

September 10, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

Representative Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
1236 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

Representative Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader McCarthy,

As leaders in US industry, academia, science, and technology, we urge you to provide robust funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) in any forthcoming infrastructure and fiscal year (FY) 2022 appropriations legislation. NSF is a critical part of our nation's innovation infrastructure. Large bipartisan majorities in both houses of Congress have recognized the urgent need to invest in our science, engineering, and technology ecosystem to ensure our competitiveness and enable the innovation for a better future. Now, Congress must provide the actual funding for this effort to ensure our science and engineering ecosystem can respond to the challenges ahead.

We are in fierce competition with China as well as other nations that will shape the future of democracy, our nation, and the world. The future security and prosperity of the U.S. depends on our continued leadership in science and technology. Increased funding like that authorized in the bipartisan *US Innovation and Competition Act* and the *NSF for the Future Act* is absolutely critical to protecting our future and continuing to advance in fields like quantum, next generation wireless, clean energy, and the bioeconomy.

Funding both NSF's existing programs and its new directorate will help ensure that the U.S. can lead in new discoveries and in advancing key technologies in ways that will benefit the U.S. economy. Our country's leadership recognizes that increased funding for NSF is indispensable for America's future. It will strengthen our innovation infrastructure by expanding NSF's mission to enable research in critical technologies, enhanced partnerships across the country, and increased translation to power new industries.

Congress and the Administration have laid out a bold vision for NSF. Now is the time to make that vision a reality with funding. **We support \$10.2 billion for NSF in FY 2022 appropriations to bolster NSF's existing programs and jumpstart the essential efforts of the new directorate.** Yet this funding alone will not be enough. **In addition, we call on Congress and the Administration to robustly fund NSF in the infrastructure package, recognizing NSF's essential role in our nation's innovation infrastructure, enabling NSF's expanded mission, and fulfilling NSF's own research infrastructure needs.**

We stand at a critical juncture for our country. Only with robust investment can we ensure a robust innovation future to power economic growth and our nation's competitiveness. Thank you for your consideration; we look forward to your swift action.

Sincerely,

Abhishek Motayed  
CEO, N5 Sensors, Inc.

Adam Malamy  
Co-Founder and VP  
Engineering, NGCodec Inc.

Adam Wolf  
Founder and Chief Scientist,  
Arable Labs

Ajay Kshatriya  
Chairman of the Board, Biota  
Technology

Ajay Shah  
CEO, Cytovale Inc.

Amy Haghdoost  
CTO, Maxterial, Inc.

Andrew Ponec  
CEO, Antora Energy, Inc.

Ángel Cabrera  
President, Georgia Institute  
of Technology

Angus McLachlan  
CEO, Liberate Medical

Beth Esponnette  
Cofounder, Exec Chair,  
unspun

Brad Feld  
Partner, Foundry Group

Brennon Marcano  
CEO, The National GEM  
Consortium

Brent Milne  
Co-Founder of two previous  
SBIR-funded startups, VP of  
Product R&D, SAGA  
Innovations

Carrick Detweiler  
CEO, Drone Amplified, INC

Catherine Roberts  
Executive Director, American  
Mathematical Society

Chris Kaffer  
CEO & Co-Founder,  
Mallinda, Inc.

Crispin Taylor  
CEO, American Society of  
Plant Biologists

Dan Dumbacher  
Executive Director, American  
Institute of Aeronautics and  
Astronautics

David Cohen  
Chairman, Techstars

David Norton  
Vice President for Research,  
University of Florida

Dean Chang  
Associate Vice President for  
Innovation &  
Entrepreneurship, University  
of Maryland

Dmitry Derkach, Principal  
Scientist, CSO, Co-Founder,  
bioSyntagma Inc.

Ecatherina Roodenko  
CEO, Max-IR Labs, Inc.

Edward Eveleth  
CEO, Halomine, Inc.

Elise Strobach  
CEO & Co-founder,  
AeroShield Materials, Inc.

Ellie Symes  
CEO, The Bee Corp.

Emily Kennedy  
Founder, Marinus Analytics

Errol Arkilic  
Chief Executive Officer,  
M34 Capital

Franchessa Saylor  
President & CEO, ThruPore  
Technologies, Inc.

Genevieve Patterson  
Head of Applied Research  
(former NSF SBIR awardee),  
Visual Supply Company

Gloria Kolb  
CEO, Elidah, Inc.

Gregory Newbloom  
CEO, Membrion, Inc.

Henry Benner  
CEO, Ion Dx

Ilan Gur  
CEO, Activate Global, Inc.

Jacob Zax  
Founder & CEO, Edify  
Technologies, Inc.

Jason Oberg  
Co-founder and CTO, Tortuga  
Logic, Inc.

Javier Atencia  
CEO, Pathotrak, Inc.

Jeff Nyquist  
Founder and Chief Science  
Officer, NeuroTrainer

Jeffrey Roe  
CEO, DeviceFarm, Inc.

Jerrold Prothero, Ph.D.  
CEO & Co-Founder, Astrapi

Jessica Ochoa Hendrix  
CEO & Co-Founder, Killer  
Snails

Jiani Zeng  
Chief Product Officer, Butlr

John Birks  
Chief Scientist, 2B  
Technologies

John Coates  
Distinguished Director,  
Energy & Biosciences  
Institute

Jonathan Coe  
CEO, Prescient Surgical

Jonathan Levine  
CEO and Co-founder,  
Folia Materials

Juan Guzman  
CEO, Capro-X, Inc.

