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American Chemical Society  
1155 Sixteenth Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to share my strong support for Dr. Willie May's candidacy for American Chemical Society (ACS) President-Elect 2018.

I have known Dr. May for many years, and we worked together very closely in his role as U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The organization I represent – the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) – is the private-sector coordinator of the U.S. standardization system, and works closely with NIST senior leadership, scientists, researchers, and staff on key national standards and conformity assessment priorities.

Willie has an incredible, inspirational life story, and built a wonderful career at NIST focused on chemistry and biology programs, culminating in his role as NIST Director. He is a gifted scientist and researcher with a lifelong love of chemistry, without a doubt. But even more important than that, he is emotionally intelligent, friendly, and charismatic. These qualities are so critical in a leader, since they encourage people to work with you, to listen to you, and to follow you. Willie is loved and respected, not just by me and my colleagues at ANSI and NIST, but also by anyone who interacts with him.

Though both ANSI and NIST are based in the United States, the nature of standardization work requires that we embrace and understand the global economy, that we work closely with other countries in bilateral, regional, and international relationships, and that we think strategically about U.S. competitiveness. Because of Willie's role at NIST, he has had significant exposure to the international standardization community – both government agencies and private-sector organizations. He is skilled at building and fortifying these important relationships, at reaching out across the aisle, and at making sure that everyone feels heard in the consensus-building process.

I am pleased to give Willie my highest recommendation for this position. Should you have any particular questions about his accomplishments, please feel free to contact me (202.331.3605; [jbhatia@ansi.org](mailto:jbhatia@ansi.org)).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Bhatia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

S. Joe Bhatia