

MEMORANDUM TO MEMBERS AND CONSULTANTS OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Major Actions and Approvals at the May 13-14, 2009 Meeting

This memorandum is 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 (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/>). The minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the May 2009 meeting will also be posted on the Board's public Web site following Board approval at the August 2009 meeting.

Major actions and approvals at the 409th meeting of the Board included the following (not in priority order):

1. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-09-28) for the February 2009 meeting (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/2009/0223/minutes.pdf>). Minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed and Closed Sessions for February 2009 meeting of the Board were also approved.
2. The Executive Committee approved a resolution to close portions of the upcoming August 5-6, 2009 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/2009/0805/closing.pdf>).
3. Drs. Camilla Benbow and Ray Bowen were elected to 2-year terms, May 2009 – May 2011, as members of the Executive Committee.
4. The Board authorized the NSF Director, at his discretion, to make an award to Associated Universities, Inc. for the Management and Operation of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO), FY 2010-2015.
5. The Board authorized the NSF Director, at his discretion, to make an award to the Consortium for Ocean Leadership for the construction and initial operation of the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI).
6. The Board authorized the NSF Director, at his discretion, to make separate Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) awards to the following Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) jurisdictions: Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, South Carolina, and South Dakota.

7. The Board approved the following schedule of meetings for calendar year 2010: February 3-4, May 4-5, August 25-26, and September 23-24. Meeting dates for December 2010 will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.
8. The Board accepted the 2008 Annual Report of the Executive Committee as presented by the committee chairman, Dr. Arden Bement, NSF Director (NSB/EC-09-8) (Attachment 1).
9. The Board approved a statement recognizing exceptional service by NSF staff under the pressures of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding (NSB-09-49) (Attachment 2).
10. The Board approved an NSB Prioritization Process for setting priorities (NSB/EC-09-11).
11. The Board approved the topic for the Companion Piece to *Science and Engineering Indicators 2010*: “Globalization of Science and Engineering Research.”
12. The Board approved the final report, *Building a Sustainable Energy Future, U.S. Actions for an Effective Energy Economy Transformation* (NSB-09-55), subject to additional comments from Board Members and approved by the Chairman of the Board, the CPP chairman, and the Task Force on Sustainable Energy co-chairmen.
13. The Board Chairman discharged the *ad hoc* Committee for the Vannevar Bush Award with thanks to Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, chairman, and Dr. John Bruer and Mr. Arthur Reilly members.
14. The Board Chairman discharged the *ad hoc* Committee on Nominating for NSB Elections, informally know as the Elections Committee, with thanks to Dr. Jon Strauss, chairman, and Drs. Douglas Randall and Thomas Taylor.
15. The Board Chairman announced the following members of the *ad hoc* Committee on NSB Nominations for the Class of 2010 – 2016: Dr. Alan Leshner, chairman, and Dr. Patricia Galloway and Mr. Arthur Reilly members.
16. The Board approved the transmittal letter and management response for the NSF Office of Inspector General, *Semiannual Report to Congress, March 2009*.

[signed]
Craig R. Robinson
Acting Executive Officer

**2008 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 13, 2009. This report covers the period from May 2008 through April 2009. 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:

Mark R. Abbott
Steven C. Beering
Patricia D. Galloway
Kathryn D. Sullivan¹

The following served as Executive Secretary of the Executive Committee: from May to August 2008, Craig R. Robinson, Acting NSB Executive Officer; from August 2008 to April 2009, Clifford J. Gabriel, Acting Executive Officer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate.

The Executive Committee met 5 times during this period (May 2008, August 2008, December 2008, February 2009, and March 2009) 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 March 2009 meeting was a teleconference and was held in closed session.

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. The March 2009 meeting was the only occurrence during this time period where the Executive Committee acted on behalf of the Board.

/s/
Arden L. Bement, Jr.
Chairman
Executive Committee

¹ Dr. Sullivan served on the Executive Committee for the May 2008 meeting as National Science Board Vice-Chair. She was not re-elected to the Executive Committee until the August 2008 meeting. Therefore, Dr. Sullivan was not a member of the Executive Committee during the August 2008 meeting.

MEMORANDUM TO THE ENTIRE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TEAM

FROM: The National Science Board

SUBJECT: Recognition of Exceptional Service to Science and Engineering and the Nation

The National Science Board recognizes that you all are critical to the success of meeting the National Science Foundation's mission. Under normal circumstances you meet the enormous challenges involved in the whole process of funding research and its related activities, and this is often overlooked or not fully appreciated by the broader science and engineering community.

The Board also recognizes that you are now putting forth extraordinary effort to meet the monumental task required to deal with an almost doubling of work load with no additional help. We realize this takes extra dedication - you already are incredibly dedicated to the Foundation's mission. The Board recognizes this effort and we appreciate it and wish to thank you in advance for stepping up to meeting the opportunity the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds are providing.

Thank you all.

National Science Board Members

Steven C. Beering, *Chairman*, President Emeritus, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

Patricia D. Galloway, *Vice Chairman*, Chief Executive Officer, Pegasus Global Holdings, Inc., Cle Elum, Washington

Mark R. Abbott, Dean and Professor, College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Dan E. Arvizu, Director and Chief Executive, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Golden, Colorado

Barry C. Barish,* Ronald and Maxine Linde Professor of Physics, Emeritus Director, Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO), California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California

Camilla P. Benbow, Patricia and Rodes Hart Dean of Education and Human Development, Peabody College of Education and Human Development, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

Ray Bowen, President Emeritus, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

John T. Bruer, President, The James S. McDonnell Foundation, Saint Louis, Missouri

G. Wayne Clough, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

France A. Córdova, President, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

Kelvin K. Droegemeier, Associate Vice President for Research, Regents' Professor of Meteorology and Weathernews Chair, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

José-Marie Griffiths, Professor, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Esin Gulari, Dean of Engineering and Science, Clemson University

Elizabeth Hoffman,* Executive Vice President and Provost, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

Louis J. Lanzerotti, Distinguished Research Professor of Physics, Center for Solar Terrestrial Research, Department of Physics, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, New Jersey

Alan I. Leshner, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Publisher, Science American Association for the Advancement of Science. Washington, DC

George P. (Bud) Peterson, President, Georgia Institute of Technology

Douglas D. Randall, Professor and Thomas Jefferson Fellow, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri

Arthur K. Reilly, Senior Director, Strategic Technology Policy, Cisco Systems, Inc., Ocean, New Jersey

Diane L. Souvaine, Professor and Chair, Department of Computer Science, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts

Jon C. Strauss, President, Bainbridge Graduate Institute, Bainbridge Island, Washington

Kathryn D. Sullivan, Director, Battelle Center for Mathematics and Science Education Policy, John Glenn School of Public Affairs, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Thomas N. Taylor, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Curator of Paleobotany in the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

Richard F. Thompson, Keck Professor of Psychology and Biological Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Member *ex officio*:

Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director, National Science Foundation, Arlington, Virginia

Craig R. Robinson, Acting Executive Officer, National Science Board & National Science Board Office Director, Arlington, Virginia

*Consultant