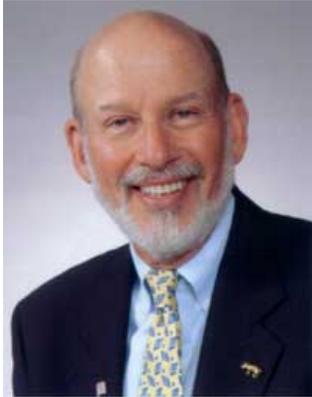


## Foreword



With the release of this Proposal Preparation Kit and the announcement of a first competition, the National Institute of Standards and Technology launches the Technology Innovation Program (TIP), an exciting new opportunity for investment in technology research that address important societal needs and concerns.

TIP was established as part of the America COMPETES Act in 2007 to work with the nation's robust R&D community—entrepreneurial businesses, institutions of higher education, nonprofit research institutes, and national laboratories—to support, promote, and accelerate technically challenging research and innovation in transformative technologies to meet areas of critical national need.

We have drawn on NIST's considerable experience in the organization and management of competitive, merit-based R&D grant programs to craft what we hope to be a highly effective and efficient process to achieve the TIP goals. This Kit is one result of that effort.

To learn more about the Technology Innovation Program, I encourage you to visit our Web site at [www.nist.gov/tip](http://www.nist.gov/tip) where you will find detailed background materials and a calendar of any upcoming TIP meetings or events. If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive future TIP announcements, take your browser to [http://tipmailing.nist.gov/forms/mailling\\_list.cfm](http://tipmailing.nist.gov/forms/mailling_list.cfm).

One of our nation's greatest strengths is its capacity for innovation. TIP was created to tap that strength and become a resource for solving the significant challenges that we face as a nation and a society. We invite you to join with us in this effort.

**Marc G. Stanley**

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