



Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20502

National Science and Technology Summit

Science, Technology, and American Competitiveness: Progress and Direction Forward

August 18th and 19th, 2008

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN

1. Background: Section 1001 of the America COMPETES Act calls for the President to convene a National Science and Technology Summit to examine the health and direction of the United States' science, technology, engineering, and mathematics enterprises. The Office of Science and Technology Policy will be convening the Summit at Oak Ridge National Laboratory August 18 – 19, 2008.

2. Summit Goals

- **Examine** the health and direction of the U.S. scientific and technological enterprise (both in absolute terms and as compared with those of other nations of interest).
- **Review** progress made with respect to achieving the consensus goals to increase competitiveness.
- **Identify** key challenges preventing the nation from achieving these goals.
- **Develop** a direction forward to achieve the consensus goals and increase competitiveness.

3. Summit Agenda

The summit will concentrate on two areas deemed important to improve U.S. competitiveness:

- **Strengthen** science and technology investments in public and private research and development (Yellow Track).
- **Strengthen** Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education (Blue Track).

For each area, topics will be addressed in smaller groups, with background papers and panels of experts asked questions by a moderator in order to address the following questions:

- What are the **trends**?
- What are the **consensus recommendations** for maximizing the contributions of science and technology in American competitiveness?
- What is the **status of achieving our goals and fulfilling our requirements**?
- What are the **key challenges** preventing the nation from achieving the competitiveness goals?
- What are the **recommended actions** to achieve the consensus goals and increase our competitiveness?

4. Summit Deliverables

Consistent with Section 1001 of the COMPETES ACT, the Summit report will provide to Congress the following information on the areas of strengthening investments in public and private research and development, and strengthening STEM education:

- **Assess the health and direction** of the U.S. scientific and technological enterprise.
- **Identify the challenges** to achieving our competitiveness goals.
- **Recommend specific actions** necessary to achieve consensus goals and increase the nation's competitiveness.
- **Prioritize** among recommendations to ensure focus on actions requiring most immediate attention.

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