



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

April 5, 2016

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to welcome you to the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate Advisory Committee (MPSAC), scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The agenda is posted on the [MPSAC website](#), and was separately emailed to you before.

Once again, the agenda focuses on materials available for your pre-meeting review, reinforcing our plans for the AC to provide the Directorate with advice from the community. I look forward to updating you on MPS and to hearing from you. Here are a few highlights of the meeting.

- We welcome Dr. Deborah Lockhart as the new Deputy Assistant Director (DAD) for MPS. We are grateful that Dr. Cliff Gabriel served as Acting DAD during the transition period.
- We also welcome Dr. Angela Wilson from Michigan State University as the new Division Director for the Chemistry division. We thank Dr. Carol Bessel who gracefully served acting Division Director.
- We are also continuing with a search for a Division Director for the Division of Materials Research. Linda Sapochak continues to serve as the Acting Division Director.
- We are in the midst of a search for a Deputy Division Director for the Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS). We are grateful that Tie Luo and Jennifer Pearl have stepped up to serve as Acting Deputy Division Director.
- Discussion items for our meeting will include:
  - Update of NSF's FY17 budget request
  - Briefing on LIGO and measurement of gravitation wave
  - Discussion on impact on investments in fundamental sciences on American competitiveness
  - Updates on the Division of Innovation and Industrial Partnerships
  - Update on National Research Traineeship program
  - Updates on cross-NSF Advisory Committees (ACCI, CEOSE and AC-ERE).

Eduardo Misawa is the liaison for the MPSAC. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact him at 703-292-5353 or at [emisawa@nsf.gov](mailto:emisawa@nsf.gov). Sara Dwyer or Angela Harris will send to you information concerning logistical arrangements for the meeting, including registration (which you must complete for each day in order to receive payment). You may reach Sara at [sdwyer@nsf.gov](mailto:sdwyer@nsf.gov) or at 703-292-8800 for more information.

I look forward to a productive meeting this week.

Sincerely,

F. Fleming Crim  
Assistant Director, National Science Foundation  
Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences