



Work-in-Progress

Congressional Research Service Science and Technology Policy Assessment

ABOUT THE NATIONAL ACADEMY

The National Academy of Public Administration is a non-profit, independent organization of top public management and organizational leaders who tackle the nation's most critical and complex public management challenges. With a network of more than 900 distinguished Fellows and an experienced professional staff, the National Academy is uniquely qualified and trusted across government to provide objective advice and practical solutions based on systematic research and expert analysis. Established in 1967 and chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Academy continues to make a positive impact by helping federal, state and local governments respond effectively to current circumstances and changing conditions. Learn more about the National Academy and its work at www.NAPAwash.org

BACKGROUND & PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Congress has access to many sources of science and technology policy information and analysis. Currently, two of these sources housed within the Legislative Branch include: 1) the Congressional Research Service, established in 1914 within the Library of Congress, which works exclusively for the United States Congress, providing policy and legal analysis to committees and Members of both the House and Senate, regardless of party affiliation, and 2) the U.S. Government Accountability Office, an independent, nonpartisan agency, which examines how taxpayer dollars are spent and provides Congress and federal agencies with objective, reliable information to help the government save money and work more efficiently.

In the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 5895, Congress directed the Congressional Research Service (CRS) to contract with the National Academy of Public Administration (the Academy) to conduct a review detailing the current resources within the Legislative Branch that are available to Members of Congress regarding science and technology policy. These resources include the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

As mandated by the Conference Report language, the Academy's study will accomplish the following:

- Produce a report detailing the current resources available to Members of Congress within the Legislative Branch regarding science and technology policy, including GAO.
- Assess the potential need within the Legislative Branch to create a separate entity charged with the mission of providing nonpartisan advice on issues of science and technology, such as the former Office of Technology Assessment (OTA).
- Address whether the creation of a separate entity would duplicate services already available to Members of Congress.

The Academy has formed a five-member Panel of Fellows to oversee the work of the project staff, provide guidance on the study approach, and issue recommendations for the Congressional Research Service and the U.S. Congress to consider.

PANEL OF FELLOWS

Betsy Fretwell (Panel Chair), Senior Vice President, SMART, Switch. Former positions for the City of Las Vegas: City Manager, Deputy City Manager; Assistant City Manager. Former Director, Intergovernmental Relations, City of Henderson; Strategic Issues Manager, Management Analyst II & I, Clark County.

David Rejeski, Director, Technology, Innovation and the Environment Project, Environmental Law Institute. Global Fellow, Woodrow Wilson Center, Guest Researcher, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Former Positions with Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars: Director, Science, Technology and Innovation Program and Foresight and Governance Project. Former Positions with The White House: Director, Interagency Environmental Technology Task Force of the Council on Environmental Quality; Policy Analyst, Office of Science and Technology Policy. Former Head, Future Studies Unit, Office of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency; Consultant, Environmental Agency, Hamburg, Germany; Co-founder and Co-director, Appropriate Technology Assistance Group.

Michael McCord, Director, Civil-Military Programs, Stennis Center for Public Service. Former Under Secretary (Comptroller) and Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Defense; Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee; Budget Analyst, House Budget Committee; Assistant Analyst, Congressional Budget Office.

James Hendler, Professor, Computer Science, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Professor, Computer Science, University of Maryland; Program Mgr/Chief Scientist (IPA), Information Systems, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA); Open Data Advisor, New York State (unpaid), NYS Government; Internet Web Expert (unpaid), Data.gov project, IPA to GSA, working w/OSTP; Member Advisory Committee, Homeland Security Science and Technology Adv. Comm, DHS; Board Member, Board on Research Data and Information, Nat'l Acad Science, Engineering and Medicine; Director's Advisory Committee Member, Nat'l Security Directorate, Pacific Northwest National Laboratories.

Kathleen Peroff, Owner, Peroff and Associates LLC. Former Deputy Associate Director, National Security, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President. Former positions with Office of Management and Budget: Deputy Associate Director; Energy, Space, Science, & Water Division; Branch Chief, Housing Branch and Division of Special Studies. Former Deputy Director & Visiting University Fellow, Division of Special Studies, Office of Policy Development & Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Assistant Professor, Political Science and Public Policy, University of Maryland.

PROJECT STAFF

Brenna Isman, *Director of Academy Studies*

Roger Kodat, *Senior Project Director*

Daniel Ginsberg, *Senior Advisor*

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