

VCAT Feedback on
NIST's Role in the Innovation
Ecosystem

6/11/2008

feedback

- Format of meeting – we need to find a way to cover material that is conducive to stimulating feedback from VCAT
- Format – lectures, not issues and questions for committee to react to
- Missing strategic context for NIST's work
- NIST is an underutilized resource
- Jumped into detail too early – no context for role in ecosystem, objectives, etc. (vision issue?)
- Candor seemed missing in discussions with regard to the budget discussion

feedback

- Too much on programs, no time on issues
- VCAT looking to provide feedback but needs to know about what?
- Structure meetings around smaller group interactions with lab directors for focus and effective use of time
- What does NIST management want from VCAT?
- What does VCAT want to do? React? Propose? Explore? Advocate?
- VCAT not comfortable with “all work is focused on policy and organizational issues” – need better and more accurate formulation. Remove “all” in guiding principles

feedback

- We don't know how to make a contribution regarding priorities
- VCAT wants to be presented with problems and issues of policy and priorities and to help management wrestle with them
- Consider reprogramming now based on priorities rather than waiting for a continuing resolution to force it. How much flexibility does the Director have?