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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550

November 22, 1976

RH
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Members of the National Science Board, I wish to express our deep appreciation to you for your strong support of U.S. science, especially during your tenure as President.

The principal mission of the National Science Foundation is strengthening U.S. science through the support of basic research. It is not always readily apparent to the Congress, to the Administration, or to the general public, why the Nation should make large investments in basic research. While the payoffs are clear in retrospect, they are hard to predict at the time the funds are granted. Basic research is crucial to the Nation's strength over the long term. Your appreciation of the importance of maintaining strong support for basic science and your decisions to increase Federal funding for these efforts have been essential in maintaining U.S. scientific leadership.

The U.S. science community is keenly aware and most appreciative of the Nation's continuing large investments in research. The trust placed in U.S. science by our citizens is one that we value highly, and the U.S. science community is committed to making certain that all Americans benefit from their continued trust in and support of science.

The recent progress made in increasing funding for basic science and the continued strong support for research in such problem areas as the environment, food, energy, and climate will greatly benefit the Nation. Clearly, you have recognized the importance of science to the health and strength of the Nation. We would like to take note of some of the actions which have been particularly noteworthy. These include:

1. Your decisions to increase Federal support of basic research in both Fiscal Year 1976 and Fiscal Year 1977.
2. Your repeated statements in the support of science that accompanied your budget messages to the Congress and those that were made on the occasion of the National Science Foundation's 25th anniversary.



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD
MAIL ROOM
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550

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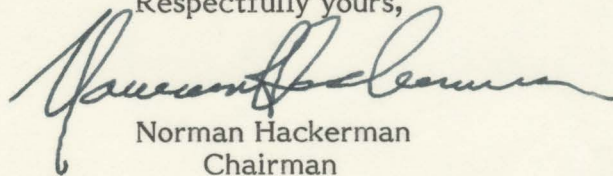


3. Your proposal to establish the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House and the appointment of a Director of that Office who also serves in the capacity of Science and Technology Adviser.
4. Your award of the National Medal of Science, the Nation's highest award for scientific achievement, to 28 distinguished scientists.

You have been sensitive and impartial in appointing the most qualified individuals to positions of responsibility dealing with the management of Federal funds for science and we commend you for this. We are especially pleased with your appointment earlier this year of seven persons to serve on the National Science Board.

All Members of the National Science Board join me in expressing our appreciation to you for a job well done in encouraging and strengthening U.S. science. We wish you every success in your future undertakings. It has been a distinct honor and pleasure for the Members of the Board to have been associated with you.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Norman Hackerman", written in a cursive style.

Norman Hackerman
Chairman

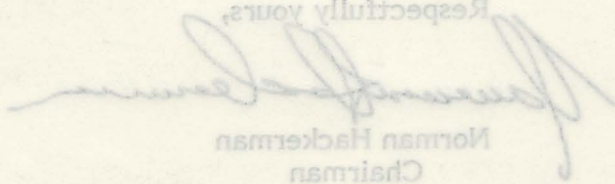


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Chairman

