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President Obama Announces Members of Science and Technology Advisory Council

Apr. 27 -- In a speech at the National Academies today, President Obama announced the membership of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology—a stellar team of experts who will help advance the President's bold agenda to reinvigorate the economy while building a new and innovative foundation for a 21st Century America.

Fact Sheet: President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST)

PCAST consists of 20 of the nation's leading scientists and engineers. They will advise the President and Vice President directly to help the administration formulate policy in the many areas where understanding of science, technology, and innovation is key to forming responsible and effective policy.

PCAST will be co-chaired by John Holdren (Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy), Eric Lander, (Director of the Broad Institute and one of the principal leaders of the Human Genome Project), and Harold Varmus, (President and CEO of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, former head of the National Institutes of Health and a Nobel laureate).

President Obama's PCAST includes 3 Nobel laureates, 2 university presidents, 4 MacArthur Prize Fellows, and 14 individuals who are elected members of one or more of the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and American Academy of Arts and Sciences. It is a balanced team with members from all across the country, representing a broad array of fields and professional activities in science and technology.

Many of the objectives of the Obama Administration—in the fields of energy, education, health, climate change, environment, security, and the economy—can be met only with a strong national effort in science and technology. President Obama will rely heavily on his Council of Advisors as he restores science to its rightful place in policy making.

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