



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Committee on Science, Technology, and Law

Roundtable Discussion on the Development of a Science Course for Professional Schools

The National Academies' Keck Center
Room 206
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
12 January 2012

9:30

Continental Breakfast

10:00

Welcome and Introduction

Co-Chairs: Bruce Alberts
 Paul Brest

- Why This Enterprise is Important
- Science Education in General
- The National Academies' Science Education Efforts in General
- Specific CSTL efforts, including

*Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward
Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence, Third Edition
American Law Institute Discussions on Causation*

- Different Venues in Which Science and Technology Are Critical to Decision-making
- Why Social Science Should Be Included in this Effort Along with Science and Technology

10:20

Roundtable Discussion

Examples of Science Education

- Paul Brest – Problem Solving and Decision Making
- Steven Goodman – Doctoral Seminars in Epidemiology
- Joe Cecil – The Federal Judicial Center’s Efforts to Educate the Judiciary

Topics for Consideration

- 1) Reasons for an integrative course covering different types of public and private decision-making
- 2) Thoughts on what aspects of the scientific enterprise should be understood by law and public policy students

12:30

Lunch

1:30

Roundtable Discussion

Topics for Consideration

- 1) What do we mean by an integrative course? What are the key characteristics of such a course? What should be the aims of the course?
- 2) Is there a consensus that further effort in developing an integrative course is warranted?
- 3) Does the idea of establishing a working group to develop a proposal for a workshop or other activity make sense?
- 4) What type of activity makes the most sense? A workshop? A study? A collection of best practice and other materials? The creation of a website? Other options?
- 5) Who might fund such endeavors?

3:00

Break

3:15

The Way Forward / Final Thoughts

Co-Chairs: Bruce Alberts
 Paul Brest