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**For Immediate Release**

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**ASPET Applauds Passage of 2017 Omnibus, \$2 Billion Increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

**BETHESDA** –The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) commends legislators for their steadfast efforts towards passage of the FY 2017 omnibus spending package, which included a \$2 billion increase for the NIH.

This outcome demonstrates bipartisan, bicameral support and vision and recognizes the critical importance of biomedical research as a national priority.

A robust, sustainable investment in biomedical research is critical to improving patient health and strengthening the economy, while maintaining the global preeminence of the United States in scientific innovation.

With the government funded for the remainder of the fiscal year, we turn our attention to the FY 2018 appropriations cycle. Congress has consistently shown bipartisan support for biomedical research and we look forward to building on the investment in biomedical research achieved over the last two years.

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*ASPET is a scientific society whose members conduct basic and clinical pharmacological research and work for academia, government, large pharmaceutical companies, small biotech companies, and non-profit organizations. ASPET members work in a variety of different fields and their efforts help to develop new medicines and therapeutic agents to fight existing and emerging diseases.*