

## **Cross-Border Responses to Global Challenges: Can Everybody Win?**

*Friday, February 18, 2011: 1:00 PM-2:30 PM  
143AB (Washington Convention Center)*

This session brings together, for the first time, the experience of a world-renowned and world-class educational institution (the Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT]), the reference center in pan-European scientific cooperation for policy-making (the Joint Research Centre [JRC]), and the latest initiative taken by 27 European governments to drive sustainable growth and competitiveness through the stimulation of world-leading innovations (European Institute of Innovation and Technology [EIT]). Speakers will examine the dynamics of what stakes really are at play when so many important decisions on security, education, health, sustainability of the planet, and the exploration of the universe move increasingly from local to national and from regional to global. The focus of the session will be to look at the real-life pros and cons of coordinated, innovative problem-solving across borders through the eyes of organizations tasked with solving the problems. The balance struck between the activities of MIT, JRC, and EIT allows for timely insights into groundbreaking areas of research, new and exciting developments, and cross-cutting activities in support of education, science policy-making, and innovation.

Moderator: **Patrick Cunningham, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland**

Speakers:

**William B. Bonvillian, Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

*The Challenge of Pioneering Knowledge*

Teaching and research - with relevance to the practical world as a guiding principle - continue to be the lifeblood of science. For nearly 150 years, MIT has generated, disseminated and preserved knowledge while working to bring this knowledge to bear on our greatest challenges. This talk will evidence how its departments, divisions, and degree-granting programs, as well as interdisciplinary centers, laboratories and programs are cutting across traditional boundaries and breaking down silos.

**Alan Belward, European Commission, JRC Institute for Environment and Sustainability**

*The Challenge of Formulating and Feeding Scientific Advice into International Policy-*

Half the size of the US but with a population 50% larger and representing 27 countries, the European Union is a system of coordinated, innovative problem-solving. As a reference centre of S&T for the Union, the Joint Research Centre's examines the best available evidence to provide support for the conception,

development, implementation and monitoring of policies. This talk will provide insights into how EU science policy-making is made, often controversially, while assessing global impacts.

**Giovanni Colombo, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)**

*The Challenge of Stimulating World-Leading Innovations*

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is driving European growth and competitiveness by stimulating world-leading innovations. This talk will demonstrate EIT plans capitalise on the innovation capacity of global actors from education, research, business and entrepreneurship. Insights will be given into their business component and international cooperation on climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable energy and future information and communication society.