

Appendix C:

National Workshop Breakout Sessions

June 12-13, 2003

**National Science Foundation
Workshop on Improving Education in the Social,
Behavioral, and Economic Sciences:
A National Dialogue**

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June 12-13, 2003

Breakout Session Strategy and Work Plan

The purpose of the breakout sessions is to generate ideas and recommendations that can be incorporated into a report to the National Science Foundation on a plan of action to improve education and training in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. Thursday's plenary sessions will put numerous ideas and proposals on the table. The Friday breakout sessions are intended to draw upon the expertise of all participants in developing substantive recommendations and plans for NSF. Come prepared to share ideas, work hard, and write effectively on Friday!

Participants will be divided into four groups at the end of the plenary sessions on Thursday and will meet from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. to get acquainted and lay out strategies. Most of Friday will be devoted to breakout group deliberations. At the end of the day on Friday, each breakout group will present a fifteen-minute report in a plenary session.

The groups will be organized around the four educational levels that structure the workshop:

1. K-12 Education *(North Carolina Room, 2nd Floor)*
2. Two-Year and Undergraduate Education *(New York Room, 2nd Floor)*
3. Graduate Education *(New Jersey Room, 2nd Floor)*
4. Post Doctoral Education and Career Development *(Massachusetts Room, 2nd Floor)*

All breakout groups should address ways to increase diversity at all levels of the educational process. Also, each group is encouraged to address issues of alignment across educational levels.

Each breakout group will have a designated leader to moderate and guide discussion. We have provided a set of questions to structure each group's deliberations and report (see attached). This outline captures what we believe to be the key components of a plan of action and recommendations to be prepared for NSF. We ask that each group address the seven topics included in the attached generic outline. Each of these topics can be addressed from the vantage of initiatives directed to students, curricula, faculty, and organizational units (e.g., departments). We encourage consideration of these different vantages.

Each group will have a designated reporter who will be provided with a laptop. He or she should capture the group's discussion of the seven outline topics in the form of narrative text and recommendations. This material will be the basis for the reporter's brief comments Friday afternoon. More important, these documents are vital to the preparation of the final report to the NSF.

Breakout Group Discussion and Report Guide

1. What are the key needs for improving education and training in the social and behavioral sciences at your educational level?
2. Based on your collective knowledge, what are some of the best practices (at any educational level) that could make a difference for education and training at your level?
3. What are the impediments to overcome in order to improve social and behavioral science education at your level? Are there distinct opportunities or resources that usefully could be invoked?
4. From what you know about the National Science Foundation's programs, what funding mechanisms might be especially ripe for the fuller integration of the social and behavioral sciences into extant educational initiatives?
5. What initiatives or programs should the National Science Foundation consider establishing to improve social and behavioral science education at your level? What mechanisms or strategies are particularly promising over the next five to ten years (e.g., by discipline, by or across educational levels, or through centers, academic departments, or other organizational units)? Draft the key components of announcement(s) for NSF funding to foster those improvements (avoid operational details).
6. What are the most pressing needs and strategies for diversifying students, faculty, and the scientific workforce (or potential workforce) at your educational level?
7. What outreach strategies are needed to attract and recruit students of diverse backgrounds and aspirations?
8. What training mechanisms should be incorporated into programs to best reach diverse populations?
9. From the perspective of your group's educational level, what key points should be emphasized in the report and recommendations emanating from the workshop?

**Improving Education in the Social,
Behavioral, and Economic Sciences:
A National Dialogue**

Breakout Group Chairs and Reporters

K-12 Group

Chair: William Ouchi, University of California, Los Angeles

Reporter: Barbara Schneider, University of Chicago

Two-Year and Undergraduate Group

Chair: Myra N. Burnett, Spelman College, Chair

Reporter: Joseph Joyce, Wellesley College

Graduate Group

Chair: Bernice Pescosolido, Indiana University

Reporter: Edie N. Goldenberg, University of Michigan

Postdoctoral and Career Development Group

Chair: Robert Floden, Michigan State University

Reporter: Kenneth E. Foote, University of Colorado, Boulder

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