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The Honorable Richard Burr
United States Senate
217 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Burr:

I write to outline Duke University's federal appropriations priorities for Fiscal Year 2013. We have been encouraged by the support from both the Administration and Congress for scientific research and education programs, particularly during a time of constrained budgets and deficit reduction. This is an acknowledgement of the critical role universities play as an economic driver and as producers of innovative research, advanced technologies and the next generation's workforce.

Research and development plays a critical role in our state's economy. North Carolina is a leader in developing high-tech advances in computing, biotechnology, nanotechnology and new "green" industries. Federal investments in agencies and laboratories located in North Carolina, as well as partnerships with universities and private industry, have created an innovative and prosperous economic environment. In fact, the most recent National Science Foundation Science and Engineering Indicators report lists North Carolina in the top quartile of states based on the percentage of the state's gross domestic product that is made up by academic science and engineering R&D.

On a national scale, we can attribute over half of the economic growth in the post-World War II era to technological advances. In this instance, it was a commitment by the federal government to invest in scientific research and innovation that gave rise to new medical therapies, lasers, GPS and the Internet. These advances drove the nation's economic prosperity and changed society as we know it.

Duke is proud to be a leader in this endeavor, both nationally and within the state. In FY 11, the university received \$556 million in funding from federal science agencies. Our success in competing for federal grant dollars has leveraged the ability of our researchers to attract funding from industry partners, a consistent top ranking in the nation among colleges and universities according to the latest NSF data using FY 09 numbers. It's a strong indication of the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit that permeates our campus. It is our hope that the critical partnership between the federal government and higher education will remain strong and provide the foundation for further economic expansion in North Carolina and the nation.

As you communicate your FY 13 programmatic priorities to the Appropriations Committee, I urge your support for the competitively awarded research grant programs at the federal agencies. Specifically, we would want to see funding for the following research agencies and accounts at these levels:

- National Institutes of Health: At least \$30.7 billion
- National Science Foundation: \$7.37 billion
- Department of Energy Office of Science: At least \$4.99 billion
- Department of Defense 6.1 Basic Research Account: At least \$2.117 billion
- Department of Defense 6.2 Applied Research Account: At least \$4.7 billion
- National Endowment for the Humanities: \$154 million
- Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology: \$831 million

In addition to producing world class research, ensuring access to a quality education for all students, regardless of financial need, is a top priority for Duke. While we continue our institutional efforts to make a Duke education affordable to all of our students, we cannot do it alone. The federal government has long been a partner in providing aid for low and middle-income students, and that partnership is especially important in the midst of the various economic challenges facing students and their families today.

Thus, I urge your support for Department of Education programs critical for access to higher education.

- Provide sufficient funding for the Pell Grant program to reach the maximum award level of \$5,635.
- Support campus-based aid programs that complement the Pell and federal loan programs at least at the levels requested in the President's FY13 budget.
- Increase funding for Federal Work Study to \$1.27 billion, putting the program on track to double the number of work-study jobs over five years.

The President has also proposed extending the 3.4 percent interest rate on subsidized Stafford student loans, which otherwise would rise to 6.8 percent on July 1 of this year. Although this isn't part of the discretionary appropriations process, it is very important to us, and I hope you will support the effort to maintain this lower rate for our students and graduates.

Finally, I want to remind you of Duke's commitment to generating the global competence and expertise so vital to our nation's security and mutual international understanding. Thanks to the support of the Department of Education's International Education and Foreign Language Studies programs, we are fortunate to host seven vibrant Title VI National Resource Centers on our campus. However, during the last two budget cycles, International Education programs have been subject to significant cuts, limiting our ability to fulfill our ongoing mission of providing the best international area studies training. In fact, due to these cuts, we were obliged to

discontinue teaching three languages at Duke and seriously curtail programs and events, which augment our area and language study initiatives.

To avoid further detrimental programmatic cuts, I urge you to support the President's budget request to increase funding to at least \$75.7 million for International Education programs in FY13.

I realize tough choices need to be made during time of deficit reduction and a premium will need to be placed on programs that support economic growth. I am appreciative of the past support for research and education programs of interest to Duke and hope you will keep these recommendations in mind as the FY 13 budget process moves forward. My colleagues and I stand ready to be a resource and hope you will not hesitate to contact us if there is any way in which we can be helpful.

With best wishes,



Richard H. Brodhead

cc: Michael Schoenfeld
Chris Simmons