

September 19, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senate Majority Leader McConnell and Democratic Leader Schumer:

The U.S. scientific community was pleased with the recent nomination of a respected scientist to serve as director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). His nomination hearing before the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee demonstrated that he has bipartisan support.

The President faces a wide range of domestic and international challenges, from protecting national and energy security, to ensuring U.S. economic competitiveness, curing diseases, bolstering agriculture and responding to natural disasters. These challenges share one thing in common: the need for scientific knowledge and technological expertise to address them successfully. It is for this reason that many of our organizations [sent a letter](#) shortly after the presidential election encouraging then-President-elect Trump to nominate an OSTP director as quickly as possible.

We therefore urge you to move rapidly to vote on the nomination of OSTP director. A swift confirmation process would allow the OSTP Director to quickly begin the vital work, with executive branch colleagues, of coordinating and determining effective ways to use science and technology to address major national challenges.

Thank you for your consideration and for your vital efforts to ensure that we have a strong scientific leader at OSTP to work across government and the research community to maintain America's global leadership and to respond to national economic and security challenges.

Sincerely,

American Anthropological Association  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Brain Coalition  
American Chemical Society  
American Educational Research Association  
American Geophysical Union  
American Geosciences Institute  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Mathematical Society  
American Physiological Society

American Psychological Association  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Sociological Association  
Aspen Brain Institute  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of University Professors of Neurology  
Computing Research Association  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Council of Graduate Schools  
Council on Governmental Relations  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
Ecological Society of America  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Geological Society of America  
Mathematical Association of America  
MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation  
National Association of Marine Laboratories  
National Science Teachers Association  
Northwest Neuroscience Outreach Group  
OSA, The Optical Society  
Psychology of Science in Policy  
SAGE Publishing  
Society for Research in Child Development  
Society of Toxicology  
The International Society for Optics and Photonics  
The Oceanography Society  
Washington State University