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FASEB BRINGS SCIENTISTS TO CAPITOL HILL TO ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED RESEARCH FUNDING; LAUNCHES NEW GUIDE TO FRESHMAN CLASS OF THE 112TH CONGRESS

Bethesda, MD – Scientists from across the country came to Washington DC on March 29th to advocate for increased funding for federal science agencies as part of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology's (FASEB) annual Capitol Hill Day. Led by FASEB President, Dr. William T. Talman, the researchers met with nearly 45 congressional offices where they presented [FASEB's FY 2012 recommendations](#) of \$35 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and \$7.8 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF). "Fiscal year 2012 is a critical year for science. Even during a time of unprecedented budgetary constraints, our goal is to advocate in support of critical investments which will help improve the lives of millions of people," stated Talman.

To prepare for their meetings on Capitol Hill, the scientists turned to FASEB's newly launched [website](#) providing information about new members of Congress. The 112th Congress: Research Advocacy Guide to the Freshman Class features profiles of each of the freshman members of Congress including their positions on funding for NIH and science policy issues such as stem cell research. "This site will continue to provide our community with useful information so they can actively reach out to their new representatives in Washington," said Jennifer Zeitzer, FASEB Director of Legislative Relations. New information will be added to the website throughout the year. It can be accessed at: <http://bit.ly/gSkIjq>

FASEB will continue its advocacy throughout the year urging Congress and the Obama Administration to achieve the goal of sustainable funding for research. "This is both an exciting and a challenging time and we look forward to working with all lawmakers to ensure that the budget for federal science agencies will allow us to take maximum advantage of the expanding opportunities in science," said Talman.

FASEB is composed of 23 societies with more than 100,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of scientists and engineers 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.