

Culture, International Research Agreements, and Collaboration

By James Casey

One of the central factors impacting the successful negotiation of international research agreements and collaboration is *culture*. Recognizing this, the *International Research Collaborations* project (“I-Group”) of the Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable (GUIRR) held its second workshop at the National Academy of Sciences on July 29-31, 2013. The workshop “*Culture Matters: An Approach to International Research Agreements*” brought together a broad range of U.S. Government, higher education, and private sector participants to consider cultural dimensions in this space. The workshop followed the very successful July 2010 workshop “*Examining Core Elements of International Research Collaboration: A Workshop*.”

Bringing together nearly 80 participants, the workshop encompassed four tracks and examined their relationships with culture, research, and agreements: 1) People/Human Subjects; 2) Environment and Natural Resources; 3) Science, Engineering, and Manufacturing (SEM); and 4) Agriculture and Animal Issues.



(L to R) Pat Schlesinger, UC Berkeley, Bob Hardy, COGR, and Jim Casey, UNC – Chapel Hill



NCURA members Pat Schlesinger, John Carfora, and Jim Casey moderated plenary sessions centered on wealthy vs. poor underdeveloped countries, urbanization/ecological sustainability/social resilience, and intellectual property, respectively. Participants were highly energized, the discussions were vigorous, and participants are looking forward to future follow-on activities. **N**

If you would like to further explore materials from the 2013 and the 2010 workshops, please visit http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/guirr/PGA_050827#culture



James Casey is a research manager and attorney based in San Antonio, TX. A member of the July 2013 planning committee, he co-chaired the SEM break out group and moderated the IP plenary. He was co-chair of the July 2010 workshop. An attorney since 1990 and a member of NCURA since 1995, he is a member of the NCURA Board of Directors, the Education Scholarship Fund Task Force, and is the former Senior Editor of NCURA Magazine. He teaches in the Rush University M.S. in Research Administration Program. This article and any opinions present herein are solely those of the author and do not represent the positions of I-Group, GUIRR, or the National Academies. He can be reached at lawrev@hotmail.com

