



TAPPING AMERICA'S POTENTIAL

The Campaign to Increase U.S. STEM Graduates

August 3, 2012

‘National Research Universities Are Our Secret Weapons,’ Says Accenture Executive Chairman

Emphasizes Key Role Partnerships Between Business and Research Universities Play in Developing STEM Talent, Driving American Innovation and Economic Growth

In [testimony](#) earlier this week before the House Science Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, **William Green, Executive Chairman of the Board, Accenture**, highlighted the importance of enhanced collaboration between the U.S. business community and America’s research universities to help drive U.S. innovation, economic growth and job creation. In his remarks, Green also underscored the key role national research universities play in developing talent in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields for jobs of the future. He stated:

“... Our national research universities are our secret weapons. They are a national asset we have invested in for decades. ... We must aggressively leverage this national asset to fuel our economic renaissance. Our universities are underutilized and underleveraged. We have a strength here we must utilize.

“We have a profound shortage of talent, especially people with a background in science, technology, engineering and mathematics – the STEM disciplines that are so critically important today. We have little recognition of the vast power and potential at our fingertips with these institutions, across government, society, and business. It is time to seize this opportunity!

“...[O]ur nation faces many business and economic challenges. Successfully meeting those challenges requires us to have a laser focus on repurposing and leveraging our unique educational assets and research engines. Much of our past economic success and improved standard of living in the U.S. can be attributed to collaboration between government and our research universities.

“By deepening and enhancing that collaboration, and aligning our businesses closely with them, we can ignite our next economic renaissance, creating innovation-driven, globally-competitive companies and jobs with rising wages that support improved standards of living.”

Read the full testimony [here](#).

The Future Innovation Economy Won’t Wait – TAP Into America’s Potential Today!

In July 2005, 15 prominent business organizations — representing America’s most innovative companies — recognized that U.S. economic and technological leadership, as well as future job creation and economic growth, depend on having a workforce grounded in the critical fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The organizations created the “Tapping America’s Potential” (TAP) coalition with the goal of increasing the annual number of U.S. science, technology, engineering and mathematics bachelor’s-level graduates to 400,000.

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