

**National Science Foundation**

4201 Wilson Boulevard  
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Dear Colleagues,

I wanted to update you on the schedule for the completion of the Senior Review and the release of its recommendations. Roger Blandford and his committee have been working very hard producing the report. We are now keeping to a tight schedule that will see Roger presenting the report to the November 1-3 meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Advisory Committee (MPS AC). The report becomes public at that time. Assuming that the MPS AC accepts the report and forwards it to NSF, we can begin planning to implement its recommendations. We will then post the report on our web site and let you know when it is available.

We will, of course, be involved in intensive discussions with the facilities managers after the MPS AC meeting as we work together to craft this implementation plan. As we have said in many meetings, we will also take this plan to the community to seek your input, including the AAS meeting in January and hopefully in a series of town meetings similar to those we held as we began the review last fall. At the appropriate time we will also re-open the e-mail address here at NSF to get the widest input to help in our planning.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask members of the community to consider hosting one of our town meetings. As before, we would like these to be regional in nature and provide a forum for us to interact directly with you as we take the next steps into our future. Please e-mail me ([gvancitt@nsf.gov](mailto:gvancitt@nsf.gov)) with a copy to Eileen Friel ([efriel@nsf.gov](mailto:efriel@nsf.gov)) if you are interested. We may be able to start these in December and will continue them post-AAS.

Sincerely,

Wayne

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Mailed to AAS members from [aas.org](http://aas.org) 29 August 2006