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Abstract for an Invited Paper  
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**Leo Szilard Lecturship Award: How can physicists help the public make better decisions about science and technology?**

JOEL PRIMACK, University of California, Santa Cruz

For more than 40 years the APS has worked to improve governmental decision-making, mainly through the Congressional Science and Technology Fellowship program and through occasional studies of important science and technology issues. How productive have these been? How can the APS and other professional societies more effectively combat anti-science propaganda and help the public develop better-informed views about science and technology? How can individual scientists communicate scientific concepts in a more understandable and engaging way? How can we encourage young scientists and students to participate in creating a scientifically responsible future?