

a personnel action against an employee or applicant because of disclosure of information by that individual that is reasonably believed to evidence violations of law, rule or regulation; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; an abuse of authority; or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, unless disclosure of such information is specifically prohibited by law and such information is specifically required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

Retaliation against an employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(8). If you believe that you have been the victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written complaint (Form OSC-11) with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel at 1730 M Street NW., Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505 or online through the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

#### Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

#### Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a Federal employee for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal Antidiscrimination and Whistleblower Protection Laws up to and including removal. If OSC has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

#### Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within your agency (e.g., EEO, Office of Human Resources, Office of the General Counsel). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection and retaliation laws can be found at the EEOC Web site—<http://www.eeoc.gov> and the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

#### Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the Act nor this notice creates, expands or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee or applicant under the laws of the United States, including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

Dated: November 2, 2006.

**Heather C. Gottry,**

*Acting General Counsel, National Endowment for the Humanities.*

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**BILLING CODE 7536-01-P**

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

##### National Science Board Commission on 21st Century Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Pub. L. 92-463) the following meeting is being announced.

*Name:* Commission on 21st Century Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (#29127).

*Dates/Time:* The meeting will take place on November 20 and 21, 2006. The meeting will be held from 11 a.m. to no later than 5:45 p.m. on November 20 and from 8:15 a.m. to no later than 12:45 p.m. on November 21.

*Place:* The meeting will be held in the Auditorium at the Museum of Science and Industry, 57th Street and Lakeshore Drive, Chicago, IL 60637. Directions to the Museum may be found at <http://www.msichicago.org>.

*Type of Meeting:* Open.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Elizabeth Strickland, Commission Executive Secretary, National Science Board Office, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230; *Phone:* 703-292-4527; *E-mail:* [estrickl@nsf.gov](mailto:estrickl@nsf.gov).

*Purpose of Meeting:* The purpose of this meeting is for the Commission to discuss its ongoing work and to receive briefings relating to STEM education. Further information about the Commission and a provisional agenda for the meeting may be found at [http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/edu\\_com/](http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/edu_com/).

*Agenda:* Plenary Session I (11 a.m.–12:15 p.m., November 20): Invited speakers to address science, technology, engineering, and

mathematics (STEM) education. Plenary Session II (1:15 p.m.–5:45 p.m., November 20): Presentations and discussions by Working Groups of the Commission. Plenary Session III (8:15 a.m.–10 a.m., November 21): Invited speakers to address STEM Education. Plenary Session IV (10:20 a.m.–12:45 p.m., November 21): Discussion among Commission Members.

*Public Meeting Attendance:* The public is welcome to attend the entire meeting. Those wishing to attend the meeting may follow posted signs to the West Pavilion North Entrance of the Museum building. Those requiring special assistance may make arrangements in advance by e-mailing [NSBEDdCom@nsf.gov](mailto:NSBEDdCom@nsf.gov).

*Public Comment:* Written comments to the Commission may be submitted by e-mail to [NSBEDCom@nsf.gov](mailto:NSBEDCom@nsf.gov). Those wishing to make brief public comments during the meeting may register to do so either by signing up at the information table on the day of the meeting or in advance by sending an e-mail to [NSBEDCom@nsf.gov](mailto:NSBEDCom@nsf.gov).

Dated: November 1, 2006.

**Susanne E. Bolton,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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#### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

##### Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

##### Agenda

**TIME AND DATE:** 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 14, 2006.

**PLACE:** NTSB Conference Center, 429 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC 20594.

**STATUS:** The one item is open to the public.

**MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:** 5299V, *Most Wanted Safety Recommendations Program*—November 2006; Update on Federal Issues.

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:** The Office of Public Affairs, Telephone: (202) 314-6100.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Chris Bisett at (202) 314-6305 by Friday, November 10, 2006.

The public may view the meeting via a live or archived Webcast by accessing a link under "News & Events" on the NTSB home page at <http://www.nts.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Vicky D'Onofrio, (202) 314-6410.

Dated: November 3, 2006.

**Vicky D'Onofrio,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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