

Statement from President Mitchell E. Daniels Jr.

August 22, 2013

I learned last night that AAU and APLU wrote a letter over a year ago to President Obama and members of Congress making a clear and compelling argument for addressing long-term deficit-reduction issues, specifically the runaway costs of entitlement programs, and the need for fundamental tax reform. That letter pointed out that, absent entitlement reform and stronger economic growth, pressure on federal scientific research and higher education spending is destined to grow worse and worse. These are the exact concerns I had hoped would be mentioned in the groups' July 2013 message.

I regret that I was unaware of last year's excellent letter. If it had been attached, restated or incorporated by reference, I would gladly have signed the more recent letter. Now that I have confirmed with the APLU president that last year's stance remains in effect, I am in full support of the AAU and APLU efforts. If they are still taking signatures, I will sign.