WASHINGTON, March 12, 2017 — U.S. Senator Cory Gardner (CO) and Senator Gary Peters (MI), will receive the 2017 George E. Brown Awards for Science Leadership for their successful leadership in passage of the American Innovation & Competitiveness Act of 2016 and for promoting policies that benefit scientists, engineers, STEM students and the entire American public. Senators Gardner and Peters will be honored at a Capitol Hill ceremony and public reception on Tuesday, April 25, 2017. It will be held in the Kennedy Caucus Room in the Russell Senate Russell Office Building (Room 325) from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The celebration is open to the general public and press.

About Sen. Gardner:

Senator Cory Gardner (born August 22, 1974) is an American politician who is the junior United States Senator from Colorado. He is a Republican and was previously the U.S. Representative for Colorado’s 4th congressional district. Prior to that, he was a member of the Colorado House of Representatives.

He began serving in the Colorado House of Representatives in 2005 where he spent time as the Minority Whip and became known for his expertise in natural resource and agriculture policy. Cory was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2010. As a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Cory championed a true all-of-the-above energy strategy that promoted traditional resources as well as renewable energy. In addition, Cory is a national leader on energy efficiency initiatives and founded a bipartisan energy efficiency caucus in the House.

In the Senate, Cory continues to pursue common sense energy policy as a member of the Senate Energy & Natural Resource Committee and Chairman of the Energy Subcommittee. In addition, Cory serves on the Foreign Relations Committee, the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, and the Budget Committee. He also serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy.

About Sen. Peters:

Elected in 2014, Senator Gary Peters is honored to represent the State of Michigan in the U.S. Senate. Throughout his career in public service, Gary has been a strong, independent voice for Michigan’s families and small businesses. He has focused on uniting our communities by fighting for the things that we all agree on — a stronger economy, good-paying jobs, affordable health care, a secure retirement and a fair chance for everyone to succeed.

In the 115th Congress, Gary serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and the Joint Economic Committee. In the U.S. Senate, Gary’s top priority is to continue
supporting job creation and economic growth to strengthen Michigan small businesses and our middle class. He is committed to working with members of both parties to find commonsense, practical and bipartisan solutions to the challenges facing Michigan and our nation.

Gary is a product of Michigan schools. He graduated from Rochester High School and went on to Alma College where he earned a B.A. in Political Science. After graduation, while working a full-time job and raising a family, he went on to earn an M.B.A. in Finance from the University of Detroit Mercy, a law degree from Wayne State University Law School and an M.A. in Philosophy from Michigan State University with a focus on the ethics of development. Gary was born in Pontiac, Michigan and has lived his entire life in Oakland County. His father, a World War II veteran, worked as a public school teacher for more than 30 years. His mother worked as a nurse’s aide at a local nursing home, where she helped organize her workplace and became an SEIU union steward. Growing up, Gary learned the importance of hard work and fairness from his parents. He started his own small business delivering newspapers at age 11. In junior high, he bused tables at a Big Boy restaurant, and in high school and college, he worked at a local retailer.

For more than 20 years, Gary worked as an investment advisor, helping families save for their retirement and provide for their children’s college education. However, he always felt the need to serve and give back to his community.

First elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2008, with the country facing unprecedented economic challenges, Gary fought alongside Michigan workers to ensure the survival of our local auto industry. Today, Michigan’s auto industry is strong and thousands of new jobs have been created in our state. Gary began his public service as a Rochester Hills City Councilman in 1991. In 1994, he was elected to the Michigan State Senate, where he had more bills signed into law than any other member of his party. Gary later served as the Michigan State Lottery Commissioner, where he generated a record amount of funding for our public schools.

Committee MemberIn Congress, Gary has drawn on his business background to make Washington more transparent and accountable. He is leading efforts to eliminate wasteful, duplicative and unnecessary spending, and he is continually working to responsibly reduce the deficit. As a member of the House Financial Services Committee, Gary worked to hold bad actors on Wall Street accountable. Selected to serve on the Wall Street Reform Conference Committee, Peters played a central role in shaping the toughest financial reform law since the Great Depression. This landmark legislation eliminates future taxpayer-funded bailouts, bans the irresponsible behavior on Wall Street that caused the recession and provides commonsense financial protections for regular Americans.

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. AWARDS for SCIENCE-ENGINEERING-TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

2017 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 March 1, 2017 and were sent to rboege@comcast.net in confidence. The full SETWG Committee approved the awards in March 2017.
Past Recipients of the George E. Brown, Jr. Awards

2016 – Sen. John Thune (R-SD)
   Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE)
   Rep. G. K. Butterfield (D-NC)
   Rep. David McKinley (R-WV)
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 Mollohan (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)