

knowledge economy requires the protection of information and ideas.

I would also like to recognize Dr. Yves Chauvin, Professor Robert H. Grubbs, and Professor Richard R. Schrock who were awarded the 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for development of the metathesis method in organic synthesis. From the Greek words meaning to change position, metathesis methodology, and its variety of enabling catalysts, have become invaluable in the development and industrial scale production of polymers, fuel additives, biologically active compounds, and drugs.

The formation and reorganization of carbon-carbon bonds is the heart of synthetic organic chemistry. Developing new techniques and methods for controlling carbon connectivity is critical to advancing an enormous range of scientific advancement and technological development.

Methods like metathesis represent the very tools used by chemists around the world to build better drugs, better fuels, and better materials in ways that are cheaper, faster, and cleaner. Chemists around the world have incorporated metathesis reactions into production schemes for novel medicines and even materials used in bullet-proof vests; and the increased efficiency realized by metathesis reactions leads to less waste generated in the process.

The work of these Noble laureates reverberates through technological developments and innovative engineering, resulting in the strengthening of our economy. The basic research which brought about the Nobel Prizes in 2005 was funded by agencies like the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, which are funded by the Federal Government.

While much of the fundamental research performed or funded through these agencies may not immediately appear to have practical applications, we must recognize that today's chemical oddity or strange physical principle could be tomorrow's Nobel Prize. Yet, the total Federal research and development portfolio is taking a cut for the first time since 1996 in the President's fiscal year 2007 budget request.

Mr. Speaker, the world is in transition right now. We, and the other industrialized nations of the world, are accelerating into a knowledge-based global economy. We can make no assumptions that the United States will remain the dominant factor in this economy. Complacency will be our downfall.

As we celebrate Nobel Prize winners and honor their work, we are slipping behind in the scramble for the top of the globalization mountain. Other nations are acting as we sit thinking of actions to take. The cultural shift required for our Nation to move forward and maintain a competitive edge over other nations begins with how the Federal Government spends its money. We must increase the funding for research and development to maintain our competitiveness.

We must come together as one Congress, united across party lines, choosing to act for our future.

RECOGNIZING BILL SERGEANT

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the outstanding humanitarian service and contribution made by Rotarian William T. ("Bill") Sergeant on the occasion of his retirement from his position as Chairman of the International PolioPlus Committee of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International—a committee that develops Rotary's policies and strategies to achieve polio eradication. Since the inception of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee in 1994, Bill Sergeant, a retired Colonel, has served tirelessly as the General leading the efforts of Rotary's army of 1.2 million volunteers in the war against polio.

A member of the Rotary club of Oak Ridge, Tennessee for more than 50 years, Bill Sergeant held many leadership positions in Rotary, including Rotary International Vice-president, Director, and Foundation Trustee, before assuming leadership of PolioPlus, Rotary's flagship program. Bill Sergeant has traveled to countries on 6 continents to participate in polio eradication activities, represented Rotary International at strategic meetings, and promoted the cause of global polio eradication and ensured its prominence among the Rotary world as Rotary's highest priority.

Through his integrity, acumen and keen observation, Bill Sergeant quickly earned the respect of peers in the other three spearheading organizations: the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; thereby strengthening the efficacy of this unique public/private collaborative effort for the ultimate benefit of the children of the world. Under Bill Sergeant's leadership, Rotary established criteria for the strategic use of PolioPlus grant funds, launched the PolioPlus Partners program to provide supplemental support for critical polio eradication activities, and established international advocacy to ensure sufficient political and financial public sector support for global polio eradication efforts.

During his tenure as Chairman of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee, three regions of the world have been certified polio-free and only four countries remain with endemic transmission of polio. Bill Sergeant has demonstrated, through his exemplary, single-minded dedication to the goal of a polio-free world, that one man can make the world a better place through commitment, determination, and a great deal of heart.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our fellow representatives to join me in recognizing Bill Sergeant for his outstanding leadership and service in support of the goal of a polio-free world—a goal which the United States Government shares.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MAI TRAN AND MR. BRUCE HOTTMAN

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Mai Tran

and Mr. Bruce Hottman of Information Technology Experts in Fort Collins, Colorado on being named Small Business Persons of the Year by the Small Business Administration.

Over the course of its 10-year history, ITX has consistently been recognized as one of Colorado's foremost small businesses. As a leading provider of full-service Information Technology support in Northern Colorado, ITX has earned the confidence of numerous corporate, non-profit, and governmental organizations. The leadership and expertise demonstrated by Mr. Tran and Mr. Hottman have resulted in the tremendous expansion and growth of ITX. In only 6 years, ITX has more than tripled the size of its workforce to 95 individuals.

Mr. Speaker, the remarkable economic success realized by ITX pales in comparison to the extraordinary generosity and commitment to the community embodied by members of the ITX family. Following the 2004 Asian tsunami disaster, ITX generously contributed funds to aid Chennai victims and was subsequently honored by the City of Fort Collins with a key to the city. Additionally, ITX has been lauded for providing much-needed computer equipment to the Asian Chamber of Commerce and discounted IT services to over a dozen Northern Colorado non-profit organizations.

As a member of the Governor's Minority Business Advisory Council, Mai Tran is a recognized leader in the small business community and is active in addressing issues that affect minority businesses across the State. He personifies his own belief that through skill, hard work, and determination, minority businesses strengthen Colorado's economy.

At the age of 16, Mr. Tran fled to the United States after South Vietnam fell to communism. Through a great deal of determination and hard work, Mr. Tran overcame his lack of English skills and went on to earn a degree in Computer Science and Mathematics from Colorado State University. Today, as President and CEO of ITX, Mr. Tran's dedication and commitment to others serves as an inspiration to his employees and his community.

As co-founder and Executive Vice President of ITX, Mr. Hottman's wealth of experience and expertise in the field of information technology have ensured the success of ITX and its continued contributions to the community. After graduating from Colorado State University with a degree in computer information systems, Mr. Hottman worked at United Banks and the United States Department of Agriculture before joining the Western Area Power Administration as Project Leader. While at WAPA, Mr. Hottman and Mr. Tran worked together as a high performing team of IT professionals, and in 1996 they decided to form their own IT services provider. Like Mr. Tran, Mr. Hottman's involvement in the Fort Collins Foothills Rotary Club and other community organizations has inspired and encouraged the employees of ITX to become active members of their community.

I am proud to represent individuals with such a remarkable entrepreneurial and compassionate spirit. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many accomplishments and selfless dedication of Mr. Mai Tran and Mr. Bruce Hottman.