

National Science Foundation
Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering
2415 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA 22314



MEMORANDUM

To: Alicia Knoedler, Office Head, Office of Integrative Activities

From: Dr. Margaret Martonosi, Assistant Director, Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering

Date: December 6, 2023

Subject: Diversity, independence, and balance represented by the members of the CISE/CCF-CNS-IIS Committee of Visitors and the resolution of conflicts of interest

The Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Divisions of Computing and Communications Foundations (CCF), Computer and Network Systems (CNS), and Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS) charged a Committee of Visitors (COV) to review program-level matters pertaining to proposal decisions over the period FY 2019 through FY 2022. The COV met on September 20-22, 2023. The CISE Advisory Committee accepted the COV's report on December 6, 2023. The COV consisted of 31 members and was composed of a diverse group with respect to institution type, geography, gender, ethnicity, and scientific representation. The following table describes the main features of the COV with respect to these issues.

Category	Number
Members of the CISE AC	2
Institution Type	
<i>University</i>	27
<i>Other Non-profit</i>	1
<i>Industry</i>	3
Location	
<i>Northeast</i>	8
<i>South</i>	10
<i>Midwest</i>	4
<i>West</i>	9
Gender	
<i>Male</i>	18
<i>Female</i>	13
Underrepresented Minority	5
No Proposal to CCF/CNS/IIS in the last 5 Years	10

The members' expertise reflects the research areas covered by CCF, CNS, and IIS. 26 invited COV members attended the meeting in person, and five participants attended remotely. Most of the COV members were familiar with CISE from having served on the CISE Advisory Committee or review panels or were former or current grantees. Two members had pending proposals during the COV meeting; however, those proposals were not located in the divisions they were reviewing.

Conflict-of-interest (COI) and confidentiality rules were presented to COV members prior to the on-site meeting, and COV members were reminded to observe COI and confidentiality rules at the on-site meeting. All COV members were required to complete NSF Conflict of Interest Form 1230P. Known conflicts of interest, such as those involving the home institutions of COV members, were entered into the COV module in eJacket prior to the release of jackets to members. Other conflicts of interest were entered as they were identified over the course of the jacket review and on-site meeting. Entering these conflicts prevented COV members from electronically accessing proposals with which they were conflicted. A COI official from CISE was available at all times during the COV meeting to answer questions and resolve issues regarding conflicts of interest. All known conflicts were resolved.