

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

**SUBJECT:** Major Actions and Approvals at the November 18-19, 2015 Meeting

This memorandum is made publicly available for any interested parties to review. The minutes of the Plenary Open Session for the August 2015 meeting will also be posted on the National Science Board's (Board) public website (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb>) following Board approval.

Major actions and approvals at the Board's 442nd meeting included the following in no particular order of priority:

1. The Board selected awardees for the Vannevar Bush Award and for the NSB Public Service Award. These awardees will be publically announced several weeks before the awards ceremony in May 2016.
2. The Board approved a resolution, authorizing the Director of the National Science Foundation at her discretion to make an award to Associated Universities, Inc. for the management and operation of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO).
3. The Board approved a motion that converts the ad hoc Committee on Honorary Awards (AWD) to a permanent standing committee. This status will help the Board proactively seek highly qualified candidates for the NSB Honorary Awards.
4. The Board approved a recommendation from the Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI), accepting the *Science and Engineering Indicators 2016* Overview and Digest subject to minor edits to be approved by the SEI Chair and NSB Chair.
5. The Board approved the 2014 Annual Portfolio Review as recommended by the Committee on Strategy and Budget (CSB) and the Subcommittee on Facilities (SCF).
6. The Board approved the submission to Congress of the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) Semiannual Report to Congress along with the NSF's response, including a memorandum to be added, as recommended by the Committee on Audit and Oversight (A&O).
7. The Board approved a statement on the recompetition of major facilities resolution. In a related action, the Board approved a resolution on recompetition of ongoing facilities. Both actions call for a rigorous review before an existing award expires to determine whether it is in the best interest of science and engineering as well as U.S. taxpayers to recompete the award.

8. The Board approved the minutes of the Plenary Open Session (NSB-2015-39) from the August 2015 meeting (<http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/meetings/>). The Board also approved the minutes for the Plenary Executive Closed Session (NSB-2015-41) and the Plenary Closed Session (NSB-2015-38) for August 2015.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael L. Van Woert".

Michael L. Van Woert  
Executive Officer