

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Feinstein :

We are writing to offer our support for the Integrated University Program (IUP) and urge your consideration of funding for the program in FY2013 when you next consider the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill in conference with the House. The House provided \$15 million to the NRC and \$5 million to DOE for the program.

The IUP supports grants for faculty and curriculum development as well as scholarships for undergraduate and graduate level students at universities and technical degrees at community colleges. This funding is vital to the nation's leading universities and colleges in their efforts to retain and sustain the education of top-notch students and faculty in nuclear-energy-related fields.

The fields of nuclear science, technology and health physics will clearly play an increasingly important role in addressing U.S. security and energy policy challenges in the years ahead. We are extremely concerned that eliminating program funding will undercut the U.S. nuclear-related STEM education at this critical moment of increased demand for these professionals at our nation's national laboratories, defense, and national security agencies.

The IUP program assures our nation's institutions of higher learning that they can invest in long-term research and student development initiatives in nuclear science, technology and engineering disciplines to ensure the workforce we need. We urge you to consider these concerns and provide funding for the IUP in FY13.

Sincerely,

Senator Ron Wyden