



28 April 2021

Katherine J. Duncan, PhD
President, IEEE-USA
2001 L St, NW Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Sen. Maria Cantwell
Chair
Commerce, Science &
Transportation Comm.
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Roger Wicker
Ranking Minority Member
Commerce, Science &
Transportation Comm.
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Cantwell & Wicker:

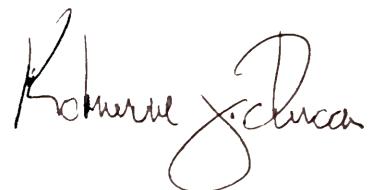
On behalf of the nearly 150,000 IEEE members in the United States, represented by the IEEE-USA, I am writing to communicate my support for the confirmation of Dr. Eric Lander as Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Dr. Lander has outstanding credentials as a geneticist, molecular biologist and mathematician, whose career in advancing biomedical applications of the human genome give him an understanding of the importance of applied research and engineering, as well as the important roles played by technology in all aspects of modern life. This breadth, plus his experience as founding director of the Broad Institute, leader of the international Human Genome Project and his service as co-chair of President Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology demonstrate the management and public policy experience essential for effective service as OSTP Director.

IEEE-USA is concerned that America's technology leadership is under increasing challenge and that, as a country, we have under-invested in both basic and applied research and technology-dependent national infrastructures that are critical to our continued economic and national security. We were pleased to see the emphasis placed on science and technology by the new Administration with the early appointment of the President's Science Advisor-Designate Eric Lander and the elevation of his post to the President's Cabinet. We urge his prompt confirmation as Director of OSTP so as not to inhibit the important work that must be done there to coordinate the Administration's efforts to strengthen our national STEM capabilities.

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the IEEE, the world's largest membership society for technical professionals and an international advocate for the advancement of science, technology, engineering and mathematics for the benefit of humanity. IEEE-USA supports the public policy interests of nearly 150,000 engineers, scientists, information technologists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine J. Duncan".

Katherine J. Duncan, PhD
President, IEEE-USA