

Obama promotes math, tech aid at science fair (Update)

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President Barack Obama speaks at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., Monday, May 26, 2014. Obama, who returned just hours earlier from a surprise visit with U.S. troops at Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan, paid tribute to those lost in battle there and elsewhere over history as he commemorated Memorial Day. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

President Barack Obama is drawing attention to girls' science and engineering accomplishments as he announces efforts to diversify the nation's technological workforce.

The president pointed out that men outnumber women studying and

working in science. He says that means, quote, "half our team we aren't even putting on the field."

Obama announced new assistance to train teachers, expand education for low-income students and offer a [mentoring program](#) in seven cities across the country.

Obama spoke after checking out exhibits at the annual White House Science Fair.

Among the displays are a "concussion cushion" designed by a 19-year-old California student who aspires to be the first female collegiate head football coach. Two Massachusetts girls exhibited a rescue robot.

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