

June 3, 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
528 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510
Facsimile: 1-202-224-7327

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
361 A Russell Senate
Washington, SC 20510
Facsimile: 1-202-224-2499

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

As the House and Senate move toward an agreement on the supplemental spending bill, we strongly urge you to preserve the funding increases for the physical sciences and engineering included in the Senate-passed legislation. The \$200 million appropriated to the National Science Foundation and the \$100 million for the Office of Science in the Department of Energy represent the bare minimum Congress should provide for basic research and math and science education at a time when America's economic competitiveness is increasingly challenged.

The FY 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Act came up woefully short of the funding commitments made by Congress and the Administration in the Democratic Innovation Agenda and the American Competitiveness Initiative. The consequences of this inaction are now apparent: cutting edge research has been halted or not launched; scientists in the hundreds have lost their jobs; fewer teachers are being trained; bright students are choosing alternative paths; and international partnerships have been severed. Basic science and engineering research at universities and national labs drives our nation's ability to develop breakthroughs ranging from energy- and life-saving devices to technologies that contribute to our economic growth, national defense and societal welfare. Now is the time to invest in America's competitive future and prevent further backsliding.

America's business, scientific and academic communities are united in asking for your leadership to preserve this funding in the FY 2008 supplemental and to put America back on track in FY 2009 to secure our crucial innovation investment commitments. We appreciate your continued efforts and look forward to working with you throughout this process.

Sincerely,

Hector Ruiz
Chairman & CEO
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.

Bruce E. Bursten
President
American Chemical Society

Christopher Hansen
President & CEO
American Electronics Association

Dr. John Watson
President
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering

H. Frederick Dylla
Executive Director and CEO
American Institute of Physics

James Glimm
President
American Mathematical Society

Arthur Bienenstock
President
American Physical Society

Sanjay Jha
President
QUALCOMM CDMA Technologies

Bill Destler
President
Rochester Institute of Technology

Victoria Hadfield
President
SEMI North America

George Scalise
President
Semiconductor Industry Association

Larry W. Sumney
President & CEO
Semiconductor Research Corporation

Cleve Moler
President
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

Jerry P. Draayer
President & CEO
Southeastern Universities Research Association

Peter A. Lachenbruch
President
American Statistical Association

Michael M. Crow
President
Arizona State University

Robert M. Berdahl
President
Association of American Universities

Dr. Mary L. Good
Chairman
**ASTRA, The Alliance for Science & Technology
Research in America**

Dr. Jay Gogue
President
Auburn University

Daniel A. Reed
Chairman
Computing Research Association

David Skorton
President
Cornell University

Deborah L. Wince-Smith
President
Council on Competitiveness

John Hennessy
President
Stanford University

Nancy Cantor
Chancellor & President
Syracuse University

Lezlee Westine
President & CEO
TechNet

Richard K. Templeton
Chairman, President & CEO
Texas Instruments Incorporated

Dwayne Ashley
CEO & President
Thurgood Marshall College Fund

Scott S. Cowen
President
Tulane University

John B. Simpson
President
**University of Buffalo, The State University of
New York**

Larry N. Vanderhoef
Chancellor
University of California Davis



Mark S. Thompson
Chairman, CEO & President
Fairchild Semiconductor



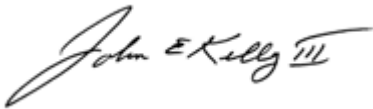
Dr. James H. Ammons
President
Florida A&M University



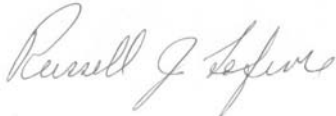
T.K. Wetherell
President
Florida State University



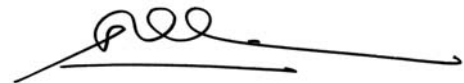
Rich Beyer
Chairman & CEO
Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.



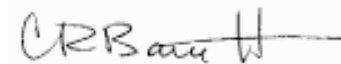
Dr. John E. Kelly III
Senior Vice President & Director of Research
IBM Corporation



Russell J. Lefevre
President
IEEE-USA



Michael McRobbie
President
Indiana University



Dr. Craig R. Barrett
Chairman of the Board
Intel Corporation



Michael V. Drake
Chancellor
University of California Irvine



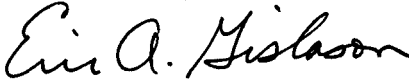
Robert Grey
Chancellor
University of California Riverside



John Hitt
President
University of Central Florida



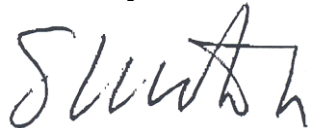
Nancy Zimpher
President
University of Cincinnati



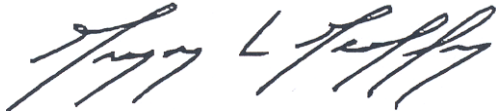
Dr. Eric Gislason
Chancellor
University of Illinois at Chicago



