole Station and two coastal stations; and

WHEREAS NSF is the agency responsible for managing the U.S. Antarctic Program in support of this policy; and

WHEREAS the research supported by NSF in Antarctica is critical for understanding phenomena of global importance, and polar regions offer unique opportunities for forefront research in a broad range of disciplines; and

WHEREAS McMurdo Station and South Pole Station depend on icebreakers opening an annual supply channel to McMurdo Station; and

WHEREAS the Coast Guard has advised engaging two icebreakers to mitigate the risk that one might be inadequate this coming season; and

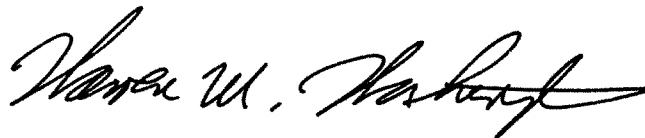
WHEREAS the *Polar Star* is the only Coast Guard Polar class icebreaker currently operational while the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Healy* is scheduled for maintenance after a research cruise in the Arctic; and

WHEREAS only one contractor responded to NSF's Request for Information requesting availability of icebreakers -- Far Eastern Shipping Company (FESCO) offered the *Krasin* which performed well in McMurdo Sound last year; and

WHEREAS engaging the *Krasin* to open the channel to McMurdo Station, holding the *Polar Star* in ready reserve to assist if needed, would both mitigate risk and reduce costs and has the potential to preserve the *Polar Star* for service in 2006/2007; and

WHEREAS NSB Resolution NSB-05-68¹ supports the NSF Director taking all necessary steps to meet the requirements for polar icebreaking among available options to best meet the needs of the research community in the most cost effective manner;

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that the National Science Board supports the Director's actions to meet the polar icebreaking requirements of the U.S. Antarctic Program and to charter an ice-breaking vessel from a non-Federal source in order to obtain necessary icebreaking services.



Warren M. Washington
Chairman

¹ Dated May 26, 2005, approved at May 2005 NSB meeting and appended to Plenary Open Session minutes NSB-05-76.