PROPOSAL REVIEW PANEL FOR MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOSCIENCES
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee Charter

1. Committee's Official Designation Proposal Review Panel for Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (the Committee) #10746

2. Authority This committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App., and the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §1861 et. seq.

3. Objective and Scope of Activities To advise the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the merit of proposals requesting financial support of research and research-related activities. The Committee will review proposals submitted to NSF under the purview of the Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB).

4. Description of Duties The Committee will review and evaluate proposals, which may include site visits, and provide written recommendations on proposals as part of the selection process for awards. The Committee may evaluate and provide advice on the progress of awarded proposals.

5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports The Committee reports to the Division Director of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences.

6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support The National Science Foundation will provide all operating and staff support costs for the Committee.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years The estimated annual operating cost of this committee is about $1,540,000 which includes about $788,000 in staff support cost. Staff support is approximately 6.0 person-years.

8. Designated Federal Officer A full-time or permanent part-time NSF employee will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call the committee meetings, prepare and approve meeting agendas, attend committee meetings, and adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest. The Division Director of MCB will serve as DFO. The alternate DFO is the program manager, director, or official running the review panel meeting or managing the site visit.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings There will be approximately thirty meetings a year.

10. Duration It is expected that the Committee will continue indefinitely with renewals of the charter every two years as required under FACA.

11. Termination The Committee is subject to biennial review and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless the charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of FACA.

12. Membership and Designation Membership consists of approximately 330 people. The number of these members attending each meeting is determined by the subject and number of proposals to be reviewed. Members are selected to achieve a balance of viewpoints and expertise in scientific areas and types of institutions encompassed by MCB activities. To the extent practicable, effort is made to achieve a diverse membership that includes individuals from underrepresented groups and different geographic regions. It is anticipated that members will be comprised of Special Government Employees (SGE) and Regular Government Employees (RGE).

13. Recordkeeping The records of the Committee shall be handled according to section 2, General Records Schedule 26 and applicable agency records disposition schedule.

14. Certification This committee is determined to be necessary and in the public interest.

Parag Chitnis
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and Cellular Biosciences

John C. Wingfield
Assistant Director
Directorate for Biological Sciences

Date Filed with Congress:
July 1, 2013