

Ref: GN Docket Nos. 09-47, 09-51, 09-137

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I fully support the OIDA position letter ("Research Agenda for the Next Decade for the Fiber Optics Industry", December 8th 2009) on the issue of broadband and national economic and military security.

I also want to underline that the US should promote, through incentives, the training of American citizens in our university systems on the subjects of high-bandwidth communications. Currently with so many foreign nationals competing with US citizens for graduate research positions in our public and private universities, it is difficult for US citizens to obtain the necessary funding to do Ph.D. research in the field of datacom and telecommunications. I encourage federal support for research and training of US citizens in this important national interest. US citizens trained in high-technology optical communications are more likely to stay in the US, seek employment in the US, or create local industries.

Sincerely,

Dr. Douglas Baney