WASHINGTON – The White House today will announce the recipients of the 2006 Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, the Nation’s highest honor for professionals at the outset of their independent scientific research careers. Fifty-six researchers will be honored today in a ceremony presided over by John H. Marburger III, Science Advisor to the President and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Two awardees were unable to attend.

The Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, established in 1996, honors the most promising researchers in the Nation within their fields. Nine federal departments and agencies annually nominate scientists and engineers who are at the start of their independent careers and whose work shows exceptional promise for leadership at the frontiers of scientific knowledge. Participating agencies award these talented scientists and engineers with up to five years of funding to further their research in support of critical government missions.

The recipients of the 2006 Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, along with their nominating federal department or agency are:

**Department of Agriculture**
Douglas D. Bannerman, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Sarah D. Brooks, Texas A&M University

Samuel A. Cushman, USDA Forest Service

**Department of Commerce**
Casey Brown, Columbia University
Mark Scheuerell, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Kathryn L. Beers, National Institute of Standards and Technology

Joshua C. Bienfang, National Institute of Standards and Technology

Department of Defense
Odest C. Jenkins, Brown University
Kenneth C. Slatton, University of Florida
Jonathan E. Spanier, Drexel University
Jacob L. Roberts, Colorado State University
Krystyn J. Van Vliet, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Jelena Vuckovic, Stanford University

Department of Education
Carol McDonald Connor, Florida State University

Department of Energy
Brian J. Kirby, Cornell University
Jeffrey Kysar, Columbia University
Carols Pantano Rubino, University of Illinois
Shawn Newsam, University of California, Merced
Kyle Cranmer, Brookhaven National Laboratory
Julia Laskin, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Ho Nyung Lee, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Len A. Pennacchio, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Department of Health and Human Services: National Institutes of Health
Katrina Akassoglou, University of California, San Diego
Jeanmarie Houghton, University of Massachusetts
Jay R. Hove, University of Cincinnati
Sven-Eric Jordt, Yale University
Susan M. Kaech, Yale University
Bruce D. McCandliss, Cornell University
Alexandra C. McPherron, National Institutes of Health
Gus R. Rosania, University of Michigan
J. Peter Rubin, University of Pittsburgh
Ravindra N. Singh, Iowa State University
Michelle P. Winn, Duke University
Adam T. Woolley, Brigham Young University

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**
Olivier Guyon, University of Hawaii, Subaru Telescope
Matthew Rodell, Goddard Space Flight Center

**National Science Foundation**
Sonya Bahar, University of Missouri-ST. Louis
Bahar Biller, Carnegie-Mellon University
Matthew J. Fouch, Arizona State University
Eric C. Greene, Columbia University
Pradeep R. Guduru, Brown University
Jenefer Husman, Arizona State University
Dean S. Karlan, Yale University
Brian G. Keating, University of California, San Diego
Kiran Kedlaya, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Edward Kohler, University of California, Los Angeles

J. Nicholas Laneman, University of Notre Dame

Chekesha M. Liddell, Cornell University

Elliot Moore II, Georgia Institute of Technology

Amy J. Pruden-Bagchi, Colorado State University

Carlos Rinaldi, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez

James P. Schmiedeler, Ohio State University

Ahna Skop, University of Wisconsin

Yi Tang, University of California, Los Angeles

Joseph W. Thornton, University of Oregon, Eugene

Lisa M. Zurk, Portland State University

**Department of Veterans Affairs**
Sterling C. Johnson, William S. Middleton VA Hospital

William S. Yancy, Jr., Durham VA Medical Center

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