



August 21, 2018

The Honorable John Thune  
Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson:

On behalf of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), I write in support of the nomination of Kelvin Droegemeier, PhD, for Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). For more than five decades, the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) has served as the national organization dedicated solely to advancing graduate education and research—our membership includes over 500 institutions of higher education in the United States, Canada, and internationally. Our institutions award the majority of U.S. doctoral and master's degrees.

OSTP is vital to the overall functioning of the federal government's various science programs and agencies, all of which have an impact on the graduate education enterprise and its ability to perform science and research, at the highest levels, and to develop innovations critical to our economy, national security, and global competitiveness.

Dr. Droegemeier's impressive resume and qualifications, including his leadership at the University of Oklahoma, his role as Oklahoma's secretary of science and technology, and as former Vice Chair of the National Science Board, make him an exceptional candidate to lead OSTP. He is well-respected and lauded by the scientific community.

I urge the committee, and then the full Senate, to swiftly review and confirm his nomination.

I hope you will consider CGS as a resource in your work. If you have further questions, or if CGS can be of assistance, please contact our Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Lauren Inouye, at [Linouye@cgs.nche.edu](mailto:Linouye@cgs.nche.edu) or (202)-461-3864.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Suzanne T. Ortega'.

Suzanne T. Ortega  
President

CC: Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation