

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

August 21, 2023

Dear Mr. President and Members of the National Security Council:

We the undersigned are scientists and scholars at numerous U.S. universities. We are writing to express our strong support for the renewal of the United States-China Protocol on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. This agreement has been of enormous benefit to the United States.

We acknowledge that there are legitimate national security concerns that require the United States, at times, to limit access to certain research and information. However, as outlined in National Security Decision Directive 189, such information should be classified. Fundamental research at U.S. institutions of higher learning, the results of which are intended to be openly published, should not be classified in accord with NSDD 189. The benefits to the United States and to the world of robust and open research collaboration and exchanges of information and people between the United States and China has been and continues to be enormous -- every effort should be made to maintain such exchanges. We can attest that cutting off ties with China would directly and negatively impact our own research, the work of our immediate colleagues, and/or the educational mission of our universities. We are prepared to advocate for this position publicly and vocally.

We very much hope that renewal of the United States-China Protocol on Scientific and Technical Cooperation is imminent as expiration of the Protocol approaches. The Protocol has provided a valuable framework for dialogue and development of specific agreements regarding scientific and technological cooperation and exchanges between the United States and China including people-to-people connections and educational exchanges that have benefited the United States. The United States should renew the Protocol, not because China wants to, but rather because it is in the best interests of the United States.

Respectfully yours,



Steven Kivelson
Prabu Goel Family Professor of Physics
Stanford University



Peter F. Michelson
Luke Blossom Professor, School of Humanities & Sciences
Professor of Physics
Stanford University

on behalf of the following concerned faculty members and scholars at U.S. institutions of higher learning who have endorsed this letter (names listed on following pages)