

## **SBE Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

May 19-20, 2011  
National Science Foundation  
Stafford II, Room 555  
Arlington, VA

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### Advisory Committee Attendees:

*Committee Members Present:* Dr. AnnaLee Saxenian (Chair)--School of Information, University of California, Berkeley; Dr. Christopher Achen--Politics Department, Princeton University; Dr. Ernst R. Berndt--Sloan School of Management, MIT; Sir Roderick Floud (EX OFFICIO)--Gresham College, United Kingdom; Dr. Fred Gault--United Nations University, The Netherlands; Dr. Morton Ann Gernsbacher--Vilas Research Professor of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Dr. Nina Jablonski--Department of Anthropology, Penn State ; Dr. Jon Krosnick--Department of Communication, Stanford University; Dr. Barbara Landau--Department of Cognitive Science, John Hopkins University; Dr. Emilio Moran--Anthropology Department, Indiana University; Dr. Maria Ong (CEOSE Liaison)--Director, Diversity Resource Group, TERC, Cambridge, MA; Dr. David Poeppel--Department of Psychology, New York University; Dr. Stanley Presser--Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park

*Participated via Teleconference:* Dr. Janet Harkness--Director, Survey Research and Methodology Program, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Dr. Kaye Husbands Fealing—Center for Science, Technology & Public Policy, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, Minneapolis, MN; Dr. Steven Ruggles--Director, Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota

*Committee Members Absent:* Dr. Susan Cutter--Director, Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina; Dr. Robert Kaplan (EX OFFICIO)--NIH, Office of the Director as Associate Director for Behavioral & Social Sciences Research

SBE, NSF Staff, and other Attendees: Dr. Cora Marrett--Acting Deputy Director, NSF<sup>1</sup>; Dr. Myron Gutmann--Assistant Director, SBE; Dr. Paul Boyle--Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council, UK; Dr. Keith Kintigh--Professor of Anthropology, Arizona State University; Dr. Mark Liberman-Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, and Professor, Department of Computer and Information Science, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Robert Moffitt--Krieger-Eisenhower Professor of Economics, Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Mary J. Frase--Interim Deputy Assistant Director, SBE; Dr. Linda T. Carlson--Division Director, NCSES; Dr. Rachel Croson--Division Director, SES; Dr. John Gawalt--Deputy Division Director, SBE, NCSES; Dr. Frank Scioli--Deputy Division Director, SES; Dr. Amber L. Story--Deputy Division Director, BCS; Rita Teutonico--Senior Advisor for

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Marrett's appointment has since been confirmed.

Integrative Activities, SBE; Dr. Mark Weiss--Division Director, BCS. Other SBE program and administrative staff attended as well.

Note: The meeting was open to the public and representatives of concerned groups also attended.

Summary: This is the first scheduled semi-annual meeting of the SBE Advisory Committee in 2011. The agenda covered the following: new member orientation; directorate update; discussion of the Advisory Committee report on SBE Futures; update on the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (formerly the Division of Science Resources Statistics); preparation for and discussion with Dr. Cora Marrett (on behalf of the Director); report on SBE 2020 Activity; planning for possible new SBE data and infrastructure activities; Science, Engineering & Education for Sustainability (SEES) overview and discussion; Cyberinfrastructure Framework for the 21st Century (CIF21) overview and discussion; introduction to ESRC and opportunities for international partnerships; and the agenda for the November 2011 meeting, assignments, and concluding remarks.

1. Dr. Gutmann briefly reported on recent developments within SBE and NSF, including: introduction of new staff; renewal of all six Science of Learning Centers and future ramp down; planned Committee of Visitors meeting for Office of Multidisciplinary Activities (SMA); STAR METRICS; Geography and Spatial Sciences program's five-year strategic plan; science of broadening participation; cooperation with National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) on the Digging in Data challenge; SEES Research Coordination Networks (RCN); possible relationships with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); international partnerships (PIRE); INSPIRE (broad-based interdisciplinary programs); wireless innovation (WIN); robotics (National Robotics Initiative); status of the federal budget process.
2. The committee discussed the SBE Futures report vigorously. They converged on the following structure: **Group one/The Interacting Human**--Focused on the interacting human; **Group two/Socio-Economic Challenges and Human Adaptation**--Dealt with socioeconomic challenges; **Group three/The Intelligent/Communicating Human**--Focused on the biological basis of human behavior and the intelligent communicating human; **Group Four/The Quantitative Human**--Consisted of data and measurement. The groups should refer to the earlier document, "Social, Behavioral and Economic Research in the Federal Context," to guide the document and avoid duplicating work. The groups agreed to complete their individual 3-5 page documents by June 15th. After the groups complete their documents, they plan to share their final product with the rest of the committee. The committee will then decide if a subgroup, comprised of a member of each team will work to edit a single document, or an outside consultant could be hired to pull it all together.
3. Dr. Carlson provided an update on the work of the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (formerly the Division of Science Resource Statistics). It included: data collection on technology transfer; current surveys (11); activities with CNSTAT (Committee on National Statistics, the National Academies); advisory panels (Business Experts Panel, Human Resources Experts Panel).

4. Dr. Gutmann reviewed the status of the SBE 2020 effort and circulated preliminary plans for implementation. The Committee engaged vigorously on topics related to education and training, particularly to support interdisciplinary work.
5. Dr. Emilio Moran, Dr. Robert Moffitt, Dr. Keith Kintigh, and Dr. Mark Liberman described potential new data resources including a network of data observatories, a new U.S. household panel, a repository for archaeological data, and a series of possible approaches to developing resources to capture human communication.
6. Members of the Committee discussed the following issues with Dr. Marrett: processes for establishing priorities; contingency planning; and international collaboration.
7. Dr. Teutonico provided an overview of the research based on sustainability (SEES) with emphasis on the role of the SBE sciences. Areas of focus include: climate and environment; modeling; capacity building, a Dear Colleague Letter around studying interactions and feedbacks between human and natural systems; and research coordination networks to encourage interdisciplinary proposals.
8. Dr. Blatecky provided an overview of CIF21 (Cyberinfrastructure for the 21st Century).
9. Dr. Paul Boyle provided an introduction to the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) UK, including: international collaboration, current activities, collaborations with NSF, similarities and differences between the two agencies, ESRC budget priorities and application processes.
10. Agenda for the next meeting: Dr. Saxenian welcomes thoughts that committee members may have, or issues they would like to put on the agenda.
  - NSF staff was requested to report to the committee on their relationships with Asia.
  - Information was requested from the American Economic Association's task force looking into administrative data.
  - Additional information on IGERTs was requested.
  - Information regarding the Science of Broadening Participation was requested.
  - An update on the status and future of OPPNet (<http://oppnet.nih.gov/>) was requested.

**Next meeting:** November 3-4, 2011

For a more detailed record of the presentations and conversations, see the transcript and summary.