

Speaker Profile



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Mike Roco is the Senior Advisor for Nanotechnology at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and a key architect of the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI). Dr. Roco is credited with thirteen patents and contributed over two hundred articles and sixteen books, including recently "Nanotechnology: Societal Implications" (2006), "Managing Nano-Bio-Info-Cogno Innovations" (2007), and "Mapping Nanotechnology Knowledge and Innovation: Global and Longitudinal Patent and Literature Analysis" (2008). Under his stewardship the nanotechnology federal investment has increased from about \$3 million to \$1.4 billion in 2006. Prior to joining the National Science Foundation, he was a Professor of Mechanical and Chemical Engineering. He is editor for several journals including the Journal of Nanoparticle Research. Dr. Roco is a corresponding member of the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences and member of the International Risk Governance Council. He is a Fellow of ASME, Fellow of AIChE and Fellow of the Institute of Physics, and was elected as Engineer of the Year by the U.S. Society of Professional Engineers and NSF in 1999 and again in 2004. Forbes magazine recognized him in 2003 as the first among "Nanotechnology's Power Brokers" and Scientific American named him one of 2004's top 50 Technology Leaders. He was awarded the National Materials Advancement Award from the Federation of Materials Societies at the National Press Club in December 2007 for NNI leadership and "as the individual most responsible for support and investment in nanotechnology by government, industry, and academia worldwide". Dr. Roco is the founding Chair of the U.S. National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) subcommittee on Nanoscale Science, Engineering and Technology and coordinated the preparation of the reports on "Nanotechnology Research Directions" (NSTC, 1999) and "NNI" (NSTC, 2000).