NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Directorate for Geosciences
Division of Earth Sciences

Memorandum

Date: August 13, 2013

To: File

From: Assistant Director for Geosciences RMW

Regarding: Selection of EAR/IF COV

The credibility of the COV mechanism rests, in a large measure, on the selection of credible, independent experts who are able to provide balanced and impartial assessments to NSF. Prior to sending out the letters of invitation to serve on the EAR/Instrumentation & Facilities (IF) COV, the EAR Division Director and the Deep Earth Processes Section Head were consulted regarding potential COV candidates.

The COV represented a broad segment of the disciplines consistent with the scope of activities for which the EAR/IF Program has oversight responsibilities. The committee contained expertise in stable and radiogenic isotope geochemistry, mineral physics, tectonics, seismology, hydrology, and mineralogy.

This diverse committee included two females, one individual from a predominantly undergraduate institution, two minority scientists, and two individuals who have not had EAR/IF support or submitted any proposals to EAR/IF in the last five years. One member was not able to attend the meeting at the last minute due to health problems. Dr. Roberta Rudnick, member of AC/GEO, served as chair of the COV and will report the findings and recommendations of the COV panel to the Advisory Committee for Geosciences.

There we no conflicts of interest among COV members. COV members present during the meeting were:

Dr. Roberta Rudnick
University of Maryland

Dr. Terry Tullis
Brown University

Dr. Yang Wang
Florida State University

Dr. Estella Atekwana
Oklahoma State University

Dr. Guy Hovis
Lafayette College

Dr. Mike Williams
University of Massachusetts

Dr. Randy Keller
University of Oklahoma