



**ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES**

Founded in 1887, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A•P•L•U) is an association of public research universities, land-grant institutions, and many state public university systems.

APLU member campuses enroll more than 3.5 million undergraduate and 1.1 million graduate students, employ more than 645,000 faculty members, and conduct nearly two-thirds of all academic research, totaling more than \$34 billion annually.

As the nation's oldest higher education association, APLU is dedicated to excellence in learning, discovery and engagement. For more information, visit www.aplu.org (Formerly known as NASULGC).

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)

BASIC RESEARCH (6.1)

APLU Request: at least a \$200 million increase over FY2010

(PBR = \$2.0B; FY2010=\$1.88B; FY2009 = \$1.8B; FY2008 = \$1.63B)

APLU urges Congress to provide at least a \$200 million increase above the FY2010 appropriations level for these programs in FY2011 to meet the target set by the Department of Defense to increase investments in the 6.1 basic research accounts by \$1 billion between FY2009 and FY 2013. As Defense Secretary Robert Gates has stated in testimony before the House Armed Services Committee, "In total, I have directed an increase of about \$1 billion over the next five years [beginning in FY2009] for fundamental, peer-reviewed basic research – a two percent increase in real annual growth."

Secretary Gates also reiterated "As changes in this century's threat environment create strategic challenges – irregular warfare, weapons of mass destruction, disruptive technologies...greater emphasis on basic research..." is needed and "...in recent years has not kept pace with other parts of the budget." The Secretary along with other senior Pentagon officials recognize and hail the importance of basic research to keep our military armed with cutting edge technology and to provide our soldiers with the tools necessary to succeed on the battlefield. The APLU request is consistent with the Pentagon's multi-year initiative.

Additionally, APLU would like to highlight the critical and important role that the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has played over the years in funding high-risk, high-reward research which has led to many significant defense technologies, some of which have also evolved into remarkable civilian applications. APLU urges increased funding and strong support for this game-changing research agency.