

November 17, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Chair
Commerce Justice, Science and Related
Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Commerce Justice, Science and Related
Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Inouye, Mikulski, Cochran, and Shelby:

Thank you for your strong support of the National Science Foundation (NSF) over the years and thus far in the Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11) budget process. As the FY11 appropriations are finalized, we the undersigned organizations urge you to maintain the \$7.4 billion budget level supported by the House CJS Appropriations Subcommittee, the Senate Appropriations Committee and the President. This budget level demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to address America's competitiveness by doubling the NSF budget over ten years, as authorized in the bipartisan 2007 *America COMPETES Act* and promoted by the President.

NSF is the only federal agency that supports research and education across all science and engineering disciplines. This support has led to many fundamental breakthroughs in these disciplines which in turn have contributed to U.S. technological innovation and therefore to our economic strength.

With the U.S. currently experiencing a challenging economic environment, robust investments in NSF should be viewed as part of a long-term strategy to address our economic vitality. Such funding is imperative to maintain a prosperous innovation pipeline, by training the innovation workforce, creating new products and improving current products.

Like you, we are concerned about U.S. economic well-being. The innovation pipeline is as important for future economic growth as it has been in the past, perhaps even more so.

We ask you to continue your commitment to address U.S. competitiveness through the vigorous support of basic research funding at NSF. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Samuel M. Rankin, III
Chair, Coalition for National Science Funding

Endorsing Organizations:

Afterschool Alliance	Association of Science-Technology Centers
American Association of Physics Teachers	Association of Universities for Research in
American Association for the Advancement of Science	Astronomy, Inc. (AURA)
American Astronomical Society	Association of University Research Parks
American Chemical Society	Binghamton University
American Educational Research Association	Biophysical Society
American Geological Institute	California Institute of Technology
American Geophysical Union	Center for Inquiry
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering	Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation
American Institute of Biological Sciences	Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation
American Institute of Physics	College of Saint Elizabeth
American Mathematical Society	Columbia University
American Physical Society	Computing Research Association
American Physiological Society	Consortium for Ocean Leadership
American Psychological Association	Consortium of Social Science Associations
American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology	Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science
American Society for Engineering Education	Cornell University
American Society for Microbiology	Council of Graduate Schools
American Society of Agronomy	Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics
American Society of Civil Engineers	Council on Undergraduate Research
American Society of Limnology & Oceanography	Crop Science Society of America
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	Duke University
American Society of Plant Biologists	Earthquake Engineering Research Institute
American Sociological Association	Ecological Society of America
American Statistical Association	EDUCAUSE
Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. (ARCUS)	Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Association for Psychological Science	Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Association for Women in Mathematics	Federation of Materials Societies
Association of American Geographers	Geological Society of America
Association of American Medical Colleges	Georgian Court University
Association of American Universities	Harvard University
Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists	Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities	Indiana University
Association of Research Libraries	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

Endorsing Organizations (cont'd):

Kent State University
Lewis-Burke Associates
Linguistic Society of America
MWW Group
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Mathematical Association of America
Michigan State University
Museum of Science, Boston
National Corn Growers Association
National Council for Science and the Environment
National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON)
National Postdoctoral Association
National Science Teachers Association
National Society of Professional Engineers
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
The Ohio State University
Oldaker, Belair & Wittie
Optical Society of America
Ornithological Council
Pennsylvania State University
Population Association of America/Association
of Population Centers
Princeton University
Protein Society
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rowan University

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Seismological Society of America
Semiconductor Industry Association
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Research in Child Development
Soil Science Society of America
State University of New York (SUNY)
State University of New York at Stony Brook
Stevens Institute of Technology
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research
University of California
University of California, Davis
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Cincinnati
University of Florida
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Pittsburgh
University of Southern California
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia University
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Yale University