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Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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FASEB RELEASES STATEMENT ON DUAL USE RESEARCH AND BIOSECURITY EDUCATION

Bethesda, MD – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) has issued a statement in support of awareness and education on dual use life sciences research. “FASEB unequivocally supports responsible conduct of research,” said Richard Marchase, Ph.D., FASEB President. “This position is a continuation of our commitment to maintaining public trust of the biomedical research enterprise.”

The FASEB position states “that scientists working in the life sciences have an obligation to be aware of the potential dual use nature of their research,” going on to assert “while raising awareness of dual use nature of life sciences research will not completely eliminate the possibility of misuse of biological sciences...we do support the idea that education about dual use research and biosecurity will help reduce risk.” FASEB outlines a number of principles for dual use and biosecurity education, which include emphasizing biosecurity education as part of training in responsible conduct of research, stresses that institutions need flexibility to provide effective training appropriate to the individual’s role in the lab, and notes that this should not become an unfunded mandate that burdens institutions and investigators. To that end, the Federation also points out that there are a number of existing resources on dual use research which could serve as the foundation of subsequent development of educational material.

To read the full FASEB statement, [click here](#).

FASEB is composed of 22 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.