

## DRAFT AGENDA

### Monday, September 21, 2009 (Auditorium)

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

#### Registration

(Lobby – 12th and H Street Entrance, AAAS Building)

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8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

#### Representatives Conference Room 207:

Cheryl Clark, Grants and Interagency Agreement Management Division (Formerly Grants Administration Division)

Luis E. Rivera, Financial Officer, Las Vegas Finance Office

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8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

#### Welcome

*Cynthia Robinson, Director, AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowships*

8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

#### Opening Address

*William H. Sanders III, Dr.P.H., Director, NCER*

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

#### Opening Address – (TBD)

*Assistant Administrator (AA) for the Office of Research and Development (ORD)*

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

#### Questions-and-Answers Session

*Brandon Jones, Ph.D., Acting Team Lead STAR Fellowship, NCER*

### Panel Sessions (Auditorium)

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

#### Juggling Family and Work

Moderator: *Brandon Jones, Ph.D., NCER*

Panelists: *Emile Stander, Ph.D., Caroline Baier-Anderson, Ph.D.; Emily Monosson, Ph.D. (Need AAAS Fellow)*

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

#### Break

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11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

#### Exhibit Booth (Second Floor)

Exhibitors – AAAS and NCSE (TBD)

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11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

#### Successful Grant Writing

Moderators: *Brandon Jones, Ph.D., NCER*

Panelists: *Ron Turco, Ph.D., Denise Heller Wardrop, P.E., and Fellow Mark Solomon*

12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

#### Lunch

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Editorial Panel: Guidelines/Comments for Selecting the

Best Papers for Publication  
Moderator: *Karen McClure*  
Panelists: *Pamela J. Hines, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, AAAS; Editor from ES&T (Jerald Schnoor); one of NCSE Science Editors (TBD)*

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Break and Travel to the Reception on Capitol Hill**

**5:00 p.m. Reception on Capitol Hill**  
*Sponsored by: AAAS and NCSE*

**Tuesday, September 22, 2009**

**7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Representatives Conference Room 207:**  
Cheryl Clark, Grants and Interagency Agreement  
Management Division (Formerly Grants Administration  
Division)

Luis E. Rivera, Financial Officer, Las Vegas Finance Office

**8:00 a.m. – 8:05 a.m. Introductions (Auditorium)**  
*Brandon Jones, Ph.D., NCER*

**8:05 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, AAAS**

**9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Break**

**9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Three Theme panels meeting separately:**

*Note: Please sign up for one of three discussion groups; space is limited and therefore the first to register and select their discussion group will be assigned to a group. Late registrants will be placed in unfilled group discussions.*

1) **Microbiological Response to Environmental Challenges**

**Co-Rapporteurs: Lisa Kirk and Bennett Streit, Current Fellows; Professor Om V. Singh, Participating Expert, University of Pittsburgh**

From cell-cell communication and gene upregulation to protein evolution and function.

The microbiological response of an organism to an environmental challenge starts off the chain of events that eventually leads to an ecological-based response. With the microbiological effects often being the trigger, an understanding of the molecular-based changes that

an organism has in response to an environmental toxin will lead to the possible development of methods by which we can potentially detect and treat the contaminant. Catching the early signs of a potential environmental threat will in turn help in the prevention of more large-scale, ecosystem-based effects that develop over time.

In this session, we will discuss ways in which the understanding of the molecular details of responses by organisms to toxins can be studied at a molecular base level and also how our understanding of the microbiological process can lead to better developments of methods for detection, treatment, and remediation of environmental contaminations.

2) **Community-Based Research**

**Co-Rapporteurs: Mari Eggers and Erica Holloman, Current Fellows. Nigel Fields (EPA) and \_\_\_\_\_, Participating Experts**

For many of us, our work in and with our community—whether local, regional, or national—is essential to or is the focus of our research. We come from many disciplines such as environmental justice, anthropology, sociology, political science, public policy, public administration, public health, environmental health, and so forth. What are our common challenges? How do we manage both the demands of scientific research and the need to honor the integrity and priorities of the communities we work with? What can we learn from the principles and practices of community-based participatory research? What are our personal and intellectual sources of inspiration, guidance, values, and methods that inform our work? What other disciplines or practices are helping us in our work?

3) **Ecosystems: A Discussion**

**Co-Rapporteurs: Geoff Cook and Christina Tanner, Current Fellows. Brandon Jones (EPA) and \_\_\_\_\_, Participating Experts**

As scientists, we tend to focus our studies on different levels of biological organization, from molecular biology to individual-based models, and from population dynamics to community ecology. However, all of these can be viewed within the broader context of an ecosystem. Ecosystem-based management strives to

view our individual systems of interest in a more holistic light. It provides a venue where our work as individuals can contribute to a better understanding of ecosystems, their structure and function, and the services they provide. Together, this better understanding, from the molecular to the ecosystem level, will provide us with novel solutions to the environmental challenges facing us, the next generation of scientists.

In this session, we will discuss the broader ramifications of your current research with those striving to provide a better understanding of the various components that comprise ecosystems, with the common goals of better protecting, managing, and conserving our environment.

**12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch**

1:00 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

Moving From Environmental Science to Environmental Policy (Auditorium)

*David Blockstein, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE); Carl Maxwell, Legislative Director, American Chemical Society*

**1:55 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.**

**Break**

2:10 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Panel continues discussions and finalizes conclusions for reporting out (Abelson Room/Haskins Room, Auditorium, and Revelle Room)

**3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Break**

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Panels Report Out (Auditorium)

**5:00 p.m.**

**Adjournment**