

Gerald L. Epstein

Gerald L. Epstein has spent forty years working at the intersection of science, technology, and national security, having served in government, academic, and civil society organizations. Originally trained as a physicist, he began his professional career at the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, analyzing technological and policy aspects of topics including ballistic missile defense, antisatellite arms control, fusion energy, defense technology, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Most recently, he has concentrated on the governance of so-called “dual use” life science research and biotechnology.

At Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, he studied the relationship between military and civil technologies and co-authored the book *Beyond Spinoff: Military and Commercial Technologies in a Changing World*. He created and taught courses at Princeton and Georgetown Universities on arms control and nonproliferation and on science, technology, and homeland security. Government positions have included service as a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security and two tours at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy – once in a joint OSTP/NSC appointment as Assistant Director of OSTP for National Security and Senior NSC Director for Science and Technology, and a second as Assistant Director of OSTP for Biosecurity and Emerging Technologies.

He currently serves in advisory positions with the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the RAND Corporation, the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, and the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, where he is a member of the Board on Life Sciences and has served on committees addressing issues including national security export controls, biological threats, and the bioeconomy. He also serves on the editorial boards for the journals *Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology* and *Health Security*. He holds a PhD in Physics from the University of California at Berkeley.