

Speaker and Moderator Biographies

50 Years and the Road Ahead

Richard Stone is special advisor, science diplomacy and engagement for the Human Frontier Science Program organization. He also serves as senior international correspondent for Science Magazine, where his writing has featured datelines from challenging reporting environments such as Cuba, Iran, and North Korea. Prior to joining HFSP, he was the senior science editor for HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, where he oversaw science content for documentaries and other nonfiction productions and managed media partnerships. Stone's experience in international science and education includes stints as a Fulbright Scholar at Rostov State University in Russia in 1995-96 and at Kazakh National University in Kazakhstan in 2004-05.

Ambassador Bonnie Jenkins served as the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security from July 2021 to December 2024. As Under Secretary, she oversaw three bureaus: the Arms Control, Deterrence and Stability Bureau; the International Security and Nonproliferation Bureau; and the Political-Military Affairs Bureau. Ambassador Jenkins previously served in the Obama Administration as Special Envoy and Coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs from July 2009 until January 2017, in which she coordinated U.S. government efforts on threat reduction programs alongside international programs that prevent non-State actors from acquiring chemical precursors, pathogens, nuclear material, and radiological sources to develop Weapons of Mass Destruction. From 2014 to 2017, Ambassador Jenkins led diplomatic efforts to promote the Global Health Security Agenda, a consortium that builds capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats. Ambassador Jenkins has a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Virginia as well as graduate degrees in law and public health.

Sonia Ben Ouagrham-Gormley is an Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Biodefense Graduate Program at the Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University. She holds a PhD in economics, and graduate degrees in strategy & defense policy, foreign languages, economics and law. Currently, her research focuses on studying issues at the intersection between science and security, including safety and security threats posed by emerging technologies, the social and technical dimensions of bioweapons development, and the challenges of managing large scientific and weapons projects. She is the author of *Barriers to Bioweapons: The Challenges of Expertise and Organization for Weapons Development* (Cornell University Press 2014), and a co-author of a documentary on Soviet bioweapons scientists "The Anthrax Diaries."

Expert Community Conclave

Jenifer Mackby is a Nonresident Executive Fellow at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. She has worked on international security and nonproliferation issues at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), and the United Nations. She directed a project on a Biological Weapons Convention science and technology advisory body for the FAS, and worked on a second phase of that project for the InterAcademy Partnership, in coordination with the National Academies of Science. She has directed projects on U.S.-U.K. Nuclear Cooperation, a Russian-European study on bioterrorism, Asian Trilateral Nuclear Dialogues, Debating 21st Century Nuclear Issues, among others. She served as Secretary of the negotiations on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), the Group of Scientific Experts,

the Verification Working Group of the CTBT Organization, a Biological Weapons Convention Review Conference, a UN Conference on Outer Space and others. Ms. Mackby was Rapporteur for numerous international meetings, including the OSCE, European Commission Interparliamentary Conference, Wilton Park, and a study on Strengthening the IAEA. She has written numerous articles and books on international security and non-proliferation.

Nancy Connell is a Senior Scholar at the US National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) in the International Networks and Collaborations section of the Division of Policy and Governmental Affairs. Trained in microbial genetics at Harvard, Dr. Connell was an investigator from 1992-2018 in microbial genetics and drug discovery at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (NJMS), finishing her long career there as Professor in the Division of Infectious Disease and Director of Research in the Department of Medicine. She was then Senior Scientist at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and Professor in the Department of Environmental Health. Dr. Connell now focuses on advances in life sciences and technology and their application to developments in biosecurity, biosafety, and biodefense. She has had a long-standing interest in regulatory policies associated with biocontainment work and dual-use research of concern. and she currently serves as advisor to the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Regional Biocontainment Laboratory, putting her policy interests to work.

