

The Sixth Assessment of the National Nanotechnology Initiative

PCAST Meeting
Friday, January 6, 2017

S.3084 - American Innovation and Competitiveness Act 114th Congress (2015-2016)

- **Previous PCAST reviews of NNI: 2005, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014**
- **Previous NRC reviews of NNI: 2002, 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016**

“We were particularly pleased to see that Congress passed the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act before adjourning its most recent session in December 2016. The Act continued to endorse and embrace the NNI, and in its trust for the Initiative, Congress reduced the number of mandated reviews by PCAST and NRC and instructed PCAST and NRC to work concurrently: each group will be required to release a report every 4 years. In keeping with our recommendations of 2014, we enthusiastically agree. “

Recommendations

- 1) NSET presented the status of the first nanotechnology-inspired Grand Challenge to PCAST in November 2016. As a result of that meeting, and in keeping with the impact of Grand Challenges to help society harness the power of nanotechnology, we further recommend that NSET and necessary Federal agencies should announce at least two more Grand Challenges before our next review.**
- 2) We recommend that PCAST complete its next comprehensive review of the NNI in 2018, 4 years after our last comprehensive review in 2014. Doing so will result in the NRC and PCAST reviews to alternate release every 2 years.**