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Science Coalition Lauds President's Advanced Manufacturing Partnership

Washington, DC – President Obama today announced an Advanced Manufacturing Partnership among federal research agencies, universities and industry to identify relevant research agendas and technological opportunities that will help revitalize U.S. leadership in advanced manufacturing. The initiative was announced during a meeting with CEOs and university leaders at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and stems from recommendations of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) on public-private partnerships to create new jobs and new technologies within the advanced manufacturing sector in the United States.

The Science Coalition, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of public and private research universities dedicated to sustaining strong federal funding of basic scientific research, released the following statement:

The Science Coalition applauds the mission of the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership, including the creation of a fertile environment for innovation in the United States and strong support of basic scientific research.

The PCAST report notes that America's ability to innovate and compete in a global economy is greatly enhanced when R&D and manufacturing are co-located in the United States. Further, that we are losing ground to foreign nations in these areas. To address this issue, PCAST underscores the need for federal investment to complement private investment and help overcome market failures that often prevent new technologies with transformative potential from advancing beyond early stages of research and getting to market.

The PCAST report once again makes the important connection between science-driven innovation and America's ability to compete in a global marketplace. And, echoing the recommendations from the National Academies' 2005 "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," PCAST calls for increasing the research budgets of three key science agencies over the next decade: the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy's Office of Science and the National Institutes of Standards and Technology. It also calls on the federal government to ensure appropriate research budgets for the other research agencies and to help fulfill the President's goal of combined public and private investment in R&D reach 3 percent of GDP. The Science Coalition fully supports these goals and urges their implementation.

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The Science Coalition is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of the nation's leading public and private research universities. It is dedicated to maintaining strong federal funding of basic scientific research as a

means to stimulate the economy, drive innovation and secure America's global competitiveness. Learn more at www.sciencecoalition.org. Most of the universities participating in today's event are members of The Science Coalition. Learn how federally funded university research creates innovations, new companies and jobs at www.sciencecoalition.org/successstories/.