



# COMMITTEE OF VISITORS FINAL REPORT

ENGINEERING DIRECTORATE

ENGINEERING EDUCATION AND CENTERS DIVISION  
(EEC)

David B. Spencer, Sc.D.  
Chair

Cynthia Furse, Ph.D.  
Co-Chair

# NSF STRATEGIC PLAN

## Strategic Planning In a Dynamic, Global Context:

(As quoted from the most recently issued NSF Strategic Plan for 2014-2018, on Page 4)

*“NSF has the responsibility to be a steward of the Nation’s research **and education** enterprise in the midst of changing conditions that materially affect its success. ... **New opportunities are emerging and technologies are arising across all disciplines.** ... NSF maintains a strong focus on carrying out our mission in a way that is sufficiently flexible to meet the changing requirements of the research and education enterprise as well as to address emerging and pressing societal challenges. At stake is the competitive strength of the Nation in the coming decades. NSF is not alone in this view.” (Emphasis added)*

# Among Key Strategic Goals in the 2014 NSF Strategic Plan:

*“Investing in the development of the next generation of researchers, scholars, and knowledge workers is one of NSF’s most important approaches to transforming the frontiers of science and engineering.... NSF supports research and development on STEM education and learning to prepare a diverse, globally competent STEM workforce and a STEM-literate citizenry.”*

# 3 KEY COV RECOMMENDATIONS

1. EEC Take a Leadership Role in Engineering Education
2. EEC Conduct a GAP Analysis in cooperation and conjunction with HER (many examples of opportunities included in Section 5 of COV)
3. EEC should fund at least one and up to five ERC's in the engineering education space at traditional ERC funding levels and durations.

# OK to say “NO”

- \* 2010-2012 EEC- COV Recommendations Consistent with Past Two (2) COV Recommendations (9 Years).
- \* Greater/Faster progress needs to be made
- \* IF EEC disagrees, it should indicate its disagreement with the COV recommendations
- \* If the problem is funding, EEC should indicate its inability to fulfill the COV recommendations due to lack of available funds.