



OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230



Dear Colleagues,

A strong and vibrant science and engineering workforce drives our nation's robust economy. Creating such a workforce has been a critical component of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) mission and vision since the agency's inception.

Technician education is an important part of the NSF's strategic approach for ensuring that our nation's employers have technologically savvy workers. The NSF's Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program supports the development of technicians in emerging fields, recognizing the need to inspire, motivate, and empower students to develop and achieve career goals. It also helps traditional industries respond to the rapid pace of change in global markets.

I invite you to explore the breadth and depth of ATE projects that this publication highlights. You will see that these innovative projects are on the frontier of technician education, and that they are generating changes across disciplines and education sectors. The ATE projects, along with the centers that are also part of the ATE program, serve as genuine transformative agents in higher education.

The NSF is proud to be part of the effort that produces excellent technicians, who are essential to the United States' continued leadership in technological innovation. We look forward to continuing this valuable investment in our nation's most precious asset—its people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arden L. Bement, Jr." followed by a stylized flourish.

Arden L. Bement, Jr.
Director