

## Appendix I.

# 2008 Charge

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### MEMORANDUM

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DATE: January 15, 2008

TO: Advisory Committee for GPRA Performance Assessment  
(AC/GPA)

FROM: Thomas Cooley  
Chief Financial Officer and Director,  
Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management

SUBJECT: Charge for the FY 2007 Advisory Committee for GPRA  
Performance Assessment

The Advisory Committee for GPRA Performance Assessment (AC/GPA) provides advice and recommendations to the NSF Director on the Foundation's response to the reporting mandate set forth in the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993. The committee focuses on issues related to the Foundation's strategic outcome goals. These outcome goals are defined in the Foundation's Strategic Plan for FY 2006-2011, *Investing in America's Future*.

The AC/GPA charge for FY 2008 is twofold: (1) to assess whether NSF has demonstrated significant achievement for the Discovery, Learning, and Research Infrastructure strategic outcome goals, and (2) to convey its assessment in a report to the NSF Director. As in previous years, a primary resource for this assessment will be program highlights that are made available on the committee website. Other resources, including Committee of Visitors reports, project reports from principal investigators, and other performance information, will also be available for consideration in your assessment. In your report, we ask that you select several program highlights under each outcome goal to demonstrate the most significant accomplishments reported for the agency's portfolio during this past year.

In response to recommendations from the 2007 Committee on improving the Committee's decision-making process, we have made significant improvements in two areas. First, we added specific program categories to the highlights database in order to ensure broad coverage of NSF program accomplishments. Second, we established specific evaluation criteria that you may use in assessing achievement under each strategic outcome goal. We believe that these improvements address the Committee's concerns.

In addition to the formal charge to evaluate NSF's accomplishments under the strategic outcome goals, we request that you discuss three topics at your annual meeting: transformative research, broadening participation, and societal benefit of NSF investments. This year we asked program officers to address these topics in the Highlights, and you will be provided with a set of Highlights that were designated in each area. Collectively these Highlights, as well as other related information, will provide a resource for your discussion at your meeting. We ask that you include a summary of your discussion and conclusions in your report to the Director.