



# NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Office of the President

October 18, 2018

Dear Colleague:

The National Academy of Sciences was founded to serve the nation and to recognize and promote the best science for the benefit of all humanity. As a trusted advisor to the nation and the world, we provide independent, evidence-based advice on some of society's most pressing problems. Our role has rarely been more important than today. However, in order to do this critical work, we need your support. Please join me in making a gift to the NAS.

**Your support puts science first.** Your gift to the Annual Fund allows the NAS to maintain and expand high-quality initiatives and proactively respond to emerging challenges. Private support plays a critical role in everything we do – from public engagement programs, to the work of our Committee on Human Rights, to our efforts to represent American science internationally, to our core role as advisors to the nation. Through Academy programs such as *The Science Behind It* and *From Research to Reward* we engage and educate the public. The NAS plays an important role in National Academies' groundbreaking reports that have a lasting impact on policymakers and society. (More information and examples are enclosed.)

Your donation also helps us secure additional support. Similar to alumni giving, many foundations examine the percentage of NAS members who contribute when making funding decisions. Your gift sends a powerful message to our other members and friends, too.

Now more than ever, science needs a strong and effective voice. I hope you will join me in supporting the NAS Annual Fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcia McNutt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Marcia McNutt  
President

P.S. I am delighted that all NAS Classes have surpassed their 2017 year-to-date giving participation rates, but we have much work to do if we are to end the year at higher levels of annual giving than have historically been the rates for the NAE and NAM. Please see the reverse side of the enclosed gift form for a full overview of how your Class compares.



### EXPERT PANEL CALLS FOR SWEEPING ELECTION SECURITY MEASURES

**Associated Press** • September 6, 2018

An expert panel of the National Academy of Sciences called for fundamental reforms to ensure the integrity of the U.S. election system, which is handicapped by antiquated technology and under stress from foreign destabilization efforts.

### U.S. CENSUS CITIZENSHIP QUESTION PANNED BY SCIENTISTS, CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS

**Reuters** • August 9, 2018

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's Committee on National Statistics, a prominent statistical organization, said in a letter to the U.S. Commerce Department on Tuesday that the question was "inconsistent with the 'proper performance of the functions' of the Census Bureau," and should be removed.

### SEPARATING FAMILIES MAY CAUSE LIFELONG HEALTH DAMAGE

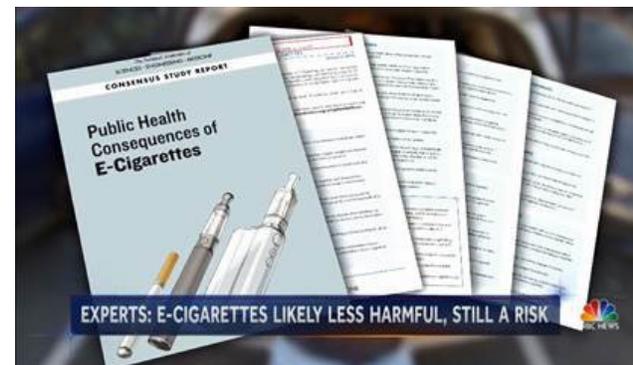
**Scientific American** • July 20, 2018

The presidents of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine issued a statement Wednesday for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to stop separating migrant families. The statement cites research that indicates endangerment of those involved.

### HALF OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE EXPERIENCE HARASSMENT, A SWEEPING NEW REPORT FINDS.

**The Washington Post** • June 12, 2018

The solution will require a "system wide change to the culture and climate in higher education," the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine conclude.



**NBC Nightly News** • January 23, 2018

The report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine says e-cigs may help smokers drop cigarettes, but warns the long-term health effects from vaping are unclear.

## Put Science First

By supporting the NAS you help science have a strong and effective voice. You also help strengthen the Academy to better engage the public and policy makers with evidence-based advice. Our efforts to inform opinions through media and initiatives like **The Science Behind It** and **From Research to Reward** help improve science literacy.

**The Science Behind It** is a public engagement campaign that will provide brief answers to questions in science, engineering, and medicine identified by the American public as important and compelling. The program uses interactive, web-based products to deliver trusted, verifiable science based on Academies studies. The goal is to improve people's decision making and quality of life.



Questions such as:

- Can dementia be prevented, slowed, or stopped?
- Is Earth's climate changing?
- How does immigration affect the U.S. economy?



**From Research to Reward (FR2R)** is an educational series designed to illustrate the practical human benefits of basic, undirected scientific research. Through the use of personal stories and videos, FR2R narratives are created to encourage better understanding and more positive attitudes about the value of basic research. Examples include:



Social scientists developed an algorithm that has become the standard method of donor matching worldwide, and has made transplants safer, saved millions of dollars in health care costs, and saved lives.



Much of the progress in highway safety has resulted from behavioral science that reveals how drivers interact with their vehicles. Every year the work of behavioral scientists is being used by global automakers to make future cars smarter and safer.

You can read more about these stories and others on the FR2R website at [www.nasonline.org/r2r](http://www.nasonline.org/r2r).