Guest

Our distinguished guests for this 2nd science breakfast were Sharon L. Hays and Richard M. Russell, associate directors of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). They presented a speech on: "US budget priorities for S&T in FY’08".

Biography

Richard M. Russell was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in August 2002 as Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. In that capacity he is OSTP’s Deputy Director for Technology. In addition to his role at OSTP, Mr. Russell serves as the Senior Director for Technology and Telecommunications for the National Economic Council. He has also been selected by the President to be the U.S. Ambassador to the 2007 World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC) in Geneva, Switzerland.

Prior to being chosen by the President for his current positions, Mr. Russell served as OSTP’s Chief of Staff. Mr. Russell also worked on the Presidential Transition Teams for the Department of Commerce, National Science Foundation and OSTP.

From 1995-2001, Mr. Russell worked for the House of Representatives Committee on Science and has a strong background in technology policy. The Committee has oversight responsibilities for all Federal civilian research and development and authorizing responsibilities for most civilian science and technology programs. During his time on the Committee, Mr. Russell was charged with overseeing the Committee’s technology policy, coordinating its oversight agenda, and helping manage the Committee’s majority staff. He was promoted to staff director for the Subcommittee on Technology and finally to deputy chief of staff for the full Committee.

He also directed the Washington office of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA). ACWA is a non-profit association representing 400 public water agencies responsible for delivering 90 percent of California’s domestic and agricultural water.

Mr. Russell began his career in Washington, D.C. as a research fellow for the Conservation Foundation. He also worked for Congressman Curt Weldon (R-Penn.) and Senator John Seymour (R-Calif.). In 1988 he earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Yale University.

Sharon L. Hays was confirmed by the Senate as Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) in the Executive Office of the President in late September, 2006. In this role, she serves as the OSTP Director’s Deputy for Science. Dr. Hays has been at OSTP since mid-2002, serving first in OSTP’s Technology Division, and later as the Chief of Staff.

Before coming to OSTP, Dr. Hays was the Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Research of the U.S. House
of Representatives' Committee on Science from the beginning of the 107th Congress until August 2002. Prior to her promotion to Staff Director, Dr. Hays worked as a professional staff member, first for the Basic Research Subcommittee and subsequently for the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics. She first joined the Science Committee's staff in mid-1999.

Dr. Hays served as an American Association for the Advancement of Science Congressional Science Fellow in the office of Representative Vernon Ehlers between 1997 and 1999. In this capacity she has contributed to the Science Committee report entitled Unlocking Our Future: Toward a New National Science Policy.

Before coming to Capitol Hill, Dr. Hays worked as a research assistant at the University of Southern California and then attended graduate school in biochemistry at Stanford University, where she studied in the laboratory of Nobel Laureate Paul Berg and received her Ph.D. in 1997. Dr. Hays also holds a B.A. in Molecular Biology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Documents

No documents are available for this event.