

ESRF External Panel Review Format & Panel Charter

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Engineering Sciences External Panel Review Format



Two-part Review

- Part I: One-day Introductory Meeting (Jan 15, 2007)
 - Set the context for our Science & Technology efforts in the Sandia mission space
 - Provide a broad overview of Engineering Sciences (ES) at Sandia, focusing on the connection of the Research Foundation (RF) to major programs
 - Discuss the management structure for ESRF
 - Serve as a "come-up-to-speed" meeting to set the stage for the actual review that will occur later in March
- Part II: Two-day Formal Review Meeting (March 2007)
 - Provide technical presentations of the work under the ESRF and offer opportunities to meet with the staff and management
 - Provide a set of questions to Panel to assist them in evaluating the ESRF activities
 - Ask for a formal report from the Panel, which will become part of Sandia's Performance Evaluation Plan (PEP)



Engineering Sciences External Panel Charter: Mission, Duties, Scope



- **Mission**
 - The ES External Panel will:
 - Provide independent review, guidance, and advice to the executive management at Sandia National Laboratories on issues affecting the quality, technical productivity, and management effectiveness of Sandia's Engineering Sciences Research Foundation (ESRF).
- **Duties**
 - The ES External Panel will:
 - Participate in all advisory committee meetings and functions when possible.
 - Review agenda and supporting materials prior to advisory committee meetings.
 - Inform others about the organization.
 - Communicate observations and advice in an out-brief session with members of Sandia's Executive Management.
 - Summarize advice and comments in a timely report following each External Panel Meeting within 30 days of the meeting. The report is delivered to the Sandia Chief Technology Officer.



Engineering Sciences External Panel Charter: Mission, Duties, Scope (cont'd)



- **Scope**

- The ES External Panel will assess:
 - Relevance to national needs and agency mission.
 - Quality of science, technology, and engineering.
 - Effectiveness of program performance management and strategic planning.
 - Utilization of LDRD within Engineering Sciences at Sandia.
 - Strategies and tactics adopted to address major challenges faced by the Research Foundation.
- We also look to the ES External Panel to advise us in regard to:
 - National and international trends that may affect the Research Foundation.
 - Opportunities that should be explored.
 - Culture and environment of the organization (e.g. innovation, creativity, collaboration, etc.).



Engineering Sciences External Panel

Our Charge to the Panel



The Panel is requested to evaluate the Engineering Sciences Research Foundation activities referring to the following questions

What is the technical quality of the research?

- a. Is the work oriented towards addressing important technical issues?
- b. Is the research innovative?
- c. Is the research yielding significant results?
- d. To what extent will the results enhance our experimental and computational capabilities?

Is the research relevant to Sandia's mission?

- a. Is there a clear connection to the nuclear weapon mission?
- b. Is there a clear connection to Sandia's Science and Technology mission, i.e., are we addressing appropriate emerging technology areas?
- c. Is there an appropriate balance between short and long term research?
- d. Do the researchers understand how their research relates to the strategic mission?



Our Charge to the Panel (cont'd)



How well is the research managed?

- a. How well is the research coordinated?
- b. What is the quality of the environment for researchers in Engineering Sciences, i.e., what impediments do researchers face?
- c. How enthusiastic is the staff for Engineering Sciences research?

How well is the research connected to the external community?

- a. Is there an impact on the external technical community?
- b. How effectively is Sandia in working with relevant researchers in universities?
- c. Has Sandia developed meaningful relationships with industry
- d. Are there national initiatives with which Engineering Sciences should be more closely involved?

