

I. Committee Membership

The Committee of Visitors (COV) met on June 9-10, 2020 to review programs in the Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP) in the Directorate for Engineering. The COV Committee was composed of 19* members from the academic, and industrial community chosen for their breadth of expertise and experience in fields associated with IIP. Nine members of the COV reviewed the Academic Programs (Innovation Corps (I-Corps), Partnerships for Innovation (PFI), and Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers (IUCRC)), while ten members of the COV reviewed the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) Programs. The final report is a combination of the two sub-reports.

The 19 COV members composed a diverse committee with respect to geography, type of institution, gender, ethnicity, age, sector (private and government), and scientific representation. The specific composition of the COV Committee membership was as follows:

Geographic and Demographic Representation

Geographic Region:

- Northeast – Mid Atlantic – 2
- Northeast – New England - 0
- South – South Atlantic – 6
- South – East South Central – 3
- South – West South Central - 1
- West – Mountain – 2
- West – Pacific – 2
- Midwest – West North Central – 2
- Midwest – East North Central – 1

Institution Types:*

- 3 Private Educational Institutions
- 14 Public Educational Institutions
- 6 Industry

*Note: Four COV members are affiliated with both Educational Institutions and Industry and thus this total is greater than the number of individual COV members.

Demographics: 68% (13/19) female, 32% (6/19) male. COV members represented diversity in age and heritage.

Programmatic Representation

All members currently conduct or have conducted research in those disciplines, fields, or activities that are affected by IIP awards/outcomes and are representatives of the

IIP programs under review.

II. Conflict of Interest Report

A Conflict of Interest (COI) briefing was provided to all members prior to conducting COV-related activities. A COI briefing was also conducted at the start of the COV meeting by a certified NSF (ENG) COI Officer. All COV members completed the NSF COI form (NSF 1230P). All members of the COV were barred from seeing proposals from their home institution. None of the COV members was involved in the review of a program in which he or she had a pending proposal. The ENG COI officer was available at all times during the COV meeting to answer questions and/or resolve issues regarding conflicts of interest. No real or apparent conflicts arose during the course of the COV review of IIP programs.

*One of the COV members withdrew during the report writing phase. This individual was included in this Diversity and COI Report.