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# LASERS, OPTICS & PHOTONICS

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## *Dominique M Dagenais*

*National Science Foundation, USA*

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The National Science Foundation is an independent federal agency supporting fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering. An overview of the National Science Foundation (NSF) will be given. This will cover NSF mission, its various programs, and the NSF merit review process, with an emphasis on the divisions supporting innovative research in Optics and Photonics. A review of the community-driven topics being funded by the NSF will be presented. We will specifically cover our portfolio of current academic research grants in the area of optical materials, photonic devices, photonic integration, optical sensors, imaging, and optical systems. Additionally, specific initiatives that may be of interest to the photonics community will be described. Finally we will briefly describe the National Science Foundation's future directions, with its Ten Big Ideas, and how some may require new exploratory research in fundamental, cross-disciplinary photonics.

### **Biography**

Dominique M Dagenais is currently an Acting Deputy Division Director and Program Director in the Electrical, Communication, and Cyber Systems (ECCS) Division at NSF. After receiving her Diplôme d'Ingénieur from the Ecole Supérieure d'Optique in France, she went to the Institute of Optics, University of Rochester, where she defended a thesis on uniform pellet illumination for Laser fusion. She then joined the French Atomic Energy Commission, working on high power Nd:YAG laser propagation, before coming to AVCO Everett Laboratories, where she designed beam shaping optics for CO<sub>2</sub> lasers. She joined the Naval Research Laboratory to develop the first three-axis fiber magnetic sensor array. While at Alcatel, she supported novel devices for WDM fiber telecommunication.

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