



Task Force on American Innovation

Securing the future through research in the physical sciences and engineering

TFAI HOSTS BRIEFINGS ON IMPORTANCE OF FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH IN THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ERA

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Washington, DC—The Task Force on American Innovation (TFAI)—an alliance of industry, scientific societies, and university organizations—today hosted a panel of experts to discuss Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how federal basic research funding has powered AI’s evolution. The briefings were called, “Federally Funded Research and the Advent of Artificial Intelligence: A TFAI Deconstructing Event.”

“Advances in AI are intrinsically tied to investments in basic research across the federally funded research enterprise,” said Scott Corley, Executive Director of TFAI. “And now that AI is an increasingly important part of our lives, understanding these origins not only informs future investment priorities for the US Congress but also better equips policymakers in understanding the research ecosystem’s reliance on basic research at every stage of technological development. As America looks to remain the leader in innovation in the world, these federal investments are more important than ever. Today’s deconstruction briefings remind us that these investments must continue.”

TFAI hosted two separate briefings during the day—one for House staffers earlier and another one for Senate staffers later in the day. Several experts from academia and business spoke at the briefings, including:

- *Daniel A. Reed, Chair, National Science Board, and Presidential Professor in Computational Science at The University of Utah;*
- *Odest Chadwicke Jenkins, Professor of Robotics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at The University of Michigan;*
- *Prasanna Balaprakash, Director of AI Programs and Distinguished R&D Staff Scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory;*
- *Gary Givental, Chief Architect at IBM Consulting Cybersecurity Services and Master Inventor at IBM;*
- *Jeff Welser, Chief Operating Officer, IBM Research;*
- *Kee-Bong Song, Vice President, Head of Cellular and Multimedia Lab at Samsung Semiconductor US.*

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