14 February 2011

The Honorable Sandy Adams
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Dear Representative Adams:

On behalf of the Science-Engineering-Technology Working Group, we congratulate you as a member of the 112th Congress. As the Congress begins, we would like to take this opportunity to emphasize the role science and engineering play in our nation’s economy.

We will be holding an event on April 6-7, 2011, that will bring hundreds of scientists and engineers to Congress to discuss the importance of science and technology investments to our economy. We will be hosting an exhibition and reception on the evening of Wednesday, April 6th to demonstrate how science and engineering contribute to growing jobs and the economy. Visits to the Congressional Offices will be held on April 7. Be sure to save the dates!

Science and engineering are vital contributors to the nation’s economy. These fields are necessary in order to:

- **Maintain our economic and industrial leadership in the global marketplace**. The U.S. needs predictable and sustainable support for federally-funded scientific and engineering research; groundbreaking activity that is generally not pursued by industry.

- **Ensure economic progress**. Well over half of the growth in U.S. output is attributed to advancements in knowledge, particularly technology. ¹

- **Grow jobs**. In Fiscal Year 2008, 595 new companies were formed as a result of university research. In fact, many of the world’s most interesting and important inventions, such as Google, got their start in a university laboratory. ²

- **Uphold society’s advancement**. Publicly-funded science and engineering research is at the core of our society’s progress. Our nation’s scientists and engineers produce research results that help ensure our national strength, security, health, economy, and workforce development. Achievements such as the Internet, lasers, MRI, computer modeling of chemical structures to design drugs, and global environmental monitoring and management are well known and are just a few examples of the successes of scientific research and development.

Despite the critical need for federally-funded science and engineering research, funding in real dollars has been declining for years.³ We are proud that science and engineering research and development have a long history of bipartisan support and want to stress that much of our nation’s success relies heavily on science and engineering technologies.
We look forward to speaking with you further on April 6-7. If you would like any additional information, please contact Deborah Rudolph at 202 530-8332, d.rudolph@ieee.org.

Sincerely,

The Science-Engineering-Technology Working Group (SETWG)

Alliance for Science & Technology Research in America
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Astronomical Society
American Chemical Society
American Geological Institute
American Geophysical Union
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Institute of Physics
American Physical Society
American Society for Engineering Education
American Society for Horticultural Science
American Society for Microbiology
ASME
AVS - The Science & Technology Society
Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors
Biomass Energy Research Association
Biophysical Society
Council for Chemical Research
Federation of Materials Societies
Geological Society of America
IBM
IEEE-USA
Incorporated Research Institute for Seismology
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Materials Research Society
Optoelectronics Industry Development Association
Optical Society of America
The Science Coalition
Scientists & Engineers for America
SPIE
The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society
The Society of Women Engineers
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

SETWG is an information network comprising professional, scientific, and engineering societies, higher education associations, institutions of higher learning, trade associations, and individual companies. The Working Group is concerned about the future vitality of the U.S. science, mathematics, and engineering enterprise. The Science-Engineering-Technology Working Group contacts are Debbie Rudolph (Phone 202-530-8332, Fax 202-785-0835, E-Mail d.rudolph@ieee.org) and Robert Boege (Phone 202-872-6160, E-Mail rboege@comcast.net).
Notes:


(Sample of Letter Sent to all Members, 112th Congress)