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FASEB BRINGS SCIENTISTS TO WASHINGTON TO THANK CONGRESS, SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH FUNDING

Bethesda, MD – “We strongly believe that the best advocates for science are the scientists themselves,” said Richard Marchase, Ph.D., President of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB). “Today, during our annual Capitol Hill Day, researchers from all over the country will be meeting with their elected representatives to make the case for long-term, sustainable funding for science.”

Members of FASEB’s Board of Directors and Science Policy Committee will be meeting with appropriators, committee chairs, and other congressional offices united behind a single message: sustainable investment in science is the foundation for improvements in health, economic prosperity, and technological innovation. “First and foremost, we want to thank Congress for their support of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,” stated Marchase. “Not only is that funding providing job opportunities nationwide, it will also generate tremendous opportunities in scientific discovery. In order to sustain that momentum and continue to translate those discoveries into the advancements that improve our daily lives, we need to make sure we are thinking ahead to the next step. So our scientists will be talking to their members of Congress not just about FY 2010, but also FY 2011 and beyond.”

FASEB will also be distributing copies of its [annual funding recommendations for life science agencies](#) to every member of Congress. According to Marchase, “These recommendations, for five federal research agencies, identify what is needed to spur the technological and medical advancements to ensure our future health and progress. We look forward to working over the upcoming year with our champions in Congress and the Administration towards the goal of predictable funding streams for biomedical research. It’s an exciting time for science, and it is my hope that we can convey that sense of promise to lawmakers.”

Federal Funding for Biomedical and Related Life Sciences Research FY 2010:

- **National Institutes of Health:** FASEB recommends that NIH receive a 7 percent increase in FY 2010.
- **National Science Foundation:** FASEB recommends an appropriation of \$7 billion for NSF in FY 2010.
- **Department of Energy:** FASEB recommends that DOE’s Office of Science receive an 8 percent increase in FY 2010.
- **Department of Veterans Affairs:** FASEB recommends an appropriation of \$575 million for the VA Medical and Prosthetics Research Program in FY 2010.
- **United States Department of Agriculture:** FASEB recommends an appropriation of \$300 million for the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative in FY 2010.

FASEB is composed of 22 societies with more than 90,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. Our mission is to advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to our member societies and collaborative advocacy.