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AD/CISE

FROM: Sampath Kannan  
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DATE: June 11, 2010

SUBJECT: Report on Diversity, Independence, Balance, and Resolution of Conflicts for the CCF Committee of Visitors

This is my report to you on the diversity, independence, balance, and resolution of conflicts of the Committee of Visitors (COV) for the Division of Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF) held on March 4 and 5, 2009.

The COV, which was assembled to review the CCF Division, and whose report was accepted by the CISE Advisory Committee on May 7, 2010, consisted of 24 members, of whom 17 are male and 7 are female. One of the members of the committee is from an under-represented minority.

Twenty one of the COV members are from academia and three are from industry. The members’ expertise reflects the research areas of CCF’s clusters, i.e., foundations of computing processes and artifacts, emerging models and technologies for computation, and theoretical foundations. All invited COV members attended the meeting.

The Chair of the COV, Dr. Moshe Vardi, is the Karen Ostrum George Professor in Computational Engineering and Director of the Ken Kennedy Institute for Information Technology at Rice University. On April 19th of this year, Dr. Vardi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. All the committee members from academia are full or associate professors. One member is an associate dean. One industry member is a Vice-President for Research, another a Fellow in his corporation.

Six COV members are individuals who at the time of the meeting had not been applicants to CCF or its predecessor, the Computer-Communications Research Division, in the past five years and did not at the time of the meeting serve on any NSF Advisory Committee. Most COV members are familiar with CCF from having served on the CISE Advisory Committee or review panels, or are former or current grantees. None had proposals pending with CCF during the COV meeting. A conflict of interest briefing was held on
the first day of the COV meeting. All COV members were required to complete the NSF Conflict of Interest form.

All academic members of the COV were barred from seeing proposals from their home institutions, and all noted conflicts were resolved by barring members from seeing specific proposals with which they had conflicts. No real or apparent conflicts arose during the course of the meeting.