

Memorandum

TO: Gisele Muller-Parker, NSF GOV Coordinator, OD/OIA
FROM: Karen Marrongelle, Assistant Director, EHR *KM*
DATE: May 14, 2019
SUBJECT: Diversity and Conflicts of Interest - Committee of Visitors (GOV) for the Division of Graduate Education (OGE)

On October 11-12, 2018, a Committee of Visitors (GOV) convened at NSF in Alexandria, Virginia, to review the programs managed by the Division of Graduate Education (DGE)-specifically:

- CyberCorps®: Scholarship for Service(SFS)
- Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace - Education Track (SaTC-EDU)
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
- NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) and Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE)
- Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation (PRIME)

The GOV report was discussed and accepted at the EHR Advisory Committee meeting on April 25, 2019. This memo summarizes the diversity, independence, balance, and resolution of conflicts of interest of this GOV.

The credibility of the GOV mechanism rests, in large measure, on the selection of credible, independent experts who are able to provide balanced and impartial assessments to NSF. Before experts were invited to serve on the OGE GOV, the Division Director and Deputy Division Director of OGE were consulted regarding potential candidates. Program officers in OGE were also instrumental in identifying candidates.

The GOV consisted of 10 members (including the chair) who were selected for their expertise related to the mission of the division and the goals and activities supported by the programs. The chair of the GOV represented the EHR Advisory Committee. In view of the relatively small size of the group, the GOV was reasonably balanced with respect to the types of institutions supported through the programs, underrepresented groups, and geography.

Summary of Diversity of COV Membership

Characteristic	No. of GOV Members
Member of EHR Advisory Committee	1
Organization Type	
University	8
Four-Year College	
Two-Year College	
College System	
K-12 School or Local Education Agency (LEA)	
Business/Industry	2
Non-Profit Research Organization/Foundation	
Federal or State Government Agency	
Professional Society/Membership Organization	
Geographic Location	
Northeast (New England, Mid-Atlantic)	3
Midwest	1
South	6
West	

(continued)

Gender	
Male	5
Female	5
Race	
American Indian or Alaska Native	
Asian	
Black or African American	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	6
Other	
Two or More Races	1
Unknown	1
Ethnicity	
Hispanic or Latino	2
Not Hispanic or Latino	8
Unknown	
Persons with Disabilities	2

COV members were briefed about confidentiality and conflicts of interest (COIs) during an orientation webinar before the meeting, as well as at the beginning of the meeting at NSF. Each COV member completed a Conflicts-of-Interest and Confidentiality Statement (NSF Form 1230P) and identified his or her potential conflicts before beginning work. Conflicts were managed in the COV Module in the Electronic Jacket (eJacket) application. COV members who had a COI with particular proposals or awards were not allowed to view the related records or to participate in related discussions.