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PRESIDENT BUSH HONORS THE U.S. RECIPIENTS OF THE 2008 KAVLI PRIZE

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush and his Science Advisor, Dr. John Marburger honored the first U.S. recipients of the Kavli Prize (an award that recognizes scientists for their advances in astrophysics, nanoscience and neuroscience) in an Oval Office reception at the White House this afternoon.

Dr. John Marburger, Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy said, “Thanks to the Kavli Foundation for establishing these prestigious awards. We are proud that American scientists are among the first round of recipients, and hope for more in the future. The fields in which the awards are given are among the most exciting and productive in science today, and the work that is being recognized has in each case opened new opportunities for discovery by generations of investigators. Congratulations to the recipients for their outstanding contributions.”

The laureates were selected for their groundbreaking research that has advanced our understanding of matter on an ultra-small scale, the basic circuitry of the human brain, and the nature of quasars. They are the inaugural recipients of the Kavli prizes, a partnership between the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, The Kavli Foundation, and the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. The three biannual awards will complement the Nobel Prizes. The seven winners, from the UK, Sweden, the Netherlands, Japan and the US, will receive a share of the \$1,000,000 prize for each subject.

The 2008 United States Kavli Prize Winners:

Maarten Schmidt, California Institute of Technology (Astrophysics Prize Winner)
Louis E. Brus, Columbia University (Nanoscience Prize Winner)
Pasko Rakic, Yale University School of Medicine (Neuroscience Prize Winner)
Thomas Jessell, Columbia University (Neuroscience Prize Winner)

The Kavli Foundation was established in December 2000 by its founder and benefactor, Fred Kavli, a prominent California business leader and noted philanthropist whose foundation is currently actively involved in establishing major research institutes at leading universities and institutions in the United States, Europe and Asia.

For more information about the Kavli Prize and this year’s recipients visit:
<http://www.kavlifoundation.org/prizes/>

Photos will be available later in the week. To receive the photos contact Jim Cohen at:
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