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LASKER FOUNDATION WELCOMES SUSAN HOCKFIELD TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(New York, June 22) The Lasker Foundation today announced the addition of Susan Hockfield, Ph.D. to the Lasker Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Hockfield, President Emerita of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Professor of Neuroscience and a member of the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, brings more than 40 years of experience as a leader in biomedical science research.

“We are pleased to welcome Susan Hockfield to the Lasker Foundation Board,” said Lasker Board Chair Anthony Evnin, Ph.D. “Her transformative achievements as President of MIT, including initiatives to advance convergence science, technology and next-generation manufacturing, and research workforce diversity, as well as her outstanding accomplishments in research position Dr. Hockfield to make significant contributions to the Lasker organization.”

“Dr. Hockfield’s work in the field of neuroscience and her powerful leadership skills are inspiring and we look forward to benefiting from her insights,” said Claire Pomeroy, President of the Lasker Foundation.

Dr. Hockfield has served as the President Emerita of MIT since July 2012 and Professor of Neuroscience at MIT since 2004. From December 2004 to July 2012, she served as the President of MIT. Under her leadership, MIT launched a major Institute-wide initiative in energy research and education and expanded its activities at the intersection of the life sciences and engineering, with a particular focus on cancer research, HIV-AIDS and diseases of the developing world, and new technologies to address the 21st century’s challenges of food, water, energy and health.

Before assuming the presidency of MIT, Dr. Hockfield was the William Edward Gilbert Professor of Neurobiology, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (1998-2002) and provost (2002 to 2004) at Yale University. She earned her B.A. in biology from the University of Rochester and a Ph.D. in Anatomy from the Georgetown University School of Medicine, while carrying out her dissertation research in neuroscience at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She did postdoctoral work at the University of California, San Francisco, and a member of the scientific staff of the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1980-1985) before joining the Yale Medical School faculty.

About the Lasker Foundation: The Lasker Foundation seeks to increase support for biomedical research by celebrating the power of biomedical science to save and improve human lives. Through its internationally renowned Lasker Awards, educational initiatives, and public advocacy, the Foundation recognizes the most important achievements in science and public service, supports and encourages the scientific leaders of tomorrow, and raises awareness of the ever-present need for research funding. Established in 1942 by Albert and Mary Lasker, the Foundation is committed to inspiring robust and sustained support for biomedical research, fueled by Mary Lasker’s call to action: “If you think research is expensive, try disease!”

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