



April 3, 2017

Dear Members of the United States Congress:

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), a broad-based group of professional organizations, universities, businesses, and scientific societies that advocates for sustained, robust federal support for science, ***recommends an \$8 billion appropriation for the National Science Foundation (NSF) in FY2018.*** We also ask Congress to maintain its longstanding commitment to the diversity of research disciplines NSF supports, each of which contributes in profound ways, advancing our nation's domestic interests and global competitiveness. Our recommendation for \$8 billion for NSF in FY2018 is consistent with ["Innovation: An American Imperative."](#) This call-to-action which was signed by more than 500 organizations from American industry, higher education, science and engineering last year, encourages Congress to enact policies and make investments to ensure that the United States remains the global innovation leader.

Recently, NSF hosted a Capitol Hill event to welcome the new Members of the 115th Congress to Washington, D.C. and introduce them and their staff to the agency and the groundbreaking research it supports. The ["NSF Arc of Science Research to Results"](#) event showcased a dozen high-impact projects funded by the agency. Scientists and engineers funded by every NSF directorate participated in the event and showcased their research on smart cities, first responder technologies, crime forecasting, pathogen identification, cybersecurity, advanced robotics, and more. But the scientists and engineers were not the only ones excited by the work funded by NSF; students, police officers, medical professionals, museum educators and workers at a shellfish hatchery also participated in the event and talked about the positive impact NSF-funded research has made in their local communities and businesses.

As a pillar of America's scientific research enterprise, NSF-funded research has proven to be vital to our economy, national security, and global competitiveness in science, technology, and innovation. NSF funds research in important fields – including the physical sciences, biology, mathematics, economics, computer science, geoscience, social and behavioral science, engineering, and education research. The agency also plays a vital role in preparing the next generation's STEM workforce through funding of traineeships and research assistantships, as well as investments in K-12 STEM education both in and out of school. To foster potentially transformative research, NSF should continue to support research across *all* its directorates, use its world-renowned peer review system to identify the best science, and maintain flexibility to take advantage of unanticipated discoveries and insights.

We encourage the Members of the 115th Congress to make federal funding for basic scientific research, particularly NSF-funded research a top priority. Other competitor-nations are investing heavily in research and development. For the United States to remain at the forefront of scientific and technological progress, we also must continue to invest in NSF and the nation's research enterprise.

We thank you for your support and urge Congress to continue this progress by ***supporting an \$8 billion appropriation for NSF in FY 2018.*** We stand ready to work with you.

Sincerely,

Coalition for National Science Funding

Afterschool Alliance	Georgia Institute of Technology
American Agricultural Economics Association	Harvard University
American Anthropological Association	Human Factors and Ergonomics Society
American Association for Dental Research	Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS)
American Association of Geographers	Independent Contractor
American Association of Physics Teachers	Indiana University (Invoice to Kelly Cornett)
American Astronomical Society	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-USA (IEEE-USA)
American Chemical Society	Lewis-Burke Associates LLC
American Educational Research Association	Linguistic Society of America
American Geophysical Union	Madison Associates LLC
American Geosciences Institute	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)	Materials Research Society
American Institute of Biological Sciences	Mathematical Association of America
American Institute of Physics	Michigan State University
American Mathematical Society	Michigan Technological University
American Physical Society	Museum of Science, Boston
American Physiological Society	National Communication Association
American Political Science Association	National Ground Water Association
American Psychological Association	National Postdoctoral Association
American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology	National Science Teachers Association
American Society for Engineering Education	North Carolina State University
American Society for Microbiology	Northern Illinois University
American Society of Agronomy	Northwestern University
American Society of Civil Engineers	Ohio State University, The
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	Oregon State University
American Society of Plant Biologists	Ornithological Council
American Sociological Association	Pennsylvania State University
American Statistical Association	Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers
Arafune Government Relations, LLC	Princeton University
Archaeological Institute of America	Psychonomic Society
Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S. (ARCUS)	PsySiP Project, The
Associated Universities, Inc.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Association for Psychological Science	Research!America
Association for the Sciences of Limnology & Oceanography	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Association for Women in Mathematics	SAGE Publishing
Association for Women in Science	Seismological Society of America
Association of American Medical Colleges	Society for American Archaeology
Association of American Universities	Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP)
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities	Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Association of Research Libraries	Society for Neuroscience
Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC)	Society for Research in Child Development
Bagley Group, LLC, The	Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
Biophysical Society	Soil Science Society of America
Biophysical Society	SPIE
Boise State University	State University of New York at Stony Brook
Boston University	State University of New York System (SUNY)
Brandeis University	Stevens Institute of Technology-Center for Innovation in Engineering and
Brown University	Science Education (CIESE)
California Institute of Technology	Texas Tech University
Cavarocchi Ruscio Dennis Associates	The Optical Society
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation	Tufts University
Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation	UCAR
Computing Research Association	UNAVCO
Consortium for Ocean Leadership	University of California System
Consortium of Social Science Associations	University of Cincinnati
Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science Inc.	University of Colorado Boulder
Cornell University	University of Florida
Council of Graduate Schools	University of Illinois System
Council of Scientific Society Presidents	University of Iowa
Council on Undergraduate Research	University of Maryland, College Park
Crop Science Society of America	University of Michigan
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP	University of Missouri System
Duke University - Office of Government Relations	University of New Mexico, The
Eastman	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Ecological Society of America	University of Pennsylvania
Entomological Society of America	University of South Carolina
Eversole Associates	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Federal Science Partners	Vanderbilt University
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology	Washington Partners, LLC
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences	Washington State University
Florida State University	Washington University in St. Louis
Genetics Society of America	West Virginia University
Geological Society of America	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
George Mason University	