



July 11, 2019
58 E 68th St, New York, NY 10065

A Manhattan Project for Biodefense: Taking Biological Threats Off the Table

OBJECTIVE

Inform Panel deliberations on how best to create a national, public-private research and development undertaking to defend the United States against biological threats.

SCHEDULE

9:00 – 9:15 am **Opening Remarks**

9:15 – 10:15 am **Panel One – Case Study: Pursuit of Universal Influenza Vaccine**
Federal and military officials, and an academic representative, discuss efforts to develop universal influenza vaccine, the challenges associated with science and funding, arguments for and against such an approach, and what it will take to get it across the finish line.

Alan Embry, PhD

Chief, Respiratory Diseases Branch, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health

Blake Bextine, PhD, MA

Acting Deputy Director, Biological Technologies Office, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

Ren Sun, PhD

Distinguished Professor, Molecular & Medical Pharmacology and Bioengineering; Associate Dean for Postdoctoral Affairs, David Geffen School of Medicine; Associate Vice Provost for Internationalization, University of California Los Angeles

10:15 – 11:15 am **Panel Two – Local View on