

Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology (VCAT)

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The Honorable Dr. Walter G. Copan

Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology

By email

November 17, 2020

Dear Walt:

We members of the VCAT are committed to ensuring that NIST is the best standards body in the world. You have led NIST with uncompromising integrity, understanding that NIST's reputation for its unbiased industry focus and technical excellence is NIST's greatest strength. We have been impressed with your efforts to implement a new organizational structure that was discussed at the recent VCAT meeting. This new organization reflects a careful balance between basic research and technology transition, between maintaining NIST's historical strengths and cultivating new ones; it will bring NIST to the next level in an ever changing, complex and competitive world.

We know that you are dedicated to maintaining NIST's scientific integrity, and trust that you will continue to insure that every new employee, and especially every incoming executive understands and respects NIST's core values. In particular, we believe it is essential to maintain NIST's policy and initiative on Diversity and Inclusivity assuring that NIST is a welcoming environment for all employees and visiting scientists. As a country, we need to bring the best and the brightest people into NIST so that we can maintain our preeminence in the scientific community and the standards bodies.

Respectfully,

VCAT

E. Allen Adler, Chair

Katharine Ku, Vice Chair