



Association of  
American Medical Colleges  
655 K Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20001-2399  
T 202 828 0400  
aamc.org

August 23, 2018

The Honorable John Thune  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson:

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) is pleased to support the nomination of Kelvin Droegemeier, PhD, to be Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

The AAMC is a not-for-profit association dedicated to transforming health care through innovative medical education, cutting-edge patient care, and groundbreaking medical research. Its members are all 151 accredited U.S. medical schools; nearly 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, including 51 Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; and more than 80 academic societies. Through these institutions and organizations, the AAMC serves the leaders of America's medical schools and teaching hospitals and their more than 173,000 full-time faculty members, 89,000 medical students, 129,000 resident physicians, and more than 60,000 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the biomedical sciences.

As you know, for over 40 years, the OSTP Director has served as the President's Science Advisor, helping to inform the Executive Office of the President and the broader federal government on matters related to science, engineering, and technology. The AAMC strongly believes Dr. Droegemeier's extensive experience, including his tenure as Vice President for Research at the University of Oklahoma and his time as Vice Chair of the governing board of the National Science Foundation, provide him with a solid understanding of the scientific landscape. These qualifications will equip him well to oversee the office, offer sage counsel, and help shape a thriving, evidence-based federal science agenda.

Every American benefits from a strong national commitment to research and development, and ensuring strong leadership at OSTP is instrumental to achieving such a goal. The nation's medical schools and teaching hospitals are proud to support Dr. Droegemeier's candidacy in filling that role. We urge the Committee to support his nomination as well, and we hope the full Senate will follow suit with a swift vote to confirm him as the OSTP Director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Atul Grover", is written over a horizontal line.

Atul Grover, M.D., Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation