NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Meeting of National Council on the Humanities

AGENCY: National Endowment for the Humanities, National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the National Council on the Humanities will meet to advise the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) with respect to policies, programs and procedures for carrying out its functions; to review applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 and make recommendations thereon to the Chairman; and to consider gifts offered to NEH and make recommendations thereon to the Chairman.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, July 12, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., and Friday, July 13, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. until adjourned.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Constitution Center, 400 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20506. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for room numbers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Voyatzis, Committee Management Officer, 400 7th Street SW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 606–8322; evoyatzis@neh.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Council on the Humanities is meeting pursuant to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 951–960, as amended). The Committee meetings of the National Council on the Humanities will be held on July 12, 2018, as follows: The policy discussion session (open to the public) will convene at 9:00 a.m. until approximately 10:30 a.m., followed by the discussion of specific grant applications and programs before the Council (closed to the public) from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

All Committee meetings will take place at Constitution Center. For specific room numbers, contact Caitlin Cater at (202) 606–8322 or gencounsel@neh.gov.

The plenary session of the National Council on the Humanities will convene on July 13, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Center at Constitution Center. The agenda for the morning session (open to the public) will be as follows:

A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
B. Reports
   1. Chairman’s Remarks
   2. Senior Deputy Chairman’s Remarks
   3. Presentation by guest speaker Lori Foley, Federal Emergency Management Agency
   4. Congressional Affairs and Budget Reports
   5. Office of Communications Report on New NEH Website
   6. Reports on Policy and General Matters
      a. Digital Humanities
      b. Education Programs
      c. Federal/State Partnership
      d. Preservation and Access
      e. Challenge Grants
      f. Public Programs
      g. Research Programs

The remainder of the plenary session will be for consideration of specific applications and therefore will be closed to the public.

As identified above, portions of the meeting of the National Council on the Humanities will be closed to the public pursuant to sections 552b(c)(4), 552b(c)(6), and 552b(c)(9)(B) of Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The closed sessions will include review of personal and/or proprietary financial and commercial information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants, and discussion of certain information, the premature disclosure of which could significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action. I have made this determination pursuant to the authority granted me by the Chairman’s Delegation of Authority to Close Advisory Committee Meetings dated April 15, 2016.

Please note that individuals planning to attend the public sessions of the meeting are subject to security screening procedures. If you wish to attend any of the public sessions, please inform NEH as soon as possible by contacting Caitlin Cater at (202) 606–8322 or gencounsel@neh.gov. Please also provide advance notice of any special needs or accommodations, including for a sign language interpreter.

Dated: June 6, 2018.

Elizabeth Voyatzis,
Committee Management Officer.

BILLING CODE 7536–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the Federal Register on April 18, 2018, and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed renewal submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. The full submission may be found at: http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Comments should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725 7th Street NW, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Room W18000, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov. Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling Ms. Plimpton at (703) 292–7556. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic,
mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**Title of Collection:** Grantee Reporting Requirements for the Engineering Research Centers (ERCs).

**OMB Number:** 3145–0220.

**Type of Request:** Intent to seek approval to renew an information collection.

**Abstract:**

**Proposed Project:** The Engineering Research Centers (ERC) program supports an integrated, interdisciplinary research environment to advance fundamental engineering knowledge and engineered systems; educate a globally competitive and diverse engineering workforce from K–12 on; and join academe and industry in partnership to achieve these goals. ERCs conduct world-class research through partnerships of academic institutions, national laboratories, industrial organizations, and/or other public/private entities. New knowledge thus created is meaningfully linked to society.

ERCs conduct world-class research with an engineered systems perspective that integrates materials, devices, processes, components, control algorithms and/or other enabling elements to perform a well-defined function. These systems provide a unique academic research and education experience that involves integrative complexity and technological realization. The complexity of the systems perspective includes the factors associated with its use in industry, society/environment, or the human body.

ERCs enable and foster excellent education, integrate research and education, speed knowledge/technology transfer through partnerships between academe and industry, and prepare a more competitive future workforce. ERCs capitalize on diversity through participation in center activities and demonstrate leadership in the involvement of groups underrepresented in science and engineering.

Centers are required to submit annual reports on progress and plans, which will be used as a basis for performance review and determining the level of continued funding. To support this review and the management of a Center, ERCs also are required to submit management and performance indicators annually to NSF via a data collection website that is managed by a technical assistance contractor. These indicators are both quantitative and descriptive and may include, for example, the characteristics of center personnel and students; sources of cash and in-kind support; expenditures by operational component; characteristics of industrial and/or other sector participation; research activities; education activities; knowledge transfer activities; patents, licenses; publications; degrees granted to students involved in Center activities; descriptions of significant advances and other outcomes of the ERC effort. Such reporting requirements will be included in the cooperative agreement which is binding between the academic institution and the NSF.

Each Center’s annual report will address the following categories of activities: (1) Vision and impact, (2) strategic plan, (3) research program, (4) innovation ecosystem and industrial collaboration, (5) education, (6) infrastructure (leadership, management, facilities, diversity) and (7) budget issues.

For each of the categories the report will describe overall objectives for the year, progress toward center goals, problems the Center has encountered in making progress towards goals and how they were overcome, plans for the future and anticipated research and other barriers to overcome in the following year, and specific outputs and outcomes.

**Use of the Information:** The data collected will be used for NSF internal reports, historical data, performance review by peer site visit teams, program level studies and evaluations, and for securing future funding for continued ERC program maintenance and growth.

**Estimate of Burden:** 150 hours per center for 17 centers for a total of 2,550 hours.

**Respondents:** Academic institutions.

**Estimated Number of Responses per Report:** One from each of the 17 ERCs.

**Dated:** June 19, 2018.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,
Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2018–13482 Filed 6–22–18; 8:45 am]