27 July 2009

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to support the Congressional Hispanic Caucus’ nomination of Dr. Theresa A. Maldonado to the National Science Board.

Dr. Maldonado, a senior member of IEEE, is an accomplished educator whose career includes positions at both Texas A&M University (TAMU) and the University of Texas-Arlington (UT-A). She was educated at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where she became an expert on electro-optic materials. She has taught and mentored doctoral and masters students in this field for the last 10 years. She is an experienced university administrator, having served as Associate Dean of Engineering for Research (at both UT-A and TAMU), Associate Vice President for Research (UT-A), and, on an interim basis, Vice President for Research (TAMU). She is now Executive Associate VP for Research at TAMU. She has demonstrated success in fundraising, bringing in a total of almost $7 million for her employing universities. Prior to her academic career, she was a Member of the Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Dr. Maldonado also brings substantial familiarity with the National Science Foundation through previous positions as a program director with the Engineering Research Centers Program, Engineering Education and Centers Division, and her service on NSF panels related to topics as varied as gender diversity, nanotechnology, curriculum development and industry/university partnerships.

The NSB is charged with advising both the President and Congress on national policy issues related to science and engineering research and education. As a successful university professor and administrator, Dr. Maldonado is well qualified to contribute to policies that build superior science and engineering research and education in the United States.

IEEE-USA commends the Congressional Hispanic Caucus for recommending Dr. Maldonado.

Sincerely,

Gordon W. Day, Ph.D.
2009 IEEE-USA President