Richard Herman
Chancellor
University of Illinois of Urbana-Champaign



Dr. C. Dan Mote
President
University of Maryland



Gregory L. Geoffroy
President
Iowa State University



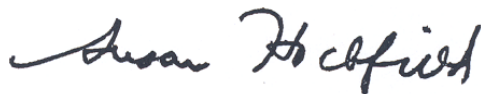
Lester A. Lefton
President
Kent State University



Abhi Talwalkar
President & CEO
LSI Logic Corporation



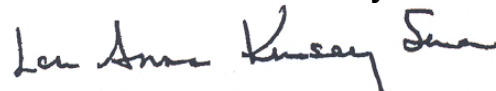
Keith Jackson
President, CEO & Director
ON Semiconductor



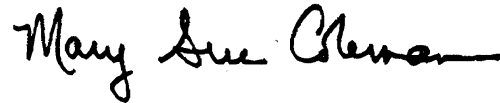
Susan Hockfield
President
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



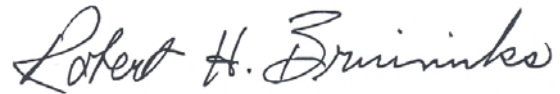
Cynthia A. Volkert, Ph.D.
President
Materials Research Society



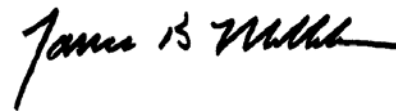
Lou Anna K. Simon
President
Michigan State University



Mary Sue Coleman
President
University of Michigan



Robert H. Bruininks
President
University of Minnesota



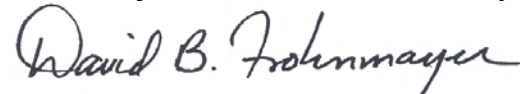
James B. Milliken
President
University of Nebraska



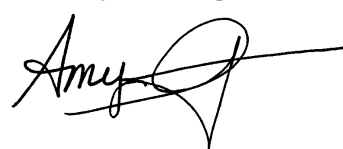
David Schmidly
President
University of New Mexico



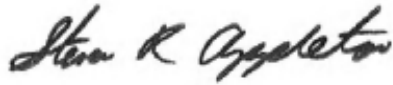
James Moeser
Chancellor
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Dave B. Frohnmayer
President
University of Oregon



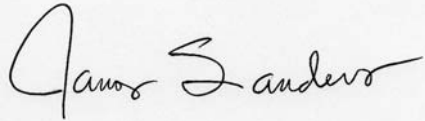
Amy Gutmann
President
University of Pennsylvania



Steve Appleton
Chairman & CEO
Micron Technology



Peter McPherson
President
NASULGC, A Public University Association



Dr. James Sanders
President
National Association of Marine Laboratories



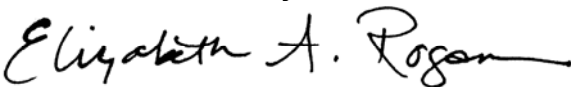
Brian Halla
Chairman & CEO
National Semiconductor Corporation



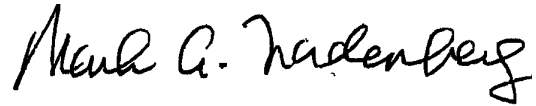
Henry S. Bienen
President
Northwestern University



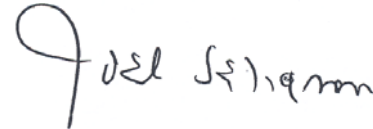
E. Gordon Gee
President
Ohio State University



Elizabeth A. Rogan
Executive Director
Optical Society of America



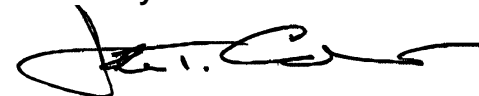
Mark A. Nordenberg
Chancellor
University of Pittsburgh



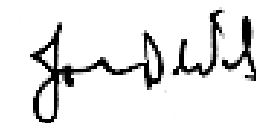
Joel Seligman
President
University of Rochester




Steven B. Sample
President
University of Southern California



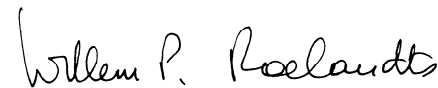
John T. Casteen III
President
University of Virginia



John D. Wiley
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Madison



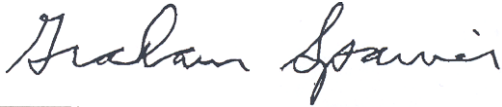
Nicholas S. Zeppos
Chancellor
Vanderbilt University



Willem Roelandts
Chairman of the Board
Xilinx Corporation



Michael S. Lebbay
President & CEO
**Optoelectronics Industry Development
Association**



Graham Spanier
President
Pennsylvania State University



Richard C. Levin
President
Yale University

CC:

The Honorable Richard Durbin, Majority Whip
The Honorable John Kyl, Minority Whip
The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman, Senate Republican Conference
The Honorable Robert Byrd, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Byron Dorgan, Chair, Democratic Policy Committee
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison, Chair, Republican Policy Committee