Gigi Gronvall is a Professor in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering and a Senior Scholar at the Center for Health Security in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. An immunologist by training, she leads work to advance biosecurity, biosafety, pandemic preparedness, and the bioeconomy. Dr. Gronvall is the author of *Synthetic Biology: Safety, Security, and Promise* (2016) and *Preparing for Bioterrorism: The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's Leadership in Biosecurity* (2012). She is a member of the Department of State's International Security Advisory Board, the Novel and Exceptional Technology and Research Advisory Committee (NExTRAC), and co-chair of the BioMADE Safety, Security, Sustainability and Social Responsibility (4S) Committee. Gronvall received a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University and was a National Research Council Postdoctoral Associate at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases in Fort Detrick, Maryland. She currently serves on the National Academies Forum on Microbial Threats and the Committee on Assessing and Navigating Biosecurity Concerns and Benefits of Artificial Intelligence Use in the Life Sciences. She was previously a member of Committee on Strategies for Identifying and Addressing Potential Biodefense Vulnerabilities Posed by Synthetic Biology.

Dave Stiefel is a Director of Global Biological Policy and Programs at the Nuclear Threat Initiative, having previously served in numerous U.S. Government positions across multiple administrations, including as a National Security Policy Analyst at USDA and in the White House on the National Security Council. Dave has overseen and coordinated the drafting and release of numerous White House policies related to biodefense and food and agriculture security. Dave is a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Virginia in Foreign Affairs and an Adjunct Faculty at Georgetown University and the College of William & Mary.

John Moulton is Deputy Director and a Senior Fellow of the Janne E. Nolan Center on Strategic Weapons, an institute of the Council on Strategic Risks, where he and his teammates address threats presented by biological, nuclear and chemical weapons. Prior to joining the Center, he served in the U.S. Navy as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technician and Navy Diver,

reducing the risk that the U.S., allies, and partner nations faced from explosive threats both at sea and ashore, including weapons of mass destruction, mines, and improvised explosive devices. He has commanded at all levels across the EOD and salvage communities; conducted operations in every U.S. geographic combatant commander area of responsibility; deployed throughout Southwest Asia and the Indo-Pacific; and, qualified as a political-military and naval strategist. In staff positions he has overseen joint-service EOD training; served as the service proponent for navy expeditionary forces, the Department of Defense EOD Technology & Training program, and non-lethal weapons; and, provided subject matter and regional expertise to commanders of joint task forces, fleets, and combatant commands, and the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. He was commissioned at the U.S. Naval Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science in History and holds master's degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and the U.S. Naval War College. He also served as the U.S. Navy Hudson Fellow at the University of Oxford's St. Antony's College and the Changing Character of War Centre.

Daniel Correa is Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), where he leads efforts to advance science and technology policy. He aims to broaden FAS's advocacy from nuclear weapons transparency to all areas of science policymaking, ensuring scientists and technologists help shape public policy. Before FAS, Daniel founded the Day One Project, developing and implementing new science and technology policy ideas. He also led the Technology and Public Policy Project at Stanford and created the Federal Innovation Council at the Partnership for Public Service to promote a more innovative government. Earlier, Daniel served as Assistant Director for Innovation Policy at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy under the Obama Administration, where he shaped national innovation strategies and led significant science and tech initiatives. Daniel was also the first employee at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, where he developed technology policy. He has been a Kauffman Fellow at Yale Law School and holds a law degree and master's in economics from Yale, along with a bachelor's from Dartmouth.

Town Hall

Katie Bowman is a senior program officer with the Board on Health Sciences Policy and co-director of the ongoing study Newborn Screening: Current Landscape and Future Directions. She directs the Forum on Traumatic Brain Injury and served as director of the report Traumatic Brain Injury: A Roadmap for Accelerating Progress (2022). Her activities often focus on the implications of developments in science and technology, including Toward Equitable Innovation in Health and Medicine: A Framework (2023), Heritable Human Genome Editing (2020) with colleagues at The Royal Society, and a recent workshop on scientific, ethical, and regulatory implications of stem cell-derived human gametes. Bowman also takes part in activities that explore advances in science and their potential impacts for biological and chemical security, including Biodefense in the Age of Synthetic Biology (2018). She received her Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Mike Imperiale is the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Michigan. He previously served as Associate Vice President for Research – Research Policy and Compliance from 2017 to 2022 and as an Editor of the Journal of Virology, PLoS Pathogens, and mBio. He is currently Founding Editor-in-Chief of mSphere.

