Boston University School of Education

Columbia University Teachers College

Indiana University School of Education

Iowa State University College of Human Sciences

Georgia State University College of Education & Human Development

North Carolina State University College of Education

Purdue University College of Education

Penn State University College of Education

Rutgers University Graduate School of Education

Texas A&M University College of Education and Human Development

The Ohio State University College of Education and Human Ecology

University of California – Davis School of Education

University of California – Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education

University of Connecticut Neag School of Education

University of Florida College of Education

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign College of Education

University of Iowa College of Education

University of Kansas School of Education

University of Maryland College Park College of Education

University of Missouri College of Education and Human Development

University of North Carolina School of Education

University of Oregon College of Education

University of Pittsburgh School of Education

University of Southern California Rossier School of Education

University of South Dakota School of Education

University of Vermont College of Education and Social Services

University of Washington College of Education

Vanderbilt University Peabody College of Education and Human Development

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Education

Washington State University College of Education

University of Georgia School of Education

University of Arizona School of Education



Learning and Education Academic Research Network Advancing the Sciences of Teaching and Learning

March 13, 2018

The Honorable John Culberson,
Chairman Appropriations SubcommitteeThe Hon
Memberon Commerce, Justice and ScienceAppropriAppropriationsCommerU.S. House of RepresentativesAppropriWashington, DC 20515U.S. House

The Honorable Jose Serrano, Ranking Member Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Culberson and Ranking Member Serrano:

We are writing on behalf of the Learning and Education Academic Research Network (LEARN) to express our support for funding several key education research programs at the National Science Foundation (NSF) that your subcommittee will debate as part of the FY2019 appropriations process. LEARN, a coalition of nearly 35 leading research colleges of education across the country, supports critical investments in research aimed at advancing the scientific understanding of learning and development. We advocate for greater funding for these priorities across all Federal agencies, including NSF.

NSF provides critical support to advance research across all scientific disciplines, and we believe it is important that Congress continue to provide robust funding for NSF overall, and ensure that decisions regarding directorate-level funding are left in the hands of the scientific community. This will ensure that NSF is able to adequately support research across scientific disciplines and target investments at the most promising research.

Specifically, LEARN supports funding for NSF's Education and Human Resources (EHR) directorate, at \$986.5 million in FY2019. The mission of EHR is to achieve excellence in U.S. science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education at all levels; supporting new research will be essential to broadening participation in STEM and keeping America on the cutting edge of innovation. In addition, LEARN supports a similar increase – to \$306 million – in funding for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) directorate. SBE is the sole source of Federal funding for research on human cognition, behavior, social structures, and social interaction, as well as for research on the intellectual and social contexts that govern the development and use of science and technology. Given the increasing importance of science and technology education in today's global economy, and the attendant need for high-quality, scientifically-valid research in these areas, it is critical that Congress provide adequate funding for both the EHR and SBE directorates.



Thank you for considering these requests. These important funding increases will ensure that critical investments are supported that advance scientific understanding of learning and development. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Glenn E. Good, Ph.D. Co-Chair, Learning and Education Academic Research Network (LEARN) Dean of the College of Education, University of Florida

Camilla P. Benbow, Ed.D. Co-Chair, Learning and Education Academic Research Network (LEARN) Patricia and Rodes Hart Dean of Education and Human Development of the Peabody College of Education and Human Development, Vanderbilt University

David H. Monk, Ph.D. Co-Chair, Learning and Education Academic Research Network (LEARN) Dean of the College of Education, Penn State University