



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Directorate for Geosciences

Division of Earth Sciences

Memorandum

Date: October 28, 2008
To: File
From: Assistant Director for Geosciences
Regarding: Selection of Surface Earth Processes Section COV Members

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/Surface Earth Processes Section (SEP) COV, the EAR Division Director and the SEP Section Head were consulted regarding potential COV candidates. Program Directors in the SEP Section also were instrumental in identifying and selecting the membership of the COV.

The COV represented a broad segment of the disciplines consistent with the scope of activities for which the SEP Section has oversight responsibilities. The committee contained expertise in paleontology, geomorphology, aqueous geochemistry, biogeochemistry, environmental geochemistry, hydrology, and watershed science. This diverse committee included three females, two minority scientists, and two individuals who have not been applicants to programs in the SEP Section in the last five years. Dr. Charles Marshall, a 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 were no conflicts of interest among COV members. COV members present during the meeting were:

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