



August 12, 2021

The Honorable Heidi Shyu
Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering
U.S. Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Ms. Shyu,

Congratulations on being confirmed as the next Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)). The undersigned members of the Coalition for National Security Research ([CNSR](#)) look forward to working with you and all of R&E to further strengthen the U.S. Department of Defense's (DoD) science and technology (S&T) enterprise.

CNSR is a coalition with more than 100 members from industry, academia, scientific and professional associations, and non-profits committed to advocating for a strong Defense S&T enterprise. With approximately 70 percent of research, development, test and evaluation conducted extramurally¹, CNSR members are proud to partner with DoD to create new and improve existing technologies and capabilities to ensure that the United States maintains its global military technological superiority.

We were particularly pleased with your advance policy questions to the Senate Armed Services Committee related to investments in basic research. You rightfully noted that the National Academies and Council on Competitiveness have recommended that DoD allocated 20 percent of its S&T budget to basic research, but actual funding has steadily declined the past 5 years. Unfortunately, the FY 2022 budget request calls for further reducing basic research funding by approximately 14.5 percent. This call for cutting basic research has been a recurring theme in the past several DoD budget requests. We are hopeful that as USD(R&E) you can work with the Secretary and Deputy Secretary to reverse these trends.

Again, congratulations on your confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of service to you and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Aerospace Industries Association (AIA)
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
American Chemical Society (ACS)
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering

American Mathematical Society (AMS)
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association (APA)
American Society for Engineering Education
Arizona State University
ASME

¹ <https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf21329>

Association of American Universities (AAU)	Penn State University
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)	Princeton University
Battelle	Purdue University
Boston University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Brown University	Rochester Institute of Technology
California Institute of Technology	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Carnegie Mellon University	Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Columbia University	Semiconductor Industry Association
Computing Research Association	Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Consortium for Ocean Leadership	SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSAS)	SRI International
Cornell University	Stony Brook University
Duke University	Temple University
Dupont	Texas A&M University
Energetics, Inc.	The Catholic University of America
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS)	The George Washington University
Federation of Materials Societies	The Johns Hopkins University
Florida International University	The State University of New York
Florida State University	University of Alaska
George Mason University	University of Arizona
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of California System
Harvard University	University of California, Davis
IEEE-USA	University of California, Irvine
Indiana University	University of California, Los Angeles
Lehigh University	University of California, Riverside
Louisiana State University	University of California, San Diego
Louisiana Tech University	University of Central Florida
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of Chicago
Materials Research Society	University of Cincinnati
Miami University of Ohio	University of Colorado Boulder
Michigan State University	University of Delaware
Michigan Technological University	University of Florida
Montana State University	University of Houston
New Mexico State University	University of Illinois System
New York University	University of Iowa
Northeastern University	University of Kansas
Northern Illinois University	University of Maryland at College Park
Northwestern University	University of Michigan
Oak Ridge Associated Universities	University of Missouri System
Ohio State University	University of Nebraska
Oregon Health and Sciences University	University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
Oregon State University	University of North Carolina System
OSA-The Optical Society	University of Oklahoma
Pace University	University of Pennsylvania
	University of Pittsburgh
	University of Rhode Island

University of Rochester
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of Texas System
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington

University of Wisconsin - Madison
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington State University
West Virginia University
William & Mary
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Yale University