JOANNE PADRÓN CARNEY
Director, Office of Government Relations
American Association for the Advancement of Science
http://www.aaas.org/person/joanne-padron-carney

Joanne Padrón Carney joined the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 1997 as the director for the Office of Government Relations, formerly the Center for Science, Technology and Congress. She directs all activities of the Center, including production of the newsletter Science and Technology in Congress, organization of workshops, coordination of briefings for congressional leaders and their staff, and preparation of the regional reports on research and development in the states. In addition, she has assisted in various other activities for AAAS’s Science and Policy Programs.

Prior to joining the AAAS staff, Ms. Carney was the head of Government Relations for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) where she followed civil space, civil aeronautics and defense issues for almost ten years. At AIAA Ms. Carney was staff liaison to the AIAA Public Policy Committee, and assisted in the organization of over 16 technical workshops and the preparation of numerous position papers. She also prepared analyses of the NASA budget request as the contribution to the annual AAAS Intersociety Working Group R&D Report.

Ms. Carney holds a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Language and Literature from the University of Maryland at College Park and a Master of Arts in Science, Technology, and Public Policy from the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University.

RUSH D. HOLT
Chief Executive Officer
American Association for the Advancement of Science
http://www.aaas.org/person/rush-d-holt

Rush D. Holt, Ph.D., became the 18th chief executive officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and executive publisher of the Science family of journals in February 2015. In this role, Holt leads the world’s largest multi-disciplinary scientific and engineering society.

Over his long career, Dr. Holt has held positions as a teacher, scientist, administrator, and policymaker. From 1987 to 1998, Holt was assistant director of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL), a Department of Energy national lab, which is the largest research facility of Princeton University and one of the largest alternative energy research facilities in the country. At PPPL, Holt helped establish the lab’s nationally renowned science education program. From 1980 to 1988, Holt served on the faculty of Swarthmore College, where he taught courses in physics and public policy. In 1982, he took leave from Swarthmore to serve as an AAAS/American Physical Society Science and Technology Policy Fellow on Capitol Hill. The Fellowships program, dating to 1973, places outstanding scientists and engineers in executive, legislative, and Congressional branch assignments for one or two years; by
early 2015, the program had served nearly 3,000 alumni working worldwide in the policy, academic, industry, and nonprofit realms. Holt has said that his AAAS S&T Policy Fellowship was "life changing," and served as a springboard to his role in Congress. He also served as an arms control expert at the U.S. State Department, where he monitored the nuclear programs of countries such as Iraq, Iran, North Korea, and the former Soviet Union. In 1981, Holt was issued a patent for an improved solar-pond technology for harnessing energy from sunlight.

Before coming to AAAS, Holt served for 16 years as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing New Jersey's 12th Congressional District. In Congress, Holt served as a senior member of the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Education and the Workforce. On Capitol Hill, Holt established a long track record of advocacy for federal investment in research and development, science education, and innovation. He served on the National Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics and Science (known as the Glenn Commission), founded the Congressional Research and Development Caucus, and served as a co-chair of the Biomedical Research Caucus. Holt served eight years on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and, from 2007 to 2010, chaired the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, which worked to strengthen legislative oversight of the intelligence community. His legislative work earned him numerous accolades, including being named one of Scientific American magazine's "50 National Visionaries Contributing to a Brighter Technological Future" and a "Champion of Science" by the Science Coalition. He has also received awards from the American Chemical Society, the American Association of University Professors, the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students, the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, the Council of Scientific Society Presidents, the American Geophysical Union, and the Biotechnology Industry Organization. Holt is also a past recipient of two of AAAS' highest honors: the William D. Carey Lectureship Award (2005) and the Philip Hauge Abelson Award (2010).

From December 2014 to February 2015, Holt was appointed a Director's Visiting Scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey.

Holt is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and he holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from New York University. He is an elected fellow of AAAS, the American Physical Society, and Sigma Xi, and he holds honorary degrees from Monmouth University, Rider University, and Thomas Edison State College. He is married to Margaret Lancefield, a physician, and they have three children and seven grandchildren.

RUTH B. MANDEL
Director
Eagleton Institute of Politics
http://eagleton.rutgers.edu/facultystaff/mandel.php

Ruth B. Mandel is director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics. During Mandel's tenure as Eagleton director, the Institute has launched new research and education initiatives in youth political engagement, immigrant political behavior, governors and state executive leadership, and ethics in government. Eagleton's education programs for Rutgers graduate and undergraduate students have grown, and the Institute has expanded its state and national outreach and service with visible public programs and social media communications.
As a founder and director of Eagleton’s Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) from 1971 through 1994, Mandel built a national center with multi-faceted research/education/public service and information programs about women’s political participation, a subject previously unexplored. She remains affiliated with CAWP as a senior scholar, teaching and writing about leadership, with emphasis on U.S. women’s political history, women as political candidates and officeholders, women’s political networks, and the "gender gap." Mandel is the author of numerous publications about women’s changing political roles, including In the Running: The New Woman Candidate, the first book-length account of women’s experiences as candidates for political office.

From 1991 to 2006, Mandel held a presidential appointment to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, the governing board of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington, D.C. She was named Vice Chairperson of the Council by President Clinton in 1993 and served in that capacity until 2005. She chaired the task group charged with proposing a governing structure for the new Museum and also led the process to create the Museum’s Committee on Conscience, which was established in 1996 with Mandel as its founding chair. Currently, she serves as a public member of the Museum’s Education Committee and its Committee on Conscience.

In 2009, Mandel completed two terms on the board of the Charles H. Revson Foundation. In 2012, she joined the board of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, where she is a member of its Executive Committee and chairs the governance committee. Among other honors, Mandel has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Public Service by Chatham College and an honorary Doctor of Public Administration by Georgian Court University.

JOHN WEINGART  
Associate Director  
Eagleton Institute of Politics  
http://eagleton.rutgers.edu/facultystaff/weingart.php

John Weingart has been associate director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University since 2000. While at Eagleton, he served as the gubernatorially-appointed inaugural chair of the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council, leading the Council through its first hundred-plus public meetings and hearings to the adoption of a comprehensive regional land use plan covering parts of 88 municipalities in seven counties.

Weingart directs Eagleton’s Center on the American Governor and Arthur J. Holland Ethics in Government Program. He also oversees the graduate Eagleton Fellowship Program and Undergraduate Associates Program in which he teaches the capstone course. His interests include public policy for issues involving considerations of risk, public participation in government, and, more generally, the vitality of the infrastructure of government. He also writes columns and is a frequently quoted source in media reports on politics, government and public policy.

Weingart’s prior extensive experience in government includes work – primarily on environmental and land use issues - during the administrations of two Democratic and two Republican governors. His accomplishments include helping to write and implement New Jersey’s coastal zone management program and Hudson River Walkway Plan, and directing a state commission’s unusual public process encouraging municipalities to consider volunteering to host a disposal facility for low-level radioactive waste. He also had a brief stint setting up and directing U.S. Representative Rush Holt’s district office.

On Sunday evenings, Weingart hosts *Music You Can’t Hear On The Radio*, New Jersey’s premiere radio program of folk music, bluegrass and other American roots music, broadcast live on WPRB-FM and WPRB.com. Weingart holds a B.A. in Sociology from Brandeis University and a Master’s in Public Affairs from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School. He and his wife, Deborah Spitalnik, live in Hunterdon County, New Jersey.