

recommendation on applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants. In accordance with the determination of the Chairman of April 30, 2003, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to (c)(6) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

Any person may observe meetings, or portions thereof, of advisory panels that are open to the public, and, if time allows, may be permitted to participate in the panel's discussions at the discretion of the panel chairman and with the approval of the full-time Federal employee in attendance.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of AccessAbility, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506, 202/682-5532, TDY-TDD 202/682-5496, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Office of Guidelines & Panel Operations, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, or call 202/682-5691.

Dated: August 28, 2003.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

*Panel Coordinator, Panel Operations,
National Endowment for the Arts.*

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; Leadership Initiatives Advisory Panel—Notice of Change

Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that a teleconference of the Leadership Initiatives Advisory Panel, AccessAbility section, previously scheduled for August 29, 2003, will be held by teleconference from 2 p.m.–3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 2003 from Room 724 at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, 20506.

This meeting is for the purpose of Panel review, discussion, evaluation, and recommendations on financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency. In accordance

with the determination of the Chairman of April 30, 2003, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to (c)(6) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC, 20506, or call 202/682-5691.

Dated: August 28, 2003.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

*Panel Coordinator, Panel Operations,
National Endowment for the Arts.*

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-541)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit applications received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by October 6, 2003. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 292-7405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations

establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

1. Permit Application No. 2004-013.

Applicant: Gary D. Miller, Biology Department, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Take and Import into the United States. The applicant proposes to continue investigations of the diseases of penguins and skuas around the Australian station, Davis, in east Antarctica. He proposes to collect blood and or tissue samples from penguins, skuas, and other seabirds to address the impact diseases may have on the reproductive success of skuas. Previous studies have confirmed the presence of bacterial, viral, and parasitic agents in Antarctic populations. Human activity at scientific stations and/or from tourism is one potential source of disease introduction, however, it is thought that migratory birds such as South Polar Skuas, Kelp Gulls and Sheathbills act as natural vectors to introduce diseases to Antarctica. In addition to collecting blood and tissues samples the applicant plans to monitor the nesting success of skuas, and track adult skuas using small VHF transmitters.

In addition, the applicant will continue analysis of the phylogenetic relationships and population genetics of two major genera of penguins. Blood and tissue samples will be collected from Magellanic, Adelie, Chinstrap, Gentoo, Macaroni, and Emperor penguins throughout their distribution. The applicant will serve as a lecturer onboard a tourist vessel that will give him access to various areas in the Antarctic. All samples will be returned to Dr. Shellum's lab in Perth, Australia or the laboratory at the University of New Mexico for processing. All other remains will be archived.

Location: Davis Station, East

Antarctica, and various coastal areas accessible via tourist vessels.

Dates: November 1, 2003, to April 1, 2005.

2. Permit Application No. 2004-014.

Applicant: Scott Borg, Head, Antarctic Sciences Section, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area. Annex V of the Environmental Protocol was adopted at the XXVI Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Madrid, Spain in June 2003, and requires permits for access to any of