



Dupont Summit 2016

Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy

December 2, Historic Whittemore House, Washington, DC

Panel

“STEM and Diplomacy: Bridging the Digital and Knowledge Divides”

This panel will examine aspects of the digital and knowledge divides in terms of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and diplomacy. In particular, the digital divide in this regard refers to differences in information and communications technologies (ICT) access and usage within social systems and among nation-states. The knowledge divide specifies the differences in the access and use of related knowledge in global, national, and regional contexts. Like other forms of power, access to education, skills, and ICT capabilities and opportunities are variably distributed throughout political, social, and cultural systems, with important consequences not only for the wellbeing of individuals and groups, but also for the stability and prosperity of nation-states. Understanding such issues in reference to knowledge distribution and access to ICT capabilities requires consideration of multiple interactive dimensions within diverse institutional frames: technological infrastructure, education, culture, polity, economy, and politics. The panel will engage various perspectives on these dimensions to explore the roles that STEM developments and dissemination may play as means for diplomacy in ameliorating digital and knowledge divides across contexts and levels of analysis.

Organizer

Connie L. McNeely, *George Mason University*

Moderator

Jong-on Hahm, *George Washington University*

Panelists

Wenda Bauchspies, *National Science Foundation (U.S.)*

Fahmida N. Chowdhury, *National Science Foundation (U.S.)*

Kevin A. Clark, *George Mason University*

Paul M.A. Baker, *Georgia Institute of Technology*

Erik W. Kuiler, *George Mason University*