



# FASEB

Federation of American Societies  
for Experimental Biology

## Representing Over 125,000 Researchers

301.634.7000  
www.faseb.org

9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814

September 30, 2015

Dear Senator/Representative:

Our nation has long been the global leader in the biomedical sciences. The importance of federal investment in this vital area was recognized by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, which approved legislation to provide additional funding for the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. We now ask you and your colleagues to expedite passage of the fiscal year (FY) 2016 spending bills that included proposed funding increases for these critically important research agencies.

Decades of federal investment in research have produced new knowledge that has led to increased longevity, enhanced quality of life, novel treatments for diseases, the creation of innovative products, and establishment of new industries. Federal funding has supported the training of thousands of graduate students pursuing advanced degrees in science, ensuring a robust and internationally competitive workforce. Pioneering discoveries in biology opened the way for advanced therapies and increased agricultural productivity. Today, the opportunities in biomedical research and many other areas of science are greater than ever, and continued progress is essential to secure our future. Answers to pressing problems will demand creative solutions. Our ability to protect public health, feed the nation, and develop competitive new industries will depend on our command of emerging areas of science. After years of eroded purchasing power, funding cuts, and neglect of long-term needs, these increased funds are crucial to maintain our highly productive research enterprise and our nation's leadership in key areas of science.

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) greatly appreciates the increased levels of funding that were recommended by the appropriations committees for the coming fiscal year. However, we are concerned that failure to reach a bipartisan budget agreement in the next few months will jeopardize the much needed new investment in research.

FASEB comprises 27 societies with more than 125,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. I am joined by the Presidents of our member societies in urging you to complete the important work that has been started and enact legislation that will ensure the expanded commitment to research contained in the FY 2016 appropriations bills will become a reality.

Sincerely,



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Parker B. Antin, PhD  
FASEB President

Levi Garraway, MD, PhD  
American Society for Clinical Investigation

Lawrence E. Armstrong, PhD, FACSM  
American College of Sports Medicine

Richard T. Hart, PhD  
Biomedical Engineering Society

Roland Baron, DDS, PhD  
American Society for Bone and Mineral  
Research

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Association of Biomolecular Resource  
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Pathology

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Society for Developmental Biology



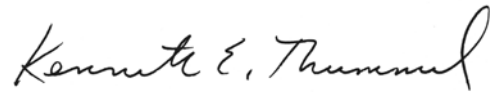
Brendan H. Lee, MD, PhD  
Society for Pediatric Research



Patrick J. Stover, PhD  
American Society for Nutrition



Dan R. Littman, MD, PhD  
The American Association of  
Immunologists



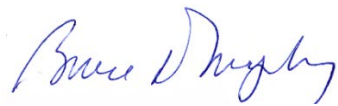
Kenneth Thummel, PhD  
American Society for Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics



Patricia E. Molina, MD, PhD, FAPS  
American Physiological Society



Kimberly Topp, PT, PhD, FAAA  
American Association of Anatomists



Bruce D. Murphy PhD, FCAHS  
President, Society for the Study  
of Reproduction



Tacey E. White, PhD  
Teratology Society



J. Michael Pierce, PhD  
Society for Glycobiology



Amir Zeki, MD, MAS  
American Federation for Medical Research



Jasper Rine, PhD  
Genetics Society of America