WASHINGTON, April 6, 2016 — U.S. Senator John Thune (SD), Senator Chris Coons (DE), Representative G. K. Butterfield (NC) and Representative David McKinley (WV) will receive the 2016 George E. Brown Awards for Science Leadership for their vision in promoting policies that benefit scientists, engineers, STEM students and the entire American public. Senators Coons and Thune and Representatives Butterfield and McKinley will be honored at a Capitol Hill ceremony and public reception on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. It will be held in the Rayburn Foyer of the Rayburn House Office Building from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The celebration is open to the general public and press.

About Sen. John Thune:

Senator John Thune was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 2004. He has been conferred the George E. Brown Award because of 1) his able Chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and his leadership in helping it achieve many key accomplishments related to science, space, aeronautics, competitiveness, innovation, and technology; 2) Outstanding public advocacy in support of a strong role for the federal government in scientific and engineering research; 3) Leadership in promoting the nation’s foreign and domestic commerce, economic development, technological advancement and ensuring fair trade and compliance with trade laws and agreements; and 4) his focus on innovation and manufacturing competitiveness.

About Sen. Chris Coons:

Representative Chris Coons was first elected to the Senate in 2010. He won the George E. Brown Award in 2016 based upon 1) his leadership on the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies and its key accomplishments in funding federal support for science, space, aeronautics, competitiveness, innovation, and technology programs; 2) his leadership in establishing the Senate Competitiveness Caucus and for cosponsoring legislation that strongly supports basic energy research; and 3) For organizing and signing a Dear Colleague letter in support of the Innovation Imperative.

(over)
About Representative G. K. Butterfield

Representative Butterfield was first elected to the U.S. House from North Carolina in 2004. He won the George E. Brown Award based upon 1) his leadership on behalf of the U.S. scientific and engineering community while serving on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade and also its Subcommittee on Communications and Technology; 2) Sponsorship of numerous bills that promote the importance of education and the need to ensure quality education for all, including expanding STEM research and development training, implementing rigorous college and career education standards, and promoting and developing STEM teacher training; 3) Leadership in launching the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) TECH 2020 effort which is designed to give the CBC a platform to work with the best minds in tech, non-profit, education and public sectors to increase diversity at all levels within the technology industry.

About Representative David B. McKinley

Representative David Bennett McKinley is a civil engineer by training and was first elected to Congress in 2010. He was conferred the George E. Brown Award because of 1) his Leadership on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade and also its Subcommittee on Energy and Power and especially his role in promoting the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act of 2015; 2) Sponsorship of the GI Bill STEM Extension Act of 2015 which gives veterans using the GI Bill additional time to complete their degree if they are in a STEM field; 3) Efforts to work in a bipartisan fashion with other supporters of STEM Education funding to improve U.S. and STEM workforce diversity and access to quality STEM education; and 4) Improving coordination of defense research activities between the DOD, universities and other research entities in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015.

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About the Science-Engineering-Technology Working Group (SETWG), STEM on the Hill™ and the George E. Brown Award: SETWG organizes the annual Congressional Visits Day (CVD), branded as STEM on the Hill™. It’s an event that brings hundreds of scientists, engineers, researchers, educators, and technology executives to Washington to raise visibility and support for science, engineering, and technology. Uniquely multi-sector and multi-disciplinary, CVD is coordinated by a coalition of professional societies, associations, educational institutions, and private companies and is open to all who support science and technology as a cornerstone of our nation’s future. For more information: www.setcvd.org Follow us on Twitter @stemonthehill — for updates #stemonthehill.
About the GEORGE E. BROWN, JR. AWARD for SCIENCE-ENGINEERING-TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

2016 SELECTION PROCEDURES

The George E. Brown, Jr., Award honors the memory of a man widely known as the leading statesman and advocate for science, engineering and technology policy in the United States Congress. George Brown was a member of the House of Representatives from California for more than 35 years. During his tenure he rose to the Chairmanship of what is now the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space & Technology and was one of the nation’s most ardent supporters of federal research.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The principal criteria established for the recipient of the George E. Brown Award are:

1. Active leadership in the determination of Science, Engineering, Technology and STEM policy;
2. Strong public advocacy in support of a role for the federal government in research; and
3. Specific actions taken to advance Science, Engineering, Technology and STEM policy.

ELIGIBILITY

The Award will be presented to a sitting member(s) of the U.S. Congress for outstanding effort on behalf of SET / STEM to advance federal research efforts that benefit all of humanity. The prize may be awarded for a specific achievement, or for a body of work extending over a period of years.

NUMBER OF AWARDS/PRESENTATION

One award will be given each year (which may be shared for joint efforts). The award will be presented during the “STEM on the Hill™” Congressional reception at Congressional Visits Day.

NOMINATIONS

A nomination for the award must come from a member organization of the Science-Engineering-Technology Working Group which is a participant in the Congressional Visits Day for the year in which the prize is to be awarded.

A written, separate nomination request must be used for each candidate. You may wish to use the form on the back of this Flyer. The specific contributions of the individual should be described clearly. If any organization submits multiple nominations, the nominations should be ranked in order.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

A Committee of SETWG will be organized annually to accept the nomination forms, produce a summary report, and make a recommendation to SETWG.

TIMING

Nominations for the Brown Award were due by February 5, 2016 and were sent to rboege@comcast.net in confidence. The full SETWG Committee approved the awards in February 2015.
Past Recipients of the George E. Brown, Jr. Award

2015 – Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL)  
      Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD)
2014 – Rep. Edie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
      Rep. Michael "Mike" Honda (D-CA)
2012 – Sen. Mark Udall (D-CO) &  
      Rep. Randy Hultgren (R-IL)
2011 – Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) &  
      Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)
2010 – Rep. Ralph Hall (R-TX) &  
      Rep. David Wu (D-OR)
2009 – Rep. David Obey (D-WI)
      Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
2006 – Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA)
2005 – Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) &  
      Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)
2004 – Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL) &  
      Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)
      Rep. Alan Mollahan (D-WV)
2001 – Sen. Kit Bond (R-MO) &  
      Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)
2000 – Sen. Bill Frist (R-TN) &  
      Sen. John D. Rockefeller (D-WV)
1999 – Rep. George E. Brown, Jr. (D-CA) (posthumous) &  
      Sens. Pete Domenici (R-NM) &  
      Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman (D-CT)