

APPENDIX: DIVERSITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST REPORT

I. The 2018 ECCS COV Meeting & Committee Membership

The 2018 ECCS Committee of Visitors (COV) met on May 21st and 22nd, 2018 to review programs in the Electrical, Communications, and Cyber Systems Division (ECCS) in the Directorate for Engineering over the period FY 2014 through FY 2017. The COV Committee was comprised of 14 members from the scientific community, chosen for their breadth of expertise and experience in fields associated with ECCS programs. The COV Committee exhibited diversity with respect to geographic, institutional, gender, ethnicity, age, private and government sector, and scientific representation. Further details are listed below:

- ***Geographic & Demographic Representation***

Geographic Region (as designated by the U.S. Census Bureau):

Northeast	New England	1
	Mid-Atlantic	3
South	South Atlantic	1
	East South Central	1
	West South Central	1
Midwest	East North Central	1
	West North Central	2
West	Mountain	2
	Pacific	2

Industry/Government (2): Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Government); Eastman/Kodak (Private Industry)

Institution Types:

- 2 Private Educational Institutions
- 11 Public Educational Institutions
- 1 Private Industry

Demographics: Approximately 43% female, 57% male. COV members represented diversity in age, heritage, and career experience.

- ***Programmatic Representation***

All members currently conduct or have conducted research in those disciplines, fields, or activities that are affected by ECCS awards/outcomes, and are strongly representative of the ECCS programs under review.

II. **Conflict of Interest (COI) Management**

COV Members were briefed prior to (via webinar), as well as at the start of the meeting on issues of Conflict of Interest (COI) by ECCS Senior Engineering Advisor and COI Officer Dr. Larry Goldberg. COI briefings are critical as the COV reviews actions that include the reading of proposals, reviews, and award recommendations (or proposal declinations), as well as commenting on the management of the merit review process in general.

Each COV member completed, signed and returned an NSF Privacy and Conflicts of Interest form (NSF 1230p) prior to viewing any ECCS proposal action. Known conflicts of interest (such as those involving the home institutions of COV members), as well as reported conflicts of interest by COV members were entered into the Electronic Jacket (eJacket) Committee of Visitors module prior to the start of proposal review. Other conflicts of interest were documented and entered into eJacket as they became known over the course of the review. Entering these conflicts of interest prevented COV members from electronically accessing proposals with which they were conflicted.

It is also important to note that none of the COV members had proposals pending in the ECCS Division at the time of review. In addition, 36% of the COV members had not been applicants to ECCS within the last five years, exceeding the 25% minimum required by COV policy. Finally, one COV member was a member of the Directorate for Engineering Advisory Committee ('AdCom'), as required by COV policy.

The ECCS Division Director, Deputy Division Director, Science Analyst, Senior Engineering Advisor, and ENG COV Monitor were available at all times prior to and during the COV meeting to answer questions and resolve issues regarding conflicts of interest.