Kamil Agi  
President-CEO, SensorComm  
Technologies, Inc.

Kathleen Arntsen  
President & CEO, Lupus and  
Allied Diseases Association,  
Inc.

Kenneth Bradley  
President and CEO, PixelEXX  
Systems, Inc.

Krista Marks  
CEO and Co-Founder of SBIR-  
funded startup, acquired by  
Disney; Chief Product Officer,  
SAGA Innovations

Leah Ellis  
CEO, Sublime Systems, Inc.

Liam Berryman  
CEO, Nelumbo

Lucinda Sanders  
CEO and Co-founder,  
National Center for Women  
& Information Technology

Marcie Black  
CEO, Advanced Silicon Group

Marian Klein  
CEO, Boulder Environmental  
Sciences and Technology

Mark Camenzind  
CEO, Technologist,  
Camenzind Solutions LLC

Mary Woolley  
President and CEO,  
Research!America

Matanya Horowitz  
Founder & CEO, AMP  
Robotics Corp

Matthew Kero  
VP of Engineering, Neuvokas  
Corporation

Melissa Risteff  
Founder, Couragion

Melur Ramasubramanian  
Vice President for Research,  
University of Virginia

Michael Donoghue  
President, Botanical Society  
of America

Michael Moloney  
Chief Executive Officer,  
American Institute of Physics

Michael Waggoner  
CEO, Corumat, Inc.

Milan Yager  
Executive Director, American  
Institute for Medical & Bio.  
Engineering

Miriam Quintal  
Managing Principal, Lewis-  
Burke Associates LLC and Co-  
Chair, Coalition for National  
Science Funding

Mohit Lad  
Co-founder, CEO,  
ThousandEyes (now part of  
Cisco)

Monica Berrondo  
CEO, Macromoltek

Nancy Phillips  
Managing Partner,  
Rallyday Partners

Nathan Oakes  
CTO, Combplex

Nathan Stoddard  
CTO, Leading Edge  
Equipment Technologies

Neal Lane  
Senior Fellow, Rice  
University's Baker Institute  
for Public Policy, Rice  
University

Nicholas Flanders  
Co-founder | CEO, Twelve

Nicholas Myers  
CEO, Phoenix Tailings

Nick Maynard  
Co-founder & CEO, US Ignite

Nishikant Sonwalkar  
President and founder,  
SunDensity Inc.

Norman Fortenberry  
Executive Director, American  
Society for Engineering  
Education

Paula Szkody  
President, American  
Astronomical Society

Payman Samadi  
CEO, eino

Peter Harsha  
Interim Executive Director,  
Computing Research  
Association

Peter Roberts  
President, Spherical Block,  
LLC

Phil Weilerstein  
President & CEO,  
VentureWell

Prof. Nikolaus Correll  
CEO, Robotic Materials Inc.

Randy Fiser  
Executive Director/CEO,  
American Geophysical Union  
(AGU)

Renee Carder  
Co-Creator & VP, PixelEXX  
Systems, Inc.

Richard Lytel  
CEO, Klar Scientific, Inc.

Richard Wang  
CEO, Cuberg, Inc.

Robert Snyder  
Managing Director, Proteios  
Technology, Inc.

Roch Hart  
CEO/Founder, Wildlife  
Protection Management, Inc.

Ross Stein  
CEO and cofounder,  
Temblor, Inc.

Saravan Kumar  
CEO, MaxQ

Scott Glisson  
Chief Executive Officer,  
American Institute of  
Biological Sciences

Scott Steen  
Executive Director, American  
Physiological Society

Sean Muir  
Chief Technology Officer,  
Amorphyx

Shay Sethi  
CEO, Ambercycle

Shreya Dave  
Chief Executive Officer, Via  
Separations

Smita Bakshi  
SVP Technology Publishing,  
zyBooks cofounder, Wiley

Sriramkumar Venugopalan  
Co-founder & Chief Product  
Officer, RF Pixels, Inc.

Steve Gallant  
VP for Research and  
Founder, Textician

Steven Rogelberg  
President, Society for  
Industrial and Organizational  
Psychology

Susanne Brenner  
President, Society for  
Industrial and Applied  
Mathematics

Sylvester Gates, Jr.  
President, American Physical  
Society

Sylvia Lewis  
Vice President, Sigray, Inc.

Talitha Washington  
Director & Professor, Atlanta  
University Center & Clark  
Atlanta University

Terri Fiez  
Vice Chancellor for Research  
& Innovation, University of  
Colorado Boulder

Thomas Kimbis  
Executive Director & CEO,  
National Postdoctoral  
Association

Tim Leshan  
Vice Provost for Research &  
Strategic Partnerships,  
Northeastern University

Wayne Figurelle  
Chair of the CASC Executive  
Committee, Coalition for  
Academic Scientific  
Computation

Wendy Naus  
Executive Director,  
Consortium of Social Science  
Associations

Yvonne Towse  
Managing Director, AVS –  
The Society for Science and  
Technology of Materials,  
Interfaces, and Processing