



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT - RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 25, 2021

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chairwoman
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, the nation's largest funder of the physical sciences, plays a critical role in America's research ecosystem. In addition to advancing important DOE mission objectives through scientific discovery, the Office of Science provides tens of thousands of scientists from across the country access to large-scale and world-leading scientific user facilities. These facilities serve research funded across all federal research agencies and are utilized extensively by industry to advance technology development.

As the largest recipient of DOE Office of Science university research grants and as the management and operating contractor for three DOE national laboratories—Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Los Alamos National Laboratory—the University of California (UC) plays a leading role in advancing the Department's missions in basic science, clean energy, environmental sustainability and ensuring America's global competitiveness and economic leadership. UC understands firsthand how strong funding for the Office of Science is critical to tackling society's greatest challenges and to expanding knowledge of our world and the universe.

UC strongly supports Congress' commitment to providing robust funding for the DOE Office of Science; specifically, UC supports the House Science, Space and Technology Committee's DOE Science for the Future Act and encourages the House of Representatives to advance this important legislation.

UC applauds the bill's focus on building, operating and upgrading the Office of Science's scientific user facilities, such as the Advanced Light Source, to ensure that American scientific facility capabilities and resources remain the best in the world. Further, UC supports the bill's establishment of the new mid-scale research instrumentation program, which will ensure that universities continue to innovate with the most advanced technologies in the world. Considering the limited funding opportunities for research infrastructure upgrades across the federal science agencies, this program is most welcome. UC recognizes and appreciates the bill's strong support for the core research functions within the Office of Science and maintaining a healthy balance between core research, and facilities development and operations.

In addition, UC applauds the bill's aim to focus on climate change and environmental sustainability, such as the establishment of the new coastal zone research initiative program, as these are some of the greatest scientific challenges facing the world. UC acknowledges that addressing these issues will require both rigorous research and training for the next generation of climate researchers. This bill provides investments in key areas necessary to ensure the nation leads in the development of innovative solutions for a cleaner and healthier planet.

Recognizing that the Senate recently passed the United States Innovation and Competitiveness Act, we hope the House and Senate can resolve differences between the two bills and ensure that problematic research security provisions included in the Senate bill are eliminated. These provisions undermine innovation and better position our competitors to outpace the U.S. in developing the next generation of technologies.

The University of California appreciates Congress' commitment to investing in scientific and technological research and we look forward to working with you and your staff as this important legislation moves forward.

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,



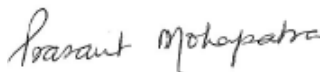
Theresa A. Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E.
Vice President for Research & Innovation
UC Office of the President



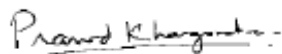
Craig S. Leasure
Vice President for UC National Laboratories
UC Office of the President



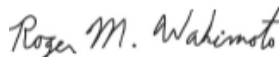
Randy Katz
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Berkeley



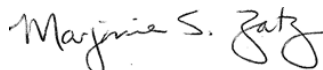
Prasant Mohapatra
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Davis



Pramod Khargonekar
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Irvine



Roger Wakimoto
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Los Angeles



Marjorie Zatz
Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and
Economic Development, UC Merced



Rodolfo Torres
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic
Development, UC Riverside



Sandra Brown
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC San Diego



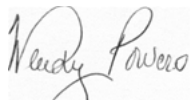
Daniel H. Lowenstein
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, UC
San Francisco



Joe Incandela
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Santa Barbara



Scott Brandt
Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Santa Cruz



Wendy Powers
Associate Vice President, UC Agricultural and
Natural Resources