

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

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AAU PRAISES BOWLES-SIMPSON FISCAL REPORT

The Association of American Universities (AAU), an association that includes 61 leading public and private U.S. research universities, today praised the report issued by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, chaired by Erskine Bowles and former Senator Alan Simpson.

"The report, wisely, recognizes that strengthened investment in the nation's future, in areas like research and education, must be integral to the nation's long-term fiscal strategy, even as we take needed dramatic steps to reduce budget deficits and manage our nation's debt," said AAU President Robert M. Berdahl.

He added, "Fiscal responsibility and long-term economic and national security are not to be found in cutting back on needed investments. Indeed, as the Commission report makes clear, one of the reasons that deficit reduction is so important is to ensure the nation's continued ability to make key investments. What our nation needs to do is curb entitlement spending, raise revenues through tax measures and economic growth, and cut wasteful and duplicative spending wherever it can be found."

Berdahl testified before the Commission on June 30 on behalf of AAU. His testimony, which focused on these issues, can be found <u>on the AAU website</u>.

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The Association of American Universities is an association of 61 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.