
NIST – VCAT Guiding Principles for Leadership

Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology

Jim Serum, VCAT Chair

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NIST – VCAT Guiding Principles

- ❑ The VCAT and NIST leadership work together to achieve a constructive atmosphere and a relationship that encourages open, yet critical, examination of NIST. NIST leadership encourages the VCAT to provide constructive, candid advice. NIST leadership considers seriously the VCAT's recommendations. NIST leadership is responsible for identifying the priority items that it wants the VCAT to examine.
- ❑ The VCAT addresses the NIST priority items in a timely manner with recommendations that NIST leadership will consider.
- ❑ The VCAT is encouraged to make recommendations in other areas where NIST could benefit from the committee's input.

NIST – VCAT Guiding Principles (2)

- ❑ In all of its work, the VCAT focuses on significant policy and high-level organizational and programmatic issues rather than on short-term management and administrative matters.
- ❑ The respective roles of the VCAT and NIST staff are clearly defined and understood.
- ❑ --NIST leadership is responsible for providing timely and concise information that the VCAT needs in order to be familiar with NIST and its customers, activities, services, and strategies and plans. -- NIST staff's role is to facilitate the work of the VCAT – and not to attempt to control or perform that work --All VCAT members contribute to the VCAT.NIST leadership provides feedback on the VCAT's performance and contributions, just as the VCAT provides feedback on NIST's performance and contributions in enabling the committee's work.

NIST – VCAT Guiding Principles (3)

- Within the framework and requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (e.g., it must operate with a quorum, must follow open government and conflict of interest policies), the VCAT will make its own decisions on how best to approach its statutory assignments, NIST-requested reviews, and overall effectiveness (e.g. it may rely on subcommittees, self-assessments.)