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**Speaker** [Dr. Donald M. Burland](#)

**Title** American Science Policy: How the Sausage is Made

**Abstract** The mechanisms by which the Federal Government supports basic scientific research and education can seem to the outsider to be confusing and untidy. Support is spread over a number of agencies including the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy and the National Institutes of Health to name only a few. In this presentation, the history of science funding in the U.S. will be outlined, the mechanisms by which funding is authorized and appropriated by Congress described, and the rationale for Government support of basic research detailed.

**Audience Level** Specialists (highly trained), Chemists, Students, General (nontechnical),

**Categories** General Public  
General Science  
Organic Chemistry  
Science Cafe