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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Great Minds in STEM™ to Host First Annual Hispanic STEM Legacy Luncheon in Washington, D.C., in Partnership with The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) During Hispanic Heritage Month**

**Los Angeles, CA – Great Minds in STEM™** will pay tribute to Hispanic contributions to America's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) heritage at the inaugural **Hispanic STEM Legacy Luncheon**. This first of its kind celebration of excellence in STEM is set to take place in Washington, D.C., on September 16, 2010 following CHCI's Hispanic Heritage Month kick-off festivities.

At the luncheon, Great Minds in STEM™ will honor 3 outstanding technology professionals who have built impressive careers at some of America's most iconic corporations and institutions. They are: **John J. Tracy, Ph.D.**, Senior Vice President, Engineering, Operations & Technology for The Boeing Company; **Olga Gonzalez-Sanabria**, Director of Engineering at NASA - Glenn Research Center; and **Alicia Abella, Ph.D.**, Executive Director of Research at AT&T. And for visionary leadership in the development of the groundbreaking, multi-agency partnerships responsible for the **STEM-Up™ Initiative**, Great Minds in STEM™ will honor **Clarence Johnson**, Principal Director, Office of Diversity Management and Equal Opportunity at the United States Department of Defense, and **Lieutenant General Robert Van Antwerp**, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, United States Army Corps of Engineers.

Members of Congress **Hon. Silvestre Reyes (16<sup>th</sup> District of Texas)** and **Hon. Lucille Roybal-Allard (24<sup>th</sup> District of California)** have confirmed their participation as Presenters for these distinguished STEM honors. In coming days, additional Members of Congress and Government Officials are expected to confirm their participation.

Beyond their impressive professional accomplishments, Legacy Luncheon honorees have distinguished themselves by dedicating large parts of their career to promoting STEM degrees and careers through their involvement and support of Great Minds in STEM™ and other professional educational and outreach programs.

The first annual Hispanic STEM Legacy Luncheon will be held in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Capitol Hill. Great Minds in STEM™ is honored to be working with both CHCI and the **Ibarra Strategy Group** to bring Hispanic contributions in STEM to the attention of our nation's congressional leaders inside the Beltway.

For media and registration information for this event, please contact Nick Quiñonez from Great Minds in STEM™ (323-262-0997, [nquinonez@greatmindsinstem.org](mailto:nquinonez@greatmindsinstem.org)) or Maritza Kelley from the Ibarra Strategy Group (202-904-2009, [maritza@ibarrastrategy.com](mailto:maritza@ibarrastrategy.com)), for ticket and sponsorship information as well as all media requests. And please visit [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org) for more information on the 5 Hispanic STEM Legacy Luncheon honorees.

*About Great Minds in STEM™ - **Great Minds in STEM™**, formerly known as HENAAC, is dedicated to keeping America technologically strong by promoting STEM careers, especially in underserved communities. The HENAAC name will remain as the name for the flagship, 22-year running national conference. While the organization's name has changed, the vision and mission remain the same. The name change reflects the expanded role education programs have taken in the organization's efforts to execute its vision and mission. For more information, please visit [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org).*

*About the Congressional Hispanic Caucus - The **Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI)** is the premier Hispanic non-profit and non-partisan 501(c) (3) leadership development organization in the country. CHCI's mission is to develop the next generation of Latino leaders by promoting higher education, providing unmatched career development experience, and award-winning leadership development curriculum. The CHCI vision is an educated and civically active Hispanic community contributing at all levels of U.S. society, business, and government. For more information please visit [www.chci.org](http://www.chci.org).*

*About the Ibarra Strategy Group - **ISG** is a leading government relations and public affairs firm in Washington, DC. Mickey Ibarra, ISG President and Founder said, "Great Minds in STEM is the foremost organization in STEM Education Awareness programs and we look forward to raising their profile in our nation's capitol and across the country." This partnership will promote the Great Minds in STEM™ brand name as a means to position the organization as an expert as it relates to STEM education and on the importance of preparing more students from all socio-economic sectors to pursue the growing opportunities in the technical fields. This is keeping with an active Memorandum of Understanding between ISG and the Great Minds in STEM organization. For more information, please visit <http://www.ibarrastrategy.com/>*

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