TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE
OF AMERICAN INNOVATION
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July 3, 2007

The Honorable Hillary Clinton
Hillary Clinton for President
Exploratory Committee
4420 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203

Senator Hillary Clinton:

As leaders in the science, technology, education, and business communities, we request an opportunity to discuss with you our nation's future strategic position, and the development of a comprehensive response to ongoing challenges affecting America's ability to compete in a global economy.

We are particularly interested in discussing the innovation agenda you announced recently. We greatly appreciate your focus on this issue and are very encouraged by many of your recommendations. One element of the plan, perhaps inadvertently, seems to take a step backwards: the recommendation of 50-percent growth over ten years in funding for the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy Office of Science, is only half of what has already been promised by both Speaker Pelosi and President Bush.

Like you, we view sustained investment in scientific and engineering research as well as in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, as critical elements in America's ability to remain competitive in the world economy, and ensure its national security and homeland defense.

For more than half a century, the United States has been the clear leader in developing new technologies, products, and entire industries that have provided high-value, high paying jobs for Americans. This leadership and innovation has enabled the United States to have the economic and strategic power to promote democracy and economic freedom throughout the world.

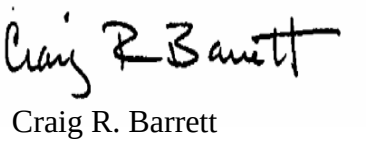
America's economic position and strength are based on the flow of new discoveries, of which many have lead to new products and processes. These innovations come from

basic research, funded primarily by the federal government. Advancing U.S. intellectual capital in the areas of science and engineering requires a continued and adequate commitment by the federal government. Our future growth will depend on this commitment.

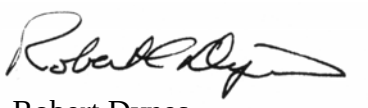
As you know, China, India and other nations are increasing their investments in science and engineering dramatically. The competition for knowledge and productivity has fundamentally changed, and we believe America's approach must change fundamentally as well.

We want to work with you and your team to help refine your plan for meeting these challenges, and we look forward to a dialogue with you concerning this vital issue.

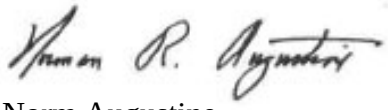
Sincerely,



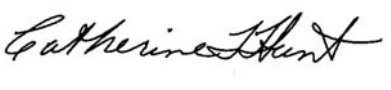
Craig R. Barrett
Chairman
Intel Corporation



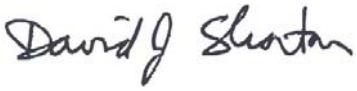
Robert Dynes
President
University of California



Norm Augustine
Retired Chariman and CEO
Lockheed Martin



Catherine T. Hunt
President
American Chemical Society



David J. Skorton
President
Cornell University