CHARTER
of the
INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION
of the
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND SCIENCES
of the
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Interagency Working Group on Language and Communication (IWGLC) was established by action of the Subcommittee on Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) in September, 2013. That subcommittee is now called the Subcommittee on Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS). The IWGLC is being re-established by this charter.

B. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the IWGLC is to coordinate and make recommendations about the range of S&T programs and activities related to key topics of language and communication that are supported across Federal Agencies and Departments. The IWGLC will strive to enhance the Federal R&D enterprise by embracing diversity, recognizing that inclusion of a broad range of backgrounds and perspectives is critical to achieving robust intellectual dialogue.

C. Functions

The main functions of the IWGLC are to:

1. Facilitate efforts across Federal Agencies and Departments to improve coordination and collaboration of R&D agendas across language and communication, by identifying opportunities such as joint workshops, shared publications, and digital ‘collaboratories’.

2. Refine the IWGLC taxonomy of scientific and technological aspects of language and communication, with reference to scientific and technological activities carried out by commercial industry.

3. Conduct an updated assessment of the state of basic and applied research in language and communication in the Federal research Agencies and Departments using the refined IWGLC taxonomy.

4. Recommend potential formal collaborations across Federal Agencies and Departments, especially collaborations to translate language and communication research findings to agency practice.
D. Membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the IWGLC:
  Department of Agriculture;
  Department of Commerce; Department of Defense (co-chair);
  Department of Education (co-chair);
  Department of Energy;
  Department of Health and Human Services;
  Department of Homeland Security;
  Department of the Interior;
  Department of Justice; Department of Labor; Department of State; Department of the Treasury; Department of Transportation;
  Department of Veterans Affairs;
  United States Agency for International Development; Central Intelligence Agency;
  Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; Environmental Protection Agency;
  Federal Communications Commission (Ex officio); National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
  National Endowment of the Arts
  National Security Agency;
  National Science Foundation; and
  Smithsonian Institution.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the IWGLC:

  Office of Management and Budget; and
  Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive organizations, departments and agencies as the Co-Chairs may, from time to time, designate.

E. Private Sector Interface

The IWGLC, through the SBS Subcommittee, may work with the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private sector advice and will recommend to the CoS and/or the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy the nature of additional private sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The IWGLC may also interact with and receive ad hoc advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

F. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the Subcommittee prior to its expiration, the IWG shall terminate no later than July 31, 2017.
G. Determination

We hereby determine that the formation of the Interagency Working Group on Language and Communication is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by Law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:

[Signature]
Fay Lonax Cook
Co-Chair of the Subcommittee on Social and Behavioral Sciences and
Assistant Director, Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences
National Science Foundation

[Signature]
Bill Riley
Co-Chair of the Subcommittee on Social and Behavioral Sciences and
Director, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
National Institutes of Health

[Signature]
Koji Koizumi
Co-Chair of the Subcommittee on Social and Behavioral Sciences and
Assistant Director for Federal R&D
Office of Science and Technology Policy

3/16/16

[Date]

3/14/16

[Date]