Imperiale's research interests focused on the study of DNA tumor viruses. He was an inaugural member of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity from 2005 to 2014; served on the Planetary Protection Subcommittee at NASA; and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Van Andel Institute Graduate School. In 2009, he was the recipient of the University of Michigan Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award and in 2016 he received the Rackham Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award. He was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology in 2010 and as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2011. Imperiale received a Ph.D. in biological sciences from Columbia University. He previously served as the chair of the National Academies Committee on Strategies for Identifying and Addressing Potential Biodefense Vulnerabilities Posed by Synthetic Biology, the co-chair of the Committee on Assessing and Navigating Biosecurity Concerns and Benefits of Artificial Intelligence Use in the Life Sciences, and as a member of the Committee on Science, Technology, and Law.

Rocco Casagrande serves as a Managing Director at Deloitte Consulting. Prior to Deloitte, he was the founder and Managing Director for Gryphon Scientific. Trained as a biochemist (receiving a PhD from MIT in 2001), Dr. Casagrande has spent the past 20 years applying his deep scientific expertise with novel methodologies to minimize risks arising from the intentional or accidental misuse of biotechnologies. In 2002-2003, he served as a United Nation's biological weapons inspector in pre-war Iraq. He has also led, as Principal Investigator, dozens of projects for the US Federal Government to develop better systems to reduce biorisks. These projects include the systems study underpinning HHS's Screening Framework Guidance for Providers of Synthetic Double Stranded DNA, the risk assessments detailing needed biorisk management elements at the National Bio- and Agrodefense Facility, and the Risk and Benefit Assessment of Gain of Function Research. Recently, Dr. Casagrande has focused on transforming biosafety from art to science, hoping to prevent accidents that could imperil global health. He also co-chairs the National Academies Standing Committee on Advances and National Security Implications of Transdisciplinary Biotechnology.

Julie E. Fischer is a global health security and biosecurity professional with more than two decades of experience forging collaborations with a broad range of partners to understand and address biological threats. Dr. Fischer served as the first Technical Director for Global Health at CRDF Global from 2020-2024, establishing a multidisciplinary, multi-country team to support the mission of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to strengthen partner capacities to prevent, detect, and respond rapidly to emerging disease threats. Previously, she served as Director of the Elizabeth R. Griffin Program (ERGP) and an Associate Research Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Georgetown University, working with researchers, experts and funding partners to promote local, sustainable, and evidence-based biological risk management practices for life sciences and diagnostic laboratories. Before she joined Georgetown, Dr. Fischer led global health security programs in the Department of Health Policy and Management at George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health and at the Stimson Center. Dr. Fischer has served as a member of the Board of Scientific Counselors for the CDC Office of Readiness and Response; the US Department of State's International Security Advisory Board (ISAB); and the Board of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) Consortium, a voluntary alliance of non-governmental entities dedicated to promoting values of collaboration, excellence, innovation, and commitment to achieve a world safe and secure from infectious disease threats.

Dr. Fischer is a former Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow and American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Congressional Science & Technology Fellow. Dr. Fischer received a PhD in microbiology and immunology from Vanderbilt University and completed postdoctoral training at the University of Washington and the Seattle Biomedical Research Institute.

Maria J. Espona, Biologist (1994), Master in Terrorism Studies (2013) and Doctor in Criminology (2019). Currently, she is doing postdoc research at the University of Liege on biological weapons and disease surveillance from the One Health perspective research. She is a professor at universities in Argentina, Georgia and Peru on Information Quality, CBRN export control and dual-use and responsible use of data. She also participates as SME in several projects on biorisk management and export control, among other topics, in Latin America and other regions. She is South America's EU P2P Regional Coordinator and works with SCK-CEN on an export control-related project. In the past, she participated in EU-funded projects on CBRN and export control of dual-use goods and technologies. She is a member of the WHO's Technical Advisory Group on the Responsible Use of the Life Sciences and Dual-Use Research (TAG-RULS DUR). She is the Director ArgIQ, Argentina Information Quality.