

NSF Science Policy Opportunity

Late in April 2006, the MAA received a letter from the Mathematical Sciences Division of NSF, announcing a search for a new NSF officer. Mathematicians who are interested in science policy issues might want to investigate this opportunity. The letter is quoted below.

Subject: Please circulate: Assistant Program Officer position available at NSF

Dear Colleague,

The Division of Mathematical Sciences at NSF is recruiting a high-level staff member to assist the Division management and the scientific program officers. Please circulate this announcement to potentially interested individuals.

The application period will end on June 1, 2006.

The position is being advertised in two ways – as a possible permanent position or as a visiting scientist/federal temporary appointment. For information, please see the announcements:

Permanent position (announcement number E20060092): [at]
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2006/e20060092/e20060092.pdf>

Temporary position (announcement number E20060093): [at]
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2006/e20060093/e20060093.pdf>

This is an opportunity for someone interested in scientific policy and the management and funding of the scientific enterprise. One of the main duties of the position is the production of reports and studies that drive the Division's funding decisions. Another is to form a liaison with mathematical scientists to help explain the Division's current portfolio and how members of the community can best benefit from it. The position would provide an opportunity to work in the highly integrated environment of the Foundation and to gain a working knowledge of some of the practices and ideas driving other scientific disciplines.

Excellent people skills and an ability to work with data in a programming environment are essential.

A Ph.D. in Mathematics or Statistics would be ideal, but the Division would consider an application from a candidate with a masters degree and additional experience or a candidate with a higher degree in a mathematics-related discipline.

The starting point of the salary scale (\$54,272 to \$100,554) is commensurate with experience. Thus, for example, a postdoc with some experience past the doctoral degree could benefit from this flexibility.

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Division of Mathematical Sciences National Science Foundation