

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the May 6-7, 2008 Meeting

This memorandum will be made publicly available for any interested parties to review. A more detailed summary of the meeting will be forthcoming and posted on the National Science Board (Board, NSB) public Web site. The minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the May 2008 meeting will also be posted on the Board's public Web site, following Board approval at the August 2008 meeting.

Major actions and approvals at the 404th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-08-40) for the March 2008 meeting (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2008/0326/minutes.pdf>). Minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed and Closed Sessions for the March 2008 meeting of the Board were also approved.
2. The Board approved a resolution to close portions of the upcoming August 12-13, 2008 Board meeting dealing with staff appointments; future budgets; grants and contracts; specific Office of the Inspector General investigations and enforcement actions; and National Science Foundation (NSF) participation in a civil or administrative action, proceeding, or arbitration (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2008/0812/closing.pdf>).
3. Dr. Steven Beering was elected to a 2-year term as Chairman of the Board and Dr. Patricia Galloway was elected to a 2-year term as Vice Chairman. Drs. Beering and Galloway were elected by acclamation to 2-year terms as members of the Executive Committee.
4. The Board authorized the NSF Director, at his discretion, to make an award to the Mellon Pitt Carnegie (MPC) Corporation for support of proposal entitled, Transforming Science through Productive Petascale Computing.
5. The Board authorized the NSF Director, at his discretion, to make an award to the University Corporation of Atmospheric Research (UCAR) for the management and operation of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR).
6. The Board accepted the 2007 Annual Report of the Executive Committee as presented by the committee chairman, Dr. Arden L. Bement, NSF Director (NSB/EC-08-5) (Attachment).

7. The Board Chairman established a Task Force for the NSF 60th Anniversary. Members of this task force will be announced at a later date.
8. The Board Chairman discharged the *ad hoc* Committee for the Vannevar Bush Award with thanks to Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, chairman, and members Drs. Kelvin Droegemeier, Patricia Galloway, Jose'-Marie Griffiths, and Thomas Taylor.
9. The Board Chairman discharged the *ad hoc* Committee on Nominating for NSB Elections, with thanks to Dr. Elizabeth Hoffman, chairman, and members Drs. Ray Bowen, Douglas Randall, and Jo Anne Vasquez.
10. The Board approved the transmittal letter and management response for the NSF Office of Inspector General's *Semiannual Report to Congress, March 2008*.

[signed]
Craig R. Robinson
Acting Executive Officer

Attachment: [NSB/EC-08-5](#)

**2007 Annual Report of the Executive Committee
National Science Board**

In accordance with the requirements of 42 U.S.C. § 1865 (d), I hereby submit this annual report of the National Science Board (Board, NSB) Executive Committee, as approved at the Executive Committee meeting on May 7, 2008. This report covers the period from May 2007 through April 2008. I served as Director of the National Science Foundation and the Board's Executive Committee chairman during the above time period.

The elected Board membership of the Executive Committee during the past year was as follows:

From May 1, 2007 to May 10, 2007:

Dr. Barry C. Barish

Dr. Steven C. Beering

Dr. Ray M. Bowen

Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan

From May 11, 2007 to April 30, 2008:

Dr. Mark R. Abbott

Dr. Steven C. Beering

Dr. Patricia D. Galloway

Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan

The following served as Executive Secretary of the Executive Committee: from May to December 2007, Dr. Michael P. Crosby, NSB Executive Officer; from January to April 2008, Dr. Craig R. Robinson, NSB Acting Executive Officer.

The Executive Committee met three times during this period (May 2007, August 2007, and February 2008) at the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Virginia. Oral reports of its activities were made at meetings of the full Board and are reflected in the minutes of those meetings.

The Executive Committee's powers and functions are based on a delegation of authority to it by the Board according to 42 U.S.C. § 1865(a). The Board's current delegation to the Executive Committee (Attachment B to NSB-99-158) authorizes the Executive Committee to approve awards on behalf of the Board when an immediate decision is required between Board meetings and when the necessary action is not within the authority of the Director of the National Science Foundation. There were no occurrences of this condition or Executive Committee actions on behalf of the Board during the above time period.

[signed]
Arden L. Bement, Jr.
Chairman
Executive Committee