Farnam Jahanian serves as Assistant Director of the Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Directorate at the National Science Foundation. With a budget of approximately $635 million, the CISE directorate supports fundamental and transformative advances in computing, communications, and information technology that are key drivers of economic competitiveness and crucial to achieving our major national priorities.

Dr. Jahanian also serves as co-chair of the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Subcommittee of the NSTC Committee on Technology, providing overall coordination for the activities of 14 government agencies. He holds the Edward S. Davidson Collegiate Professorship at the University of Michigan (on leave), where he served as Chair for Computer Science and Engineering from 2007 – 2011 and as Director of the Software Systems Laboratory from 1997 – 2000.

Over the last two decades at the University of Michigan, Dr. Jahanian led several large-scale research projects that studied the growth and scalability of the Internet infrastructure and which ultimately transformed how cyber threats are addressed by Internet Service Providers. His work on Internet routing stability and convergence has been highly influential within both the network research and the Internet operational communities. This work was recently recognized with an ACM SIGCOMM Test of Time Award in 2008. His research on Internet infrastructure security formed the basis for the successful Internet security services company Arbor Networks, which he co-founded in 2001. He served as Chairman of Arbor Networks until its acquisition by Tektronix Communications, a division of Danaher Corporation, in 2010.

The author of over 100 published research papers, Dr. Jahanian has served on dozens of national advisory boards and government panels. He has received numerous awards for his research, teaching, and technology commercialization activities. He has been an active advocate for economic development efforts over the last decade, working with entrepreneurs, and frequently lecturing on how basic research can be uniquely central to an innovation ecosystem that drives economic growth and global competitiveness. In 2009, he was named Distinguished University Innovator at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Jahanian holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Austin. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE).