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# NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

## AAU SUPPORTS SUSTAINED FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN NASA IN FY16

**AAU urges Congress to appropriate \$5.4 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD), which includes Earth Science, Planetary Science, Astrophysics, and Heliophysics. AAU recommends \$651 million for Aeronautics, the same level enacted in FY15. AAU recommends \$724.8 million for Space Technology and \$40 million for the Space Grant Program in FY16.**

For almost 60 years, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has captivated the public's attention with accomplishments that have revolutionized our understanding of earth and space sciences, the life sciences, and aeronautics, and have led to new technologies. For the U.S. to remain the global leader in space, the nation must continue to invest in science, aeronautics, and space technology.

## NASA'S SCIENCE, AERONAUTICS, AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS ARE VITAL TO THE NATION'S RESEARCH ENTERPRISE

**Science: AAU urges Congress to appropriate \$5.4 billion for the Science Mission Directorate in FY16.** SMD supports improved weather prediction, natural hazard mitigation, and climate modeling, as well as planetary exploration, scanning the universe to look for Earth-like planets, and the study of the sun and its influence throughout the solar system. SMD supports more than 90 NASA missions and 10,000 scientists around the country. Additional funds will also help to ensure that progress on the James Webb Space Telescope remains on track for its October 2018 launch date.

**STEM Education:** AAU supports the many STEM programs that are carried out in conjunction with NASA-funded missions, and encourages NASA to keep these programs connected to their respective missions.

**Research and Analysis Grants:** R&A grants are essential to mission analysis and hands-on training for young researchers. AAU urges Congress to maintain its commitment to the support of R&A grants for Earth Science, Planetary Science, Astrophysics, and Heliophysics.

**Aeronautics: AAU urges Congress to appropriate \$651 million for the Aeronautics Mission Directorate.** NASA-sponsored aeronautics research is integral to the nation's research enterprise and has led to advances in the safety, capacity, and efficiency of the air transportation systems that we use on a daily basis.

**Space Technology: AAU urges Congress to appropriate \$724.8 million for NASA's newest directorate, the Space Technology Directorate.** The directorate funds partnerships among the federal government, industry, and academia to stimulate the development of innovative and transformative technologies. The role of Space Technology is becoming increasingly important to NASA and America's overall research enterprise.

**Space Grant:** AAU requests Congress to appropriate \$40 million for the National Space Grant Program, an activity that has enabled 24,000 undergraduate and graduate students to receive scholarships, fellowships, and internships. This program not only continues to provide inspiration to young people, but provides them with a real opportunity to participate in space- and aeronautics-related research.

**International Space Station:** AAU supports the Administration's plan to extend the life of the ISS to at least 2024. This extension would allow scientists, researchers, and engineers to conduct the fundamental and applied research necessary to develop spacecraft and human life support systems for deep space exploration.

## **NASA'S UNIVERSITY-BASED PROGRAMS HELP EDUCATE AMERICA'S FUTURE SCIENTIFIC WORKFORCE**

An important component of NASA's mission is the education of young scientists and engineers. These individuals will support future NASA activities and provide the expertise the U.S. needs to maintain its technological and economic competitiveness. University-based NASA activities have a double pay-off: the development of instruments and software for missions and the education of students who will one day be part of the nation's technological and scientific workforce.

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*Boston University ★ Brandeis University ★ Brown University ★ California Institute of Technology ★ Carnegie Mellon University ★ Case Western Reserve University ★ Columbia University ★ Cornell University ★ Duke University ★ Emory University ★ Georgia Institute of Technology ★ Harvard University ★ Indiana University ★ Iowa State University ★ The Johns Hopkins University ★ Massachusetts Institute of Technology ★ McGill University ★ Michigan State University ★ New York University ★ Northwestern University ★ The Ohio State University ★ The Pennsylvania State University ★ Princeton University ★ Purdue University ★ Rice University ★ Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey ★ Stanford University ★ Stony Brook University – State University of New York ★ Texas A&M University ★ Tulane University ★ The University of Arizona ★ University at Buffalo, The State University of New York ★ University of California, Berkeley ★ University of California, Davis ★ University of California, Irvine ★ University of California, Los Angeles ★ University of California, San Diego ★ University of California, Santa Barbara ★ The University of Chicago ★ University of Colorado, Boulder ★ University of Florida ★ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ★ The University of Iowa ★ The University of Kansas ★ University of Maryland, College Park ★ University of Michigan ★ University of Minnesota, Twin Cities ★ University of Missouri-Columbia ★ The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ★ University of Oregon ★ University of Pennsylvania ★ University of Pittsburgh ★ University of Rochester ★ University of Southern California ★ The University of Texas at Austin ★ University of Toronto ★ University of Virginia ★ University of Washington ★ The University of Wisconsin-Madison ★ Vanderbilt University ★ Washington University in St. Louis ★ Yale University*