Allison C. Lerner assumed the duties as Inspector General of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in April 2009. As head of the Office of Inspector General she recommends policies for promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness of NSF programs and operations. She leads efforts to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse; improve the integrity of NSF programs and operations; and investigate allegations of misconduct in science. Prior to becoming Inspector General at NSF, Ms. Lerner served in leadership positions at the Department of Commerce, including Counsel to the Inspector General.

In January 2015, Ms. Lerner was appointed to serve as Vice Chairperson for the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). The Council is an independent Federal entity whose mission is to address integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues that transcend individual Government agencies. To accomplish its mission, CIGIE continually identifies, reviews, and discusses areas of vulnerability in Federal programs and operations with respect to fraud, waste, and abuse.

Ms. Lerner has received several national awards for excellence. Ms. Lerner received her law degree and her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas.