



*ARS International
Research
Seminar Series*

Seminar Announcement

Monday, March 6, 2006 ♦ 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
GWCC ♦ 5601 Sunnyside Ave, Beltsville, MD 20705
Conference Room 4-2223

Mr. George Dragnich
Director, Office of Science and Technology Cooperation (OES/STC), U.S. Department of State

“The Importance of International Scientific and Technological Cooperation”

George Dragnich directs the Office of Science and Technology Cooperation in the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Oceans, and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. His office negotiates and administers bilateral and regional science and technology (S&T) agreements and fosters scientific and technological cooperation around the globe on behalf of the United States. Accordingly, Mr. Dragnich serves as the U.S. Executive Secretary on the U.S.-China Joint Commission for S&T cooperation, the U.S. co-chair of the U.S.-Egyptian Joint Science Board, and a board member of the U.S.-Israel Binational Science Forum and the U.S.-Israel Binational Industrial Research & Development Foundation. Previously, Mr. Dragnich headed the Office of Bilateral International Communications & Information Policy in the Bureau of Economic & Business Affairs. Mr. Dragnich returned to Washington in 2002 from the U.S. Embassy in London, where he served as deputy of the Embassy’s economic section. A member of the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister-Counselor, Mr. Dragnich is a 30-year veteran of the State Department, with previous postings in Algeria, Australia, Egypt, Israel, Kenya, Malawi, the UK, and Zambia. Mr. Dragnich was a defense analyst at the Center for Naval Analyses before joining the State Department in 1975. Hailing from Nashville, Tennessee, he graduated from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, and earned a Masters degree in Middle East studies from Georgetown University in Washington, DC. An Eagle Scout, he remains active in the Scouting movement and instructs the Citizenship in the World merit badge every year.

On Wednesday, March 6, 2006, George Dragnich will discuss the impact and importance of international cooperation in science and technology beyond its immediate benefits to the scientific world. Scientific and technological cooperation across borders is indubitably useful for U.S. scientists as they seek to address global problems, gain access to the optimal regions of the world for specific research (such as the Antarctic), and augment human capital and scientific capabilities; however, the benefits to international cooperation in science and technology do not end at the laboratory door. In fact, international scientific and technological cooperation has the capacity to further U.S. foreign policy objectives in a variety of areas, from fostering dialogue between countries in conflict to advancing free trade. Mr. Dragnich will cite some recent examples illustrating the role of scientific cooperation in foreign policy and will explain what drives U.S. foreign policy in relation to science and technology.



(Presentation includes Question and Discussion Time)

Please RSVP to Kendra Jenkins at 301-504-4542, fax: 301-504-4528, or email: kendra.jenkins@nps.ars.usda.gov
5601 Sunnyside Ave, Bldg. 4-1139, Beltsville, MD 20705