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Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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FASEB, SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES BRING TOGETHER REPS FROM PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS TO DISCUSS HEALTH AND SCIENCE POLICY

Washington, D.C. — As the research community contemplates how a new administration will affect key science and health policy issues, health policy advisors from the McCain and Obama campaigns will help shed light on the subject at a forum organized by the Scientists and Engineers for America (SEA) and co-sponsored by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) and other scientific organizations. “This is a unique opportunity to access the candidates’ thinking on critical health and science issues, and to highlight how science underlies health and healthcare,” said Richard Marchase, Ph.D., FASEB President. “I think that the willingness of both campaigns to enter into a dialogue on health and science policy speaks to the vital importance of these topics to our nation.”

Scientists, the public, and policy makers will have the chance to ask representatives from each campaign questions about the role of science in health policy decisions, the future of funding for biomedical research, and other relevant policy issues, including stem cell research, genetic technologies, and biosecurity. The forum, which will feature Mr. Jay Khosla, health policy advisor for Senator John McCain, and Dr. Dora Hughes, health policy advisor for Senator Barack Obama, will take place on September 18, 2008 from 5:00 – 6:30 P.M at George Washington University’s Jack Morton Auditorium. A live web stream of the event will be available at: www.SHARP.SEforA.org/candidate-forum for those who cannot attend in person. Questions, along with your name and affiliation, can be sent in advance to Questions@SEforA.org for inclusion in the forum, which will be moderated by National Public Radio’s, Julie Rovner.

There is no charge for this event. However, it is essential that members of the public who wish to attend in person RSVP to RSVP@SEforA.org by 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 16. Members of the press should RSVP to Innovation2008@SEforA.org, or by calling Scientists and Engineers for America at 202-223-644.

Additional event sponsors include the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), American Chemical Society (ACS), American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS), American Public Health Association (APHA), IEEE-USA, Research!America, and The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, including the Project on Scientific Knowledge and Public Policy and the Department of Health Policy.

To learn more about biomedical research and the Presidential election, please visit:
<http://sciencecures.org/>.

FASEB is composed of 21 societies with more than 80,000 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 its member societies and collaborative advocacy.