



February 24, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science and Transportation
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science and Transportation
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell,

As president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), I am pleased to express my support for President Trump's nomination of Michael Kratsios as Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). I urge the Senate Commerce Committee and U.S. Senate to advance the nominee.

APLU is a membership organization that fosters a community of university leaders collectively working to advance the mission of public research universities. The association's U.S. membership consists of more than 230 public research universities and systems across all 50 states. The association and its members collectively focus on student success and workforce readiness; promoting pathbreaking scientific research; and bolstering economic and community engagement.

Mr. Kratsios brings a wealth of experience in senior science and technology roles in the U.S. government and private sector, including at OSTP and the Department of Defense. As Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy U.S. Chief Technology Officer under the previous Trump administration, Mr. Kratsios led important national strategic planning in fields such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and advanced manufacturing. APLU appreciates Mr. Kratsios' recognition that our nation's public universities are essential partners in maintaining U.S. leadership in these critical technologies, especially at a moment of intense global competition.

Mr. Kratsios' continued service with OSTP will ensure strong science and technology advice is available to the Office of the President. I hope Mr. Kratsios will be able to serve as a vital bridge between the administration, federal research agencies, and the academic research community as we collectively work to maintain U.S. scientific leadership.

I urge the Commerce Committee and U.S. Senate to confirm Mr. Kratsios as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mark Becker, President
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

CC: Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation