



Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering (CEOSE)

www.nsf.gov/od/oia/activities/ceose

Established by Congress to advise the National Science Foundation concerning the implementation of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act and other policies and activities to encourage the full participation of women, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities in scientific, engineering, and professional fields.

CEOSE Members, 2017

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Dear Colleague:

The Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering (CEOSE) is charged by the United States Congress to advise the National Science Foundation (NSF) on policies and programs that encourage full participation by women, underrepresented racial and ethnic groups (African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and Native Americans), and persons with disabilities within all levels of the United States' science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) enterprise and to transmit to the Director of NSF every two years a report on its activities during the previous two years and proposed activities for the next two years.

In the recently completed 2015-16 report, CEOSE recommended the development of an accountability framework for assessing the bold new initiative advocated in the first two reports as well as the overall broadening participation portfolio: **"NSF should adopt a framework based on the information and principles in this report that ensures true shared accountability for PIs, for institutions, and for NSF itself in promoting participation and excellence in science and engineering by deliberately and fully utilizing all the talent and potential the Nation has to offer."** Additionally, in the report, CEOSE's advice to the Foundation includes guiding principles and suggested practices for the three basic levels of accountability—the principal investigators of projects; institutions awarded grants, especially higher education institutions; and the agency level of NSF itself.

In her letter transmitting the report to Congress, NSF's Director, France A. Córdoba, wrote: **"This report provides valuable insights as NSF and the research community continue to explore and implement innovative approaches to broadening participation in STEM."** Echoing Director Córdoba, the Committee hopes our 2015-2016 report spurs innovative ways to promote and increase diversity and inclusion in STEM.

The enclosed summary provides an overview of Accountability for Broadening Participation in STEM -the 2015-2016 CEOSE Biennial Report to Congress. The full report can be found at the CEOSE website at www.nsf.gov/od/oia/activities/ceose.

Best regards,

The CEOSE Advisory Committee