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Rep. Slaughter to Announce \$1.8M for University of Rochester Nanotechnology Research

Rochester, NY - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, was this morning joined by University of Rochester President Joel Seligman to announced \$1.8 million in federal funding the Congresswoman secured in the 2007 Defense Appropriations bill for the University of Rochester's Nanosystems Initiative.

"This is an exciting time in the development of nanotechnology and, once again, the University of Rochester is on the cutting edge," said Rep. Slaughter. "Over the next few years, there will be a tremendous demand for nanotechnology, particularly in the fuel cell and bio-tech industries. With this initiative, the University of Rochester will be poised to capitalize on this momentum and keep Western New York at the forefront of technology and innovation."

Before the press conference, Slaughter met with Seligman for a tour of the laboratory facilities and to discuss the progress of the Nanosystems Initiative, a three-year, \$15 million project that is working to develop new technologies in the rapidly-expanding fields of fuel cells and biosensors.

The funding obtained by Rep. Slaughter will be used for the purchase of new research equipment, and to help retrofit 10,000 square feet of existing laboratory space into a Nanosystems research center.

"Louise Slaughter's support has been critical in helping us kick-start our leap into the exciting world of nanotechnology," says Joel Seligman, president of the University. "With the creation of the Nanosystems Initiative, the University of Rochester has an unprecedented opportunity to be one of the dominant players in the future of fuel cells and biosensor technology."

It is estimated that over the next ten years, the fuel cell sector as a whole will generate over \$15 billion in revenue. In addition to promoting research, the University of Rochester anticipates that the Nanosystems Initiative will attract at least \$10 million annually in federal grants, and will lead to the development of a number of new high-tech companies in the local area. Rochester is already home to both General Motors' and Delphi's largest fuel cell research facilities.

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