



**Southeastern Universities
Research Association** ®

Press Release

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For Immediate Release
www.sura.org

For more information contact:
Greg D. Kubiak
Director of Relations and Communications
202-408-7872 * kubiak@sura.org

SURA President Endorses ACI

Washington, DC – The President and CEO of the Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) today called on the U.S. Congress to approve the research investments proposed by President Bush in his American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI) and FY 2007 budget. Legislation to authorize these priorities and the Administration’s proposed FY 07 budget endorses investments in basic research and development as outlined by several innovation and competitiveness studies, including the National Academies report “Rising Above the Gathering Storm.”

“In order to reaffirm America’s leadership in innovation and competitiveness for the future, these investments in our intellectual capital are of critical importance,” said Jerry P. Draayer, President and CEO of SURA. “The pace of progress by our economic competitors should be a wake-up call to the nation. We can not remain the strongest country in the world unless we remain the smartest country in the world.”

SURA is an active partner in various coalitions supporting these initiatives including the Alliance for Science and Technology Research in America (ASTRA), the Task Force on the Future of American Innovation, and the Presidents Council of the Council on Competitiveness.

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The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) is a consortium of over 60 leading research institutions in the southern United States and the District of Columbia established in 1980 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation. SURA serves as an entity through which colleges, universities, and other organizations may cooperate with one another, and with government and industry in acquiring, developing, and using laboratories and other research facilities and in furthering knowledge and the application of that knowledge in the physical, biological, and other natural sciences and engineering. For more information, visit www.sura.org.