FORUM OVERVIEW

Presented by Science & Technology Australia in partnership with the HC Coombs Policy Forum, ANU

Science meets Policymakers

Friday 24 February 2012  8.30am – 5.00pm

The Shine Dome  Australian Academy of Science, McCoy Circuit, Acton, ACT

Context

Science meets Policymakers will, for the first time, bring together academics from a range of disciplines and policymakers from various government departments to take a closer look at the intersection between the evidence base and policy processes.

The aim of the Science meets Policymakers forum is to shape a forward agenda between the research community and government that will allow us to move beyond identifying the need to improve evidence-based policy development and focus on what we need to do to achieve it. This event will inform and enable policymakers and scientists, as well as improve science communication.

Intended participants include policymakers, academics, practicing scientists, representatives from scientific societies and from industries employing scientists, and science communicators.

To deliver this event, Science & Technology Australia is proud to partner with the HC Coombs Policy Forum at The Australian National University (ANU).

Presenting partners

The HC Coombs Policy Forum is the ‘think-tank’ arm of the Australian National Institute of Public Policy (ANIPP) - a strategic collaboration between the Australian Government and the ANU.

The HC Coombs Policy Forum employs a range of mechanisms to strengthen constructive relationships between the research community and government, translating a wide variety of relevant research in practical ways to contribute to the crafting of innovative policy solutions.

Science & Technology Australia is Australia’s peak body for science and technology. Since 1985 it has grown to become a respected voice for scientists among politicians, business leaders and the wider community, representing more than 68,000 scientists and technologists working across all scientific disciplines and employed in a range of industries. Science & Technology Australia seeks to: encourage scientific dialogue between government, the science and technology community, and industry; promote public understanding of science; and foster close relationships between scientific societies.

RSVP

Registration is FREE. Please note numbers are limited.

Please register online by Friday 3 February 2012 at http://sciencemeetspolicymakers.eventbrite.com

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DRAFT PROGRAM

8.30 Registration and arrival tea and coffee

9am Welcome - Professor Michael Holland, President, Science & Technology Australia

9.10 Ministerial Address (TBC)

9.30 Keynote Address - Professor Nina Fedoroff, President, American Association for the Advancement of Science

10.40 Morning Tea

11am Address - Professor Ian Chubb AO, Chief Scientist (TBC)

11.30 Leadership from Government and the Research Sector
Moderator: Dr Mark Matthews, Executive Director, Strategy, Australian National Institute of Public Policy, ANU

PANELISTS
Ms Patricia Kelly, Deputy Secretary, Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and Chair, Steering Committee of the APS 200 Project ‘Place of Science in Policy Development in the Public Service’
Professor Ian Young, Vice-Chancellor, ANU
Mr Mike Whelan, Deputy Chief Executive, CSIRO

1pm Networking Lunch

2pm When Science meets Policy: success, failures, limitations and enablers
What role should scientists have in policy development?
What forms of knowledge are required?
What are the opportunities and limitations of evidence-based policy?
Moderator: Wilson De Silva (TBC)

PANELISTS
Mr Gary Banks AO, Chairman, Productivity Commission
Professor Bruce Chapman, Director - Policy Impact, Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU
Professor Linda Botterill, Professor in Australian Public Policy, Canberra University
Dr Neil McKenzie, Chief, Division of Land and Water, CSIRO

4pm Afternoon Tea

4.30 Agreement on three to five actions at the interface between the research community and Government that can be progressed to improve evidence-based policy.
Facilitator: Professor Michael Holland, President, Science & Technology Australia

5pm Conclusion of Forum