

ASME Resolution: Commitment to Peer Review

The American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME), a professional society representing over 130,000 engineers, scientists, and other professionals, recognizes that:

- Basic research and development (R&D) is critical to innovation and the creation of new and improved products for the marketplace.
- Competitive extramural grant programs of the Federal Government (e.g., the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Aeronautics and Space Administration and U.S. Department of Defense) are the mainstay of scientific and engineering research that leads to a broad range of economic and technological benefits for the nation.
- The research community strongly supports the peer review systems of the aforementioned agencies.
- Federal funding for university research is crucial for supporting the education, training and professional preparation of the nation's scientific and engineering workforce.
- Research and development appropriations are fixed by legislation, but the ratio of directed expenditures to competitive expenditures is variable.

Whereas, the industry/university/government partnership is essential to the progress of science, engineering and education and the resulting innovation.

Whereas, peer review ensures the quality of research and education in science and engineering, based on intellectual and technical merit enforced by professional evaluation.

Whereas, a rigorous peer review process incorporates ethics rules and training to ensure objectivity and integrity in the assessment of scientific merit of research proposals and must be free from political interference.

Be it resolved, that ASME reaffirms its commitment to the practice of peer review as an essential part of the allocation of public funds in support of the nation's research and development endeavor.

Approval Requested By: *ASME Board of Governors*

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