



National Science Foundation  
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## **JAMES DUDERSTADT IS NSB'S 2015 VANNEVAR BUSH AWARDEE**

**University of Michigan President Emeritus recognized for life-long leadership in science and higher education**



NSB names James Duderstadt for its prestigious Vannevar Bush award.

**Credit and Larger Version**

**April 30, 2015**

Today the National Science Board (NSB) announced that James Duderstadt will receive its prestigious **Vannevar Bush Award**. Duderstadt, president *emeritus* and University Professor of science and engineering at the University of Michigan (UM), is being recognized for his leadership in science and technology and his substantial contributions to the welfare of the nation through public service activities in science, technology and public policy.

The NSB is the policymaking body for the National Science Foundation (NSF), an independent federal agency that supports fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering.

"James Duderstadt has dedicated his career to innovations in STEM research and education and to strengthening the nation's science and technology policy," said Dr. Vint Cerf, chair of the NSB's Committee on Honorary Awards. "Whether as president of a major public research university or serving on National Research Council committees, his dedicated, thoughtful, and collegial approach to tackling multi-faceted problems exemplifies leadership and has resulted in numerous significant contributions to the public welfare."

At the national level, Duderstadt has chaired numerous studies concerning American science, technology, and education policy for the National Academies and various federal agencies in areas

including engineering research, nuclear energy, information technology, higher education, and national science policy. During his decade of service as both member and chair of NSB, he played an influential role in setting strategic directions for NSF. He currently chairs the Policy and Global Affairs Division of the National Academies, where he coordinates a broad range of science and technology policy studies at both the national and international level.

Duderstadt has also contributed significantly to the national interest as a leader of American higher education over the past four decades. As engineering dean during a time of tight state budgets, he created a new, modern engineering campus by combining public and private funding sources. He stimulated the introduction of digital and online technologies in research and education, including the creation of NSFnet, the precursor to the Internet. As provost and president of the University of Michigan, Duderstadt fostered UM's leadership in research and spearheaded university-industry-government collaborations. One of his most important legacies was the development of effective strategies for diversifying the students, faculty, and leadership of American higher education.

Duderstadt obtained his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from Yale University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in engineering science and physics from the California Institute of Technology. Duderstadt began his career as a faculty member in nuclear engineering at the University of Michigan, rising to dean of the college of engineering, to provost, and ultimately, president, a position he served in for eight years.

He has authored dozens of books and hundreds of articles on subjects that span engineering, science and higher education. Among his many accolades are awards from the National Academy of Engineering, the National Action Commission for Minorities in Engineering, and the American Council on Education. He received the National Medal of Technology from President George H. W. Bush. He was recognized as National Engineer of the Year by the National Society of Professional Engineers, received the E.O. Lawrence Award from the United States Department of Energy, and the Arthur Holly Compton Prize, and the Mark Mills Award from the American Nuclear Society.

"It is a great honor to receive this award named for Vannevar Bush, who defined the role of the American university in serving the needs of this nation through science and technology, a mission that has guided my own career as both a scientist and a university leader," said Duderstadt.

NSB will present Duderstadt with the Vannevar Bush Award on May 5, 2015, during the NSF/NSB Annual Awards Ceremony held in Washington, D.C. NSB will also recognize two groups with its Public Service Award and NSF will honor this year's Waterman Award recipient, an outstanding scientist aged 35 or younger.

All four 2015 awardees will give presentations during the NSB's May 5-6 meeting. The presentations will be open to the public at NSF in Arlington, Virginia and also viewable via a live webcast. The two group awardees will each present on May 5 with the Vannevar Bush and Waterman awardees presenting on May 6. Presentation times, the webcast link, and other details are posted on NSB's **website**.

The Board initiated its Vannevar Bush Award in 1980 in memory of Vannevar Bush, who helped establish federal funding for science and engineering as a national priority and played a pivotal role in the creation of the National Science Foundation. Past award recipients include Richard Tapia (Rice University), Leon Lederman (Fermilab), Shirley Ann Jackson (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), and David Packard (Hewlett-Packard Company).

### **About the National Science Board**

The National Science Board (NSB) is the policymaking body for the National Science Foundation. NSB also advises the President and Congress on science and engineering policy issues. The

Board's 24 members are drawn primarily from universities and industry and represent a variety of science and engineering disciplines. Selected for their eminence in research, education or public service and records of distinguished service, Board members serve six-year terms. NSF's Director is an ex officio 25<sup>th</sup> member of the Board. Visit **NSB's website** for more information.

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*The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency that supports fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering. In fiscal year (FY) 2015, its budget is \$7.3 billion. NSF funds reach all 50 states through grants to nearly 2,000 colleges, universities and other institutions. Each year, NSF receives about 48,000 competitive proposals for funding, and makes about 11,000 new funding awards. NSF also awards about \$626 million in professional and service contracts yearly.*

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