



## Association of American Universities

### RESOLUTION ON GREEN ENERGY RESEARCH AND TRAINING

**Whereas** the Administration is committed to formulate, fund, and implement a comprehensive plan to address our nation's short- and long-term energy needs in a sustainable and environmentally sound manner; and

**Whereas** the Administration has committed to invest \$150 billion in research and development for new sources of energy over the next ten years to enable American engineers, scientists, and entrepreneurs to "catalyze private efforts to build a clean energy future" and "transform the economy," creating five million new jobs; and

**Whereas** Secretary of Energy Steven Chu has emphasized the need to refocus the work of the Department of Energy on creating research that results in transformational new energy technologies; and

**Whereas** universities will play an essential role in training the future scientists, engineers, and technical workforce that will drive the "green" economy of the future; and

**Whereas** research universities will be a critical collaborator in creating new ways of conceptualizing and conducting the research necessary for creating the new knowledge and breakthrough technologies called for by Secretary Chu; and

**Whereas** developing clean energy is a priority for America's research universities, which are already engaged in, and increasing their commitment to, energy research and education; and

**Whereas** the Administration has expressed an interest in working with research universities to address the energy challenges facing the nation;

**Therefore, be it resolved that** the Association of American Universities calls upon the Administration and Congress to initiate a new government-wide, multi-agency sustainable energy initiative to support innovative energy research and education efforts at U.S. universities. Modeled after the National Nanotechnology Initiative, this initiative should be coordinated by the National Council of Science and Technology and the Office of Science and Technology Policy in close consultation with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In addition to the DOE, it should focus on making university-based energy research and education a high priority across other major federal research departments and agencies, including the Departments of Defense and Agriculture, the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This initiative should give particular emphasis to:

- sustained investments in and expansion of DOE and other federal agency programs, such as the Energy Frontier Research Centers, which help to support energy research and education at universities;
- investment in high-risk, high-return energy research, including support for the new ARPA-E;
- inclusion and additional support for multidisciplinary science and engineering research at universities, including the social sciences, aimed at addressing areas such as energy usage, conservation, efficiency, and the market feasibility and environmental desirability of new energy technologies;
- support for new programs to train the next generation of scientists and engineers in key energy-related disciplines;
- support for university students who engage in energy-related service and outreach activities such as the weatherization of homes in their local communities; and
- support for new programs and resources aimed at bridging the gap between the development of new energy technologies and their commercialization.

**Be it further resolved that** AAU and its member universities stand ready to work in partnership with the federal government to achieve energy security and sustainability.

*Adopted the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2009 at the Association of American Universities Spring Membership Meeting in Washington, D.C.*

Brandeis University  
Brown University  
California Institute of Technology  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Emory University  
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

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  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
University of Florida  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
University of Iowa  
University of Kansas  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
University of Missouri, Columbia  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
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University of Texas at Austin  
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Syracuse University  
Texas A&M University  
Tulane University  
University at Buffalo, The State University of New York  
University of Arizona

University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
The University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Vanderbilt University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Yale University