Presentation of Keynote Speaker

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Biography:

Gerald Epstein is Senior Fellow for Science and Security in the CSIS Homeland Security Program, where he is working on issues including biological weapons threats and tensions between the scientific research and national security communities. He also teaches in the Security Studies Program at Georgetown. He came to CSIS from the Institute for Defense Analyses, where he had been assigned to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. From 1996 to 2001, he worked at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), serving for the last year in a joint appointment as Assistant Director of OSTP for National Security and Senior Director for Science and Technology on the National Security Council staff. From 1983 to 1989 and again from 1991 until its demise in 1995, he was at the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, where he worked on international security topics including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. From 1989 to 1991, he directed a project at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government on the relationship between civil and military technologies. He has also served as visiting lecturer in public and international affairs at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School.

Dr. Epstein is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and of the American Association of the Advancement of Science. He serves on the editorial board for the journal Biosecurity and Bioterrorism, on the Biological Threats Panel of the National Academy of Sciences’ Committee on International Security and Arms Control, and on the National Academies’ Committee on Science, Security, and Prosperity. He is a coauthor of Beyond Spinoff: Military and Commercial Technologies in a Changing World (Harvard Business School Press, 1992). He received S.B. degrees in physics and electrical engineering from MIT and a Ph.D. in physics from the University of California at Berkeley.