

632nd ASRC Seminar

Date: 10:10 ~ Tuesday, May 17

Location: Conference Hall, ASRC bldg.

Speaker: Dr. Samuel Bader
(Argonne National Laboratory)

Title: A Glimpse at U.S. Science Policy

Abstract: Science policy in the United States is the responsibility of many organizations throughout the U.S. federal government. Science policy is a topic at the crossroads of the pursuit of scientific knowledge and the pursuit of the general welfare of the nation. An overview is presented of the historical evolution of U.S. policy with respect to the physical sciences and how it has been driven by the needs of the nation. Historical trends in funding are also presented. Funding levels are of great importance because this how government implements policy. What are the subcategories that encompass research in the physical sciences? How do the two largest funding agencies of physical science in the U.S. – the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy – complement each other? How does the U.S. investment in science compare to that of other countries? From the perspective of scientists, how do we create narratives that capture the attention of policy makers in government? These questions are addressed in the hope that science policy will strive to bring out the best that science has to offer.

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