

EAGLETON SCIENCE AND POLITICS WORKSHOP

Communicating Science to Politicians and the Public

January 30, 2015

Eagleton Institute of Politics

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

AGENDA

- 9:00 am Coffee
- 9:10 am Welcome Ruth B. Mandel, Ph.D.
Director, Eagleton Institute of Politics
- 9:20 am Introduction Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, M.D.
Professor, Departments of Neuroscience & Cell Biology and
Pediatrics, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
- 9:30 am Remarks Paul A. Offit, M.D.
Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases and Director, Vaccine
Education Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- 10:10 am Q & A
- 10:25 am Break
- 10:35 am Panel Discussion
Moderator: Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, M.D.
Professor, Departments of Neuroscience & Cell Biology and
Pediatrics, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Michael D. Lemonick
Writer at Large
Climate Central

Paul A. Offit, M.D.
Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases and Director, Vaccine
Education Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Dahlia Sokolov, Ph.D.
Democratic Staff Director, Research & Technology Subcommittee
House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
United States House of Representatives
- 11:15 am Plenary Discussion
- 12:00 pm Networking Lunch

ABOUT THE EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

The Eagleton Institute of Politics explores state and national politics through research, education, and public service, linking the study of politics with its day-to-day practice. The Institute focuses attention on how the American political system works, how it changes, and how it might work better. For more information, visit eagleton.rutgers.edu.

PROGRAM SUPPORT

The Eagleton Science and Politics Workshop is supported in part by the Rutgers Interdisciplinary Job Opportunities for Biomedical Scientists program, which is funded by a Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training grant from the NIH, and the Rutgers - RWJMS Postdoctoral Career Development Program. Our campus collaborators include the Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities and the Departments of Neuroscience & Cell Biology and Pediatrics at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

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SPEAKER BIOS

EMANUEL DICICCO-BLOOM, M.D.

Professor of Neuroscience & Cell Biology and Pediatrics

Rutgers University/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/departments_institutes/neuroscience/faculty/EmanuelDiCicco-Bloom.html

Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom is a professor of neuroscience & cell biology and pediatrics at Rutgers University and the primary investigator of a laboratory that studies the role of genes and molecular factors in the formation of neurons during mammalian brain development. His laboratory focuses on models of human neurodevelopmental disorders including autism, schizophrenia, and environmental teratogens, and is currently developing a disease model using induced pluripotent stem cells to study the abnormal development of neurons in these disorders. Dr. DiCicco-Bloom serves on several autism and brain disease-related scientific panels including Autism Speaks, the Autism Science Foundation, the Autism Tissue Program, the International Rett Syndrome Foundation, the NIH Developmental Brain Disorders study section, and the Rutgers University Brain Health Institute. He also serves on several neuroscience journal editorial boards. He is currently a counselor with the Society for Neuroscience and has previously served on the Government & Public Affairs Committee, where he worked as an advocate for neuroscience. Dr. DiCicco-Bloom earned his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College.

MICHAEL D. LEMONICK

Writer at Large

Climate Central

<http://www.climatecentral.org/>

Michael D. Lemonick is writer at large at Climate Central, a nonprofit research and journalism organization based in Princeton, New Jersey. Prior to joining Climate Central, he spent nearly 21 years at *Time* magazine, where he wrote more than 50 cover stories on science and the environment, including major pieces about climate change, the Exxon Valdez oil spill, ozone depletion and human impacts on Antarctica. He has also written six books and done freelance writing for *Discover*, *Slate*, *Audubon*, *Scientific American*, *National Geographic*, *Yale E360*, *Newsweek*, and other magazines. He teaches science journalism at Princeton and has also taught at Columbia, Johns Hopkins and New York University. He holds an A.B. in economics from Harvard College and an M.S. in journalism from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

PAUL A. OFFIT, M.D.

Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases and Director, Vaccine Education Center

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

<http://www.chop.edu/>

Paul A. Offit, M.D. is director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia as well as the Maurice R. Hilleman Professor of Vaccinology and a professor of pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Offit is the recipient of many awards including the J. Edmund Bradley Prize for Excellence in Pediatrics from the University of Maryland Medical School, the Young Investigator Award in Vaccine

Development from the Infectious Disease Society of America, and a Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health.

He has published more than 150 papers in medical and scientific journals in the areas of rotavirus-specific immune responses and vaccine safety. He is also the co-inventor of the rotavirus vaccine, RotaTeq, recommended for universal use in infants by the CDC. For this achievement, Dr. Offit received the Luigi Mastroianni and William Osler Awards from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, the Charles Mérieux Award from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, and was honored by Bill and Melinda Gates during the launch of their Foundation's Living Proof Project for global health.

Dr. Offit was a member of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is a founding advisory board member of the Autism Science Foundation and the Foundation for Vaccine Research.

He is also the author of six medical narratives: *The Cutter Incident: How America's First Polio Vaccine Led to Today's Growing Vaccine Crisis* (Yale University Press, 2005); *Vaccinated: One Man's Quest to Defeat the World's Deadliest Diseases* (HarperCollins, 2007), for which he won an award from the American Medical Writers Association; *Autism's False Prophets: Bad Science, Risky Medicine, and the Search for a Cure* (Columbia University Press, 2008); *Deadly Choices: How the Anti-Vaccine Movement Threatens Us All* (Basic Books, 2011), which was selected by Kirkus Reviews and Booklist as one of the best non-fiction books of the year; *Do You Believe in Magic?: The Sense and Nonsense of Alternative Medicine* (HarperCollins, 2013), which won the Robert P. Balles Prize in Critical Thinking from the Center for Skeptical Inquiry and was selected by National Public Radio as one of the best books of 2013; and *Bad Faith: When Religious Belief Clashes with Modern Medicine* (Basic Books, 2015).

DAHLIA SOKOLOV, PH.D.

Democratic Staff Director, Research & Technology Subcommittee

House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, United States House of Representatives

<http://democrats.science.house.gov/>

Dahlia Sokolov, Ph.D. is the Democratic staff director for the Research & Technology Subcommittee of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. In this role, Dr. Sokolov advises committee members on oversight and legislative issues regarding the National Science Foundation; the National Institute of Standards and Technology; interagency R&D initiatives, including the national nanotechnology and information technology programs; STEM education across the federal government; international S&T cooperation; federal policies for university research; all matters relating to competitiveness, technology, standards, and innovation; and R&D at the Departments of Transportation and Homeland Security. During her first two years with the Committee, Sokolov worked on energy issues, including nuclear energy R&D. She joined the committee staff as an American Institute of Physics Congressional fellow in 2004 and joined the professional staff in 2005. She previously served under the leadership of former Chairmen Boehlert and Gordon and is now serving under the leadership of Ranking Member Eddie Bernice Johnson. Before coming to Congress, Dr. Sokolov completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at the National Cancer Institute. She has a Ph.D. in bioengineering from the University of Washington and a B.S. in engineering physics from the University of California at Berkeley.