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**Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**

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Contact: Carrie D. Wolinetz, PhD  
(301) 634-7650  
[cwolinetz@faseb.org](mailto:cwolinetz@faseb.org)

**MAKE THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH A PRIORITY IN FY 2011:  
FASEB CALLS ON PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO HOPE**

*Bethesda, MD* – “When you consider the remarkable progress that research has produced – from the rapid decline in deaths from heart disease to the development of vaccines for diseases like polio and influenza to the transformation of acute, fatal diseases like HIV/AIDS and cancer to chronic or curable conditions – it is truly awe-inspiring,” stated Mark O. Lively, Ph.D., President of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB). “For those suffering today, whether from Alzheimer’s, diabetes, or Parkinson’s disease, research is the beginning of hope, the possibility of a brighter future. It is through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that we will see that promise achieved.”

FASEB applauds President Obama and the Congress for recognizing the importance of medical research by investing in NIH through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). “We are gratified by lawmakers’ support of the life-saving work funded by NIH,” said Lively. “As President Obama himself declared, these funds are being used ‘to conduct cutting-edge research all across America, to unlock treatments to diseases that have long plagued humanity, to save and enrich the lives of people all over the world.’”

But the long-term hope for discovering the cures to our most devastating diseases lies in sustainability of medical research, according to FASEB’s President. “Providing ARRA funding to scientists at universities and research institutions throughout the nation was an essential step forward,” Lively continued. “This infusion of funds will provide the foundation for the breakthrough discoveries that will lead to the next generation of treatments and cures. We must make the most of this opportunity to ensure that science’s promise of a better tomorrow is fulfilled. The American people have no higher priority than the health and the well-being of themselves and their families. We call on President Obama and all members of Congress to make this a priority for our nation in FY 2011 and beyond through a sustained commitment to NIH.”

*FASEB is composed of 22 societies with more than 90,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. Our mission is to advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to our member societies and collaborative advocacy.*