Optics & Photonics Advocacy in Washington (and Elsewhere)

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Some Issues of Import to Optics & Photonics

& why you might want to get involved.
“Budget is Policy”

The Federal Budget in 2016: An Infographic
Congressional Budget Office, 2017

Non-defense R&D ~$60 B/y or ~1%

Trade & Export

(1) Biotechnology
(2) Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning technology
(3) Position, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) technology
(4) Microprocessor technology
(5) Advanced computing technology
(6) Data analytics technology
(7) Quantum information and sensing technology
(8) Logistics technology
(9) Additive technology (e.g., 3D printing)
(10) Robotics
(11) Brain-computer interfaces
(12) Hypersonics
(13) Advanced Materials
(14) Advanced surveillance technologies
Travel to the U.S. (incl. conferences)

FY2018 Issued B1,B2,B1/B2 Visas by Region

- China: 1,250,416
- India: 622,235
- S. Amer.: 405,193
- Africa: 383,699
- Europe: 377,666
- Other: 1,040,374

Security & Science

Emory University Fires 2 Neuroscientists Accused of Hiding Chinese Ties

Vast Drognet Targets Theft of Biomedical Secrets for China
Addressing Harassment in Research Environments

The Optical Society

"Technological advancement thrives on a constant influx of new ideas from people with distinct perspectives and skills. To preserve the United States' reputation for ingenuity, invention and innovation, our institutions of higher learning must foster environments where inclusivity is embraced and harassment and bullying is not tolerated. We cannot allow unacceptable conduct to continue driving women from science and engineering. The Optical Society appreciates Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson's recognition of this critical issue and supports her efforts to understand the contributing factors to and consequences of harassment on the scientific workforce. We further appreciate Ms. Johnson's efforts to encourage scientists to come forward and the weakness of visible and determined actions to address unacceptable conduct."

Elizabeth A. Rogan, Chief Executive Officer, The Optical Society

Society of Women Engineers

"The Society of Women Engineers is committed to the advancement of women in engineering, and that means supporting women in science and academia. We are pleased that Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, is once again standing up for fairness and decency in the scientific world with the introduction of the Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act. A report from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine confirmed what women in science have long known—not only is sexual harassment pervasive on the campuses of research institutions, it can be unusually subtle for women scientists. Better understanding the causes and consequences of sexual harassment and reducing its incidence and impact, as the bill proposes, will support the endeavors of current and future female scientists and create a fairer research enterprise in the United States."

Karen Hoffman, Executive Director & CEO of the Society of Women Engineers

Input Needed.

Scientists & Engineers in 115th Congress

JDs in Congress
How Advocacy Works

Terminology Sometimes Used

- Advocacy
- Lobbying
- Public Policy
- Politics
- Policy
- Communications
- Grassroots
- Grasstops
Timing Is Important

The Federal Budget Process at a Glance

- Share it with your principal: If they say yes.
- Develop a proposal: Existing ideas and suggest a modification. Include in your annual budget request to the Secretary.
- Secretary and Deputy Secretary: Consider the idea: If they say yes.
- Request is submitted: to the OMB: If they say yes.
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB): reviews the idea: If they say yes.
- The idea is submitted to the President: If they say yes.
- Then the President considers the request: If they say yes.
- Then the Senate considers the request: If they say yes.
- Then the House considers the request: If they say yes.
- Then the Senate approves in Conference: If they say yes.
- Then the House approves in Conference: If they say yes.
- Then the Congress approves the idea. If they say yes.
- Then the idea proceeds to the President.

February...March...April...May...June...July...August...September...October...November

April- May- ??? ???

Your idea is reality!
What Do Members Care About?

Industrial base & JC Jobs

VOTES

& Constituents who reach out

How can someone get involved?
Public Policy Council Members

Carlos Lopez-Mariscal
2019-2020 Chair

Matthew Weed
Past Chair

Mirvat Abdelhaq

Marco Arrigoni

Gerald Fraser

Chris Schaffer

Michelle Stock

Donna Strickland

Diane Wong

Advanced Manufacturing

Communications and IT

Defense and Security

Energy

Health and Medicine
Participate in Capitol Hill Visits

OSA Hill Visits

NPI Hill Visits

Host a Member of Congress

NPI site has a toolkit to get you started.
NPI and OSA can help.
Florida’s 27 Districts

Source: GovTrack.us

A Few Points

• Build the relationship.

• Clarify what’s important to you and why, and explain why they should care.

• Define the “ask.”

• Offer to be a resource.
Advocacy on the Administration side is very different.

Requires building up relationships over time.

Focused. Need to identify programs and offices of greatest importance to you.

Apply (or encourage someone) to be a Congressional Fellow

- PhD scientist or engineer spends one year serving as legislative staff on Capitol Hill
- Applicants must have a PhD by the start of the program (Sept 1)
- OSA cosponsors 2 per year

Christina Willis
2019-2020 OSA/SPIE Arthur Guenther Congressional Fellow

Daniel Broberg
2019-2020 OSA/MRS Congressional Fellow

www.osa.org/congressionalfellowships
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www.osa.org/oln

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IPAC and GEMM

INTERNATIONAL PHOTONICS ADVOCACY COALITION

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND MEASUREMENT