

Directorate for Biological Sciences

Office of the Assistant Director

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Arlington, VA 22230

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 13, 2010

TO: Office of Integrative Activities

FROM: Joann P. Roskoski, AD, BIO

SUBJECT: Report of the Committee of Visitors for the Division of Environmental Biology (DEB) within the BIO Directorate

The Committee of Visitors (COV) for the Division of Environmental Biology (DEB) met on June 22-24, 2009. Attached, please find a list of the COV members, the COV report, and DEB's written response to the recommendations in that report.

The 12 members comprising the COV represented a diverse list of institutions and scientific specialties. Visitors came from museums, other federal agencies, and large and small academic institutions. The 6 men and 6 women of the committee collectively specialized in a broad representation of the fields supported by DEB including systematics, evolution, and population, community, and ecosystem ecology. Several of the representatives conducted work in important related fields in the social sciences, toxicology, marine sciences, and studies with an international scope. The scientists' research backgrounds covered both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems; a biodiverse slate of organisms including plants, animals, and microbes; and a variety of spatial and temporal scales. At least two individuals on the committee were members of groups that are typically underrepresented in the sciences.

Individual conflicts of interest were declared by members of the committee before they were sent materials. These were thoroughly screened by DEB staff and committee members were not allowed access to any proposals with which they had a conflict.

Attachments