

May 25, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The undersigned organizations are writing to strongly encourage you to nominate highly-qualified individuals to serve as Director and in other key roles in the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). These important positions have remained vacant since your inauguration and we urge you to fill them as quickly as possible.

As part of the Executive Office of the President, OSTP is a crucial organization that directs Federal efforts across all science agencies in setting science and technology budgets and other priorities. Its leadership plays an important role in enhancing education; advancing knowledge; improving human health and saving lives; strengthening national security; and growing our economy.

In recent years, for example, OSTP has been directly involved in the response to the Zika outbreak; promoting cybersecurity; addressing U.S. infrastructure needs with geospatial data; combatting antibiotic resistance; developing a robust U.S. space policy; and supporting advanced manufacturing. Given the many challenges facing our nation, your Administration would greatly benefit from a cadre of experts advising on these topics and others.

We applaud you for making workforce development a priority since you took office in January. As you are probably aware, over one-fifth of American jobs require a high level of knowledge in at least one STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) field. By appointing strong leaders in OSTP, your Administration can focus on these fast-growing sectors and augment our nation's standing as a leader in global innovation.

All of your predecessors since Eisenhower – Democrats and Republicans alike – have been well-served by science advisors who were highly respected by their peers, and we hope you will select someone of the caliber of these recent OSTP Directors as your Science Advisor. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss OSTP appointments with your staff.

Sincerely,

Academy of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging Research  
American Anthropological Association  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association of Geographers  
American Association of Physics Teachers

American Chemical Society  
American Educational Research Association  
American Geophysical Union  
American Geosciences Institute  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Mathematical Society  
American Physical Society  
American Political Science Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography  
Association for Women in Mathematics  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Public & Land-grant Universities  
Association of Research Libraries  
Association of Science – Technology Centers  
Brandeis University  
Consortium for Ocean Leadership  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Council of Graduate Schools  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
Crop Science Society of America  
Ecological Society of America  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology  
Indiana University  
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers  
Institute of Mathematical Statistics  
Michigan State University  
Museum of Science, Boston  
National Association of Colleges and Employers  
National Center for Technological Literacy  
National Communication Association  
National Ground Water Association  
National Science Teachers Association  
OSA – The Optical Society

Penn State University  
Psychological Society of America  
Population Association of America  
Seismological Society of America  
Social Psychology Network  
Soil Science Society of America  
STEM Education Coalition  
TODOS: Mathematics for All  
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science  
University of Oregon