

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

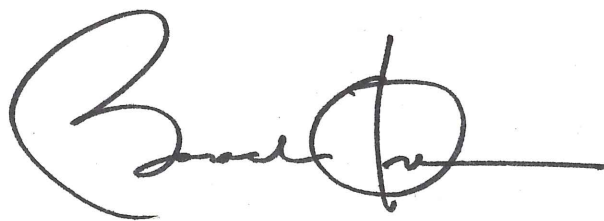
January 24, 2011

I extend my congratulations to the recipients of the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring.

The quality of America's education system depends on dedicated mentors like you who inspire our students to learn and grow. By sharing knowledge and offering encouragement in times of academic success and struggle, mentors motivate and educate their students in ways no textbook or exercise can. The skills your students develop as a result of your mentorship will benefit them and our Nation for years to come.

As mentors, you have played a vital role in directing America's young people toward careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and in ensuring our leadership in these fields for decades to come. In particular, I commend your commitment to mentoring students from groups underrepresented in technical fields. These efforts bring us closer to achieving a community of scientists, engineers, and mathematicians that reflects and harnesses the diversity of our great Nation.

Thank you for nurturing and enriching our next generation of leaders. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, written in a cursive style.