



April 3, 2017

Dear Members of the United States Congress:

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), a broad-based group of professional organizations, universities, businesses, and scientific societies that advocates for sustained, robust federal support for science, **recommends an \$8 billion appropriation for the National Science Foundation (NSF) in FY2018**. We also ask Congress to maintain its longstanding commitment to the diversity of research disciplines NSF supports, each of which contributes in profound ways, advancing our nation's domestic interests and global competitiveness. Our recommendation for \$8 billion for NSF in FY2018 is consistent with ["Innovation: An American Imperative."](#) This call-to-action which was signed by more than 500 organizations from American industry, higher education, science and engineering last year, encourages Congress to enact policies and make investments to ensure that the United States remains the global innovation leader.

Recently, NSF hosted a Capitol Hill event to welcome the new Members of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress to Washington, D.C. and introduce them and their staff to the agency and the groundbreaking research it supports. The ["NSF Arc of Science Research to Results"](#) event showcased a dozen high-impact projects funded by the agency. Scientists and engineers funded by every NSF directorate participated in the event and showcased their research on smart cities, first responder technologies, crime forecasting, pathogen identification, cybersecurity, advanced robotics, and more. But the scientists and engineers were not the only ones excited by the work funded by NSF; students, police officers, medical professionals, museum educators and workers at a shellfish hatchery also participated in the event and talked about the positive impact NSF-funded research has made in their local communities and businesses.

As a pillar of America's scientific research enterprise, NSF-funded research has proven to be vital to our economy, national security, and global competitiveness in science, technology, and innovation. NSF funds research in important fields – including the physical sciences, biology, mathematics, economics, computer science, geoscience, social and behavioral science, engineering, and education research. The agency also plays a vital role in preparing the next generation's STEM workforce through funding of traineeships and research assistantships, as well as investments in K-12 STEM education both in and out of school. To foster potentially transformative research, NSF should continue to support research across *all* its directorates, use its world-renowned peer review system to identify the best science, and maintain flexibility to take advantage of unanticipated discoveries and insights.

We encourage the Members of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress to make federal funding for basic scientific research, particularly NSF-funded research a top priority. Other competitor-nations are investing heavily in research and development. For the United States to remain at the forefront of scientific and technological progress, we also must continue to invest in NSF and the nation's research enterprise.

We thank you for your support and urge Congress to continue this progress by **supporting an \$8 billion appropriation for NSF in FY 2018**. We stand ready to work with you.

Sincerely,

## Coalition for National Science Funding

Afterschool Alliance  
American Agricultural Economics Association  
American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association of Geographers  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Astronomical Society  
American Chemical Society  
American Educational Research Association  
American Geophysical Union  
American Geosciences Institute  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Institute of Physics  
American Mathematical Society  
American Physical Society  
American Physiological Society  
American Political Science Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
Arafune Government Relations, LLC  
Archaeological Institute of America  
Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. (ARCUS)  
Associated Universities, Inc.  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for the Sciences of Limnology & Oceanography  
Association for Women in Mathematics  
Association for Women in Science  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Research Libraries  
Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC)  
Bagley Group, LLC, The  
Biophysical Society  
Biophysical Society  
Boise State University  
Boston University  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
California Institute of Technology  
Cavarocchi Ruscio Dennis Associates  
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation  
Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation  
Computing Research Association  
Consortium for Ocean Leadership  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science Inc.  
Cornell University  
Council of Graduate Schools  
Council of Scientific Society Presidents  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
Crop Science Society of America  
Duke University - Office of Government Relations  
Eastman  
Ecological Society of America  
Entomological Society of America  
Eversole Associates  
Federal Science Partners  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences  
Florida State University  
Genetics Society of America  
Geological Society of America  
George Mason University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Harvard University  
Human Factors and Ergonomics Society  
Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS)  
Independent Contractor  
Indiana University (Invoice to Kelly Cornett)  
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-USA (IEEE-USA)  
Lewis-Burke Associates LLC  
Linguistic Society of America  
Madison Associates LLC  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Materials Research Society  
Mathematical Association of America  
Michigan State University  
Michigan Technological University  
Museum of Science, Boston  
National Communication Association  
National Ground Water Association  
National Postdoctoral Association  
National Science Teachers Association  
North Carolina State University  
Northern Illinois University  
Northwestern University  
Ohio State University, The  
Oregon State University  
Ornithological Council  
Pennsylvania State University  
Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers  
Princeton University  
Psychonomic Society  
PsySiP Project, The  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Research!America  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
SAGE Publishing  
Seismological Society of America  
Society for American Archaeology  
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP)  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Research in Child Development  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)  
Soil Science Society of America  
SPIE  
State University of New York at Stony Brook  
State University of New York System (SUNY)  
Stevens Institute of Technology-Center for Innovation in Engineering and Science Education (CIESE)  
Texas Tech University  
The Optical Society  
Tufts University  
UCAR  
UNAVCO  
University of California System  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Florida  
University of Illinois System  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Michigan  
University of Missouri System  
University of New Mexico, The  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of South Carolina  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
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Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution