

Clustering for Twenty-first Century Prosperity



The National Academies
Washington DC
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Charles W. Wessner, Ph.D.
The National Academies

Welcome to the National Academies



- **National Academy of Sciences**
 - Chartered by Congress in 1863
 - A self-perpetuating Honorary Society
- **National Research Council (1916)**
 - The Operating Arm of the National Academies
- **National Academy of Engineering (1964)**
- **Institute of Medicine (1970)**

Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy (STEP)

- The mandate of the STEP Board is to:
 - Integrate understanding of scientific, technological, and economic elements
 - Formulate national policies affecting the economic well-being of the United States.
- STEP studies identify means of:
 - Accelerating innovation
 - Advancing competitiveness and
 - Improving our understanding of the nation's economic performance and of other nations' policies and practices

STEP's Innovation Work Includes

- Best Practice in Public-Private Partnerships: Guidance on What Works
 - Chaired by Gordon Moore, Chairman Emeritus, Intel
- Innovation in Global Industries
 - Chaired by David Morgenthaler, Morgenthaler Ventures
- Patents in the Knowledge Based Economy
 - Chaired by Richard Levin, Yale University & Mark Myers, University of Pennsylvania

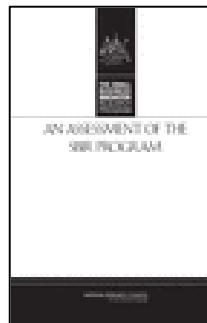
STEP's Current Innovation Work

- Comparative National Innovation Policies: Best Practice for the 21st Century
 - Chaired by Ambassador Alan Wm. Wolff, Dewey & LeBoeuf, Former Deputy USTR
- Best Practices in State and Regional Programs
 - Chaired by Mary Good, University of Arkansas, Former Under Secretary for Technology at the Department of Commerce
- Crossing the Valley of Death: An Assessment of the SBIR Program
 - Chaired by Jacques Gansler, University of Maryland, and Former Under Secretary for Technology and Acquisition at the Department of Defense

Copies of Recent STEP Reports are Available for Your Use



Innovation Policies for the 21st Century:
Report of a Symposium



An Assessment of the SBIR Program



Understanding Research,
Science and
Technology
Parks:
Global Best
Practice



Government-
Industry
Partnerships
for the
Development
of New
Technologies

STEP Reports Address Today's Innovation Imperative



The Global Innovation Imperative

- Key Points
 - **Innovation** is Widely Recognized as Key to Growing and Maintaining a Country's Competitive Position in the Global Economy and to address Global Challenges
 - **Collaboration** is Essential for Innovation as Small and Large Businesses, Universities, and Research Institutes Contribute to Regional Growth and Job Creation
 - **New Institutions and New Incentives**, are increasingly important to foster innovation and collaboration

New Global Focus on Innovation Clusters



The U.S. Understands the Need for a Greater Federal Role in Fostering Regional Innovation Clusters

“Regional industry clusters represent a potent source of productivity at a moment of national vulnerability to global economic competition.”

Karen Mills, “Clusters and Competitiveness” (Brookings, 2008)

Today's Symposium: How Can We Best Develop Clusters

- This meeting is a key part of STEP's work on Best Practice in State and Regional Innovation Policies
- Today, we hope to:
 - Learn about the government's new initiatives in stimulating clusters
 - Explore role of universities and foundations in their development.
 - Study specific strategies in place around the country and around the world
 - Highlight institutions and programs that can be leveraged now to grow and sustain clusters

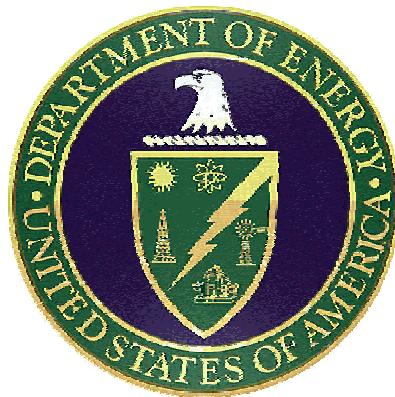
We Look Forward to a Lively and Constructive Discussion

- We thank our distinguished speakers, moderators, and participants for their willingness to join us today—some of whom have come a long way.
- We also welcome your participation in this meeting.
 - Your interventions can be a valuable contribution to state and national policy.

Today's Symposium is Organized in cooperation with The Association of University Research Parks



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Their collective efforts and your participation
make this conference possible

It is now my pleasure
to introduce
Dr. Mary Good



Donaghey University Professor and Dean,
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

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