



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

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AAU STATEMENT ON BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT

Following is a statement by Hunter Rawlings, President of the Association of American Universities, on the Bipartisan Budget Act, announced last night by the leaders of the Congressional budget conference, Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Senator Patty Murray (D-WA).

The Bipartisan Budget Act is a modest but important easing of sequestration that makes it possible for Congress to begin closing the nation's innovation deficit.

The sequester has forced deep cuts in research and higher education that have reduced opportunities for discovery and undermined the careers of America's next generation of scientists. These cuts have occurred while our global competitors have continued to forge ahead with investments in these areas, creating a growing innovation deficit.

It is our hope that Congress will approve the Bipartisan Budget Act and enact appropriations bills this year and next that restore vital funding for research and higher education. We also hope that Congress and the President will build on the goodwill from this bipartisan accord to negotiate a larger budget agreement. The country needs an agreement that confronts our long-term fiscal challenges and allows for sufficient investments in research and higher education to close the innovation deficit.

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The Association of American Universities is a nonprofit association of 60 U.S. and two Canadian preeminent public and private research universities. Founded in 1900, AAU focuses on national and institutional issues that are important to research-intensive universities, including funding for research, research and education policy, and graduate and undergraduate education.

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