

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**AWARDING AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Action Requested: Consider receiving information from Iowa State University about awarding an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Ernest Moniz at Spring 2016 Commencement.

Executive Summary: Iowa State University wished to recognize Dr. Moniz for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of science and technology, particularly in the fields of nuclear physics and clean energy technology innovation, and distinguished service in academia, policymaking, international relations, national security, and economic advancement.

Details on Dr. Moniz's Accomplishments:

- ◇ Dr. Moniz was nominated by President Barack Obama to serve as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, and his appointment was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate on May 16, 2013. Secretary Moniz leads the implementation of critical Department of Energy missions in support of President Obama's priorities to advance his energy strategy, maintain the nuclear deterrent and reduce the nuclear danger, promote American leadership in science and clean energy technology innovation, clean up the legacy of the cold war, and strengthen management and performance. Secretary Moniz has also taken a lead role in President Obama's climate change action plan, and he played a crucial role in negotiations toward a comprehensive agreement on the Iranian nuclear program. He also oversees the Department of Energy's 17 National Laboratories, including the Ames Laboratory located at Iowa State University
- ◇ Prior to his appointment, Secretary Moniz was the Cecil and Ida Green Professor of Physics and Engineering Systems at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, serving on the faculty since 1973. He also headed the Department of Physics and the Bates Linear Accelerator Center, and he served as the founding Director of the MIT Energy Initiative and as Director of the MIT Laboratory for Energy and the Environment where he was a leader of multidisciplinary technology and policy studies on the future of nuclear power, coal, nuclear fuel cycles, natural gas and solar energy in a low-carbon world.
- ◇ From 1997 until January 2001, he served as Under Secretary of the Department of Energy, responsible for overseeing the Department's science and energy programs, leading a comprehensive review of nuclear weapons stockpile stewardship, and serving as the Secretary's special negotiator for the disposition of Russian nuclear materials.
- ◇ From 1995 to 1997, he served as Associate Director for Science in the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President.
- ◇ Secretary Moniz has also served on a number of boards of directors and commissions involving science, energy and security, including President Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, the Department of Defense Threat Reduction Advisory Committee, and the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future. Secretary Moniz is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Humboldt Foundation, and the American Physical Society.

- ◇ Secretary Moniz earned a Bachelor of Science degree *summa cum laude* in Physics from Boston College, a Doctorate in Theoretical Physics from Stanford University, and honorary degrees from the University of Athens, the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Michigan State University, and Universidad Pontificia de Comillas.
- ◇ Iowa State University wished to recognize Dr. Moniz's extraordinary achievements and dedicated and focused efforts.