

## I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation was established by the enactment, on May 10, 1950, of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861). (A brief statement of the background and legislative history of the Act is included as Appendices I & II.)

The Foundation consists of the National Science Board of twenty-four members, and the Director, both the Board and the Director being appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. In accordance with provisions of the Act the Board has appointed from its membership a nine-man Executive Committee. A list of the members of the Board follows: (A biographical sketch of each member is provided in Appendix III.)

- \*JAMES B. CONANT, Chairman, President, Harvard University
- \*EDWIN B. FRED, Vice Chairman, President, University of Wisconsin
- \*DETLEV W. BRONK, Chairman, Executive Committee, President, Johns Hopkins University
- SOPHIE D. ABERLE, Special Research Director, University of New Mexico
- \*CHESTER I. BARNARD, President, Rockefeller Foundation
- ROBERT PERCY BARNES, Head, Department of Chemistry, Howard University
- GERTY T. CORI, Professor of Biological Chemistry, Washington University
- JOHN WARREN DAVIS, President, West Virginia State College
- CHARLES DOLLARD, President, Carnegie Corporation of New York
- \*LEE A. DuBRIDGE, President, California Institute of Technology
- \*PAUL M. GROSS, Dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Duke University
- GEORGE D. HUMPHREY, President, University of Wyoming
- ORREN W. HYMAN, Dean, Medical School and Vice President, University of Tennessee
- \*ROBERT F. LOEB, Bard Professor of Medicine, Columbia University
- DONALD H. McLAUGHLIN, President, Homestake Mining Company, San Francisco, California
- FREDERICK A. MIDDLEBUSH, President, University of Missouri
- EDWARD L. MORELAND, Jackson & Moreland, Boston, Massachusetts
- \*JOSEPH C. MORRIS, Head, Physics Dept. and Vice President, Tulane University
- HAROLD M. MORSE, Professor of Mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J.
- ANDREY A. POTTER, Dean of Engineering, Purdue University
- JAMES A. REYNIERS, Director, Lobund Institute, University of Notre Dame
- \*ELVIN C. STAKELAN, Chief, Division of Plant Pathology and Botany, University of Minnesota
- CHARLES E. WILSON, Director, Office of Defense Mobilization
- PATRICK H. YANCEY, Professor of Biology, Spring Hill College

\* Members of the Executive Committee.

The Director, who also serves as a non-voting ex officio member of the Board, is the chief executive officer of the Foundation and holds office for a term of six years unless sooner removed by the President.

Dr. Alan T. Waterman, former Deputy Chief and Chief Scientist of the Office of Naval Research, was appointed Director of the Foundation in March and assumed office on April 6, 1951. The Foundation is thus in the very early stages of organization with the majority of its principal staff yet to be named.

In the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, the Foundation is, among other things, authorized and directed -

- (1) to develop and encourage the pursuit of a national policy for the promotion of basic research and education in the sciences;
- (2) to initiate and support basic scientific research in the mathematical, physical, medical, biological, engineering, and other sciences, by making contracts or other arrangements for the conduct of such basic scientific research and to appraise the impact of research upon industrial development and upon the general welfare;
- (3) at the request of the Secretary of Defense, to initiate and support specific scientific research activities in connection with matters relating to the national defense by making contracts or other arrangements for the conduct of such scientific research;
- (4) to award scholarships and graduate fellowships in the mathematical, physical, medical, biological, engineering, and other sciences;
- (5) to foster the interchange of scientific information among scientists in the United States and foreign countries;
- (6) to evaluate scientific research programs undertaken by agencies of the Federal Government, and to correlate the Foundation's scientific research programs with those undertaken by individuals and by public and private research groups; and

- (7) to maintain a register of scientific and technical personnel and in other ways provide a central clearinghouse for information covering all scientific and technical personnel in the United States, including its Territories and possessions.