

Science , Engineering and Technology Working Group : Fueling America's Innovation

April 7, 2008

President George W. Bush
White House

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate

Dear President Bush, Madam Speaker, Minority Leader Boehner, Majority Leader Reid, and Minority Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the professional society leaders who have signed this letter, we urge Congress and the Administration to restore Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations originally planned for science as you finalize the current Supplemental funding legislation.

At a minimum, \$500M for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) should be considered as a non-defense supplemental appropriation in the coming weeks.

This level of funding would reinforce the baseline activities for these important contributors to global competitiveness, leadership, and innovation. These federal programs support many of our most strategic jobs and basic research capabilities while laying the groundwork for our future economy and workforce.

If America is to remain competitive in today's global economy, support for groundbreaking research must become a national priority. U.S. investment in basic science and education not only underwrites our standing as a technological leader but also bolsters our national economy, our medical and healthcare innovations, and our national security.

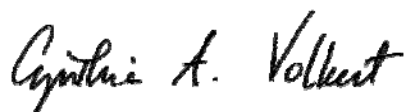
The physical sciences, mathematics, engineering, biomedical engineering, geological sciences, computational sciences, environmental sciences, and many other important fields of fundamental research are all affected by these federal government investments.

The passage of America COMPETES Act as well as the budget proposals regarding the American Competitive Initiative (ACI) have been regarded by so many in our community as an

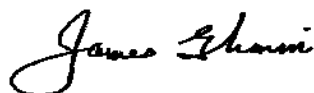
indication that Congress and the Administration can approach science in a bipartisan way with a view towards the future for the nation.

We are at a defining moment that has been described as “Rising Above the Gathering Storm” and this issue will require your collective will and devotion. Your personal investment of time and priority to this request for supplemental funding is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



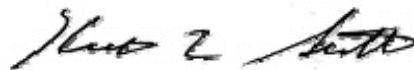
Cynthia A. Volkert, PhD
President
Materials Research Society



James Glimm, PhD
President
American Mathematical Society



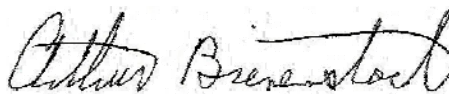
Mary Good, PhD
Chairman
The Alliance for Science & Technology
Research in America



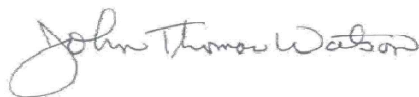
Keith L. Seitter
Executive Director
American Meteorological Society



David Bliss
President
American Association for Crystal Growth



Arthur Bienenstock, PhD
President
American Physical Society



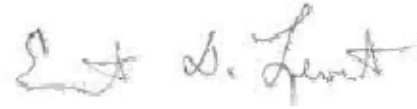
John T. Watson, PhD
President
American Institute for Medical and
Biological Engineering




Kent Peterson
President
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating
and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.



Sam Y. Zamrik, PhD
President
American Society of Mechanical Engineers



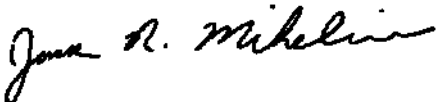
Ernest Levert, PhD
President
Federation of Materials Scientists



Peter Lachenbruch, PhD
President
American Statistical Association



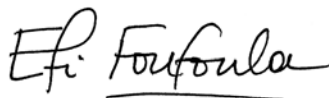
Elizabeth Rogan
Executive Director
Optical Society of America



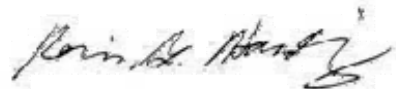
James R. Mihelcic, PhD
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Association of Environmental Engineering
& Science Professors



Diran Apelian, PhD
President
The Minerals, Metals, & Materials Society



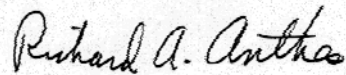
Efi Foufoula-Georgiou
Chair
Consortium of Universities for the
Advancement of Hydraulic Science



Kevin G. Harding
President
SPIE - The International Society for Optics
and Photonics



Russell J. LeFevre, PhD
President
IEEE- USA



Richard A. Anthes, PhD
President
University Corporation for Atmospheric
Research

Bruce Bursten, PhD
President
American Chemical Society

cc: George W. Bush, President
The Honorable Joshua Bolten, Chief of Staff
The Honorable Jim Nussle, Director, Office of Management & Budget
The Honorable John Marburger, Director, Office of Science & Technology Policy
The Honorable Samuel Bodman, Secretary, Department of Energy
The Honorable Arden Bement, Director, National Science Foundation
The Honorable James Turner, Director, National Institute of Standards & Technology

Senate Appropriations Chairman Robert Byrd
Senate Appropriations Ranking Member Thad Cochran
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Byron Dorgan, Energy & Water
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Pete Domenici, Energy & Water
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Barbara Mikulski, CJS
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Richard Shelby, CJS

House Appropriations Chairman David Obey
House Appropriations Ranking Member Jerry Lewis
House Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Peter Visclosky, Energy & Water
House Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member David Hobson, Energy & Water
House Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Alan Mollohan, CJS
House Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Rodney Frelinghuysen, CJS