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AAU APPLAUDS PRESIDENT'S MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

Following is a statement by the Association of American Universities (AAU), on the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership that President Obama announced today at Carnegie Mellon University.

We are delighted that President Obama announced today that he will initiate a new government-university-industry partnership to accelerate research and development on emerging technologies to improve U.S. manufacturing.

This announcement marks an important step in harnessing the creativity, expertise, and resources in these three sectors on behalf of a vital national priority. The effort can help reinvigorate the nation’s manufacturing base by expanding our ability to capitalize on the combination of our innovation capabilities, skilled workforce, and spirit of entrepreneurship. Among the contributions universities will bring to this effort are the creativity and energy of their faculty, staff, and students.

We appreciate that the steering committee guiding this effort will be co-chaired by leaders from industry and academia: Andrew Liveris, chairman, president, and CEO of Dow Chemical, and Susan Hockfield, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. We also congratulate the other AAU member institutions that are participating in this effort: Carnegie Mellon University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Stanford University, the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Michigan. We look forward to providing assistance in this initiative and will encourage our other member institutions also to participate.

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The Association of American Universities is an association of 59 U.S. and two Canadian research universities organized to develop and implement effective national and institutional policies supporting research and scholarship, graduate and professional education, undergraduate education, and public service in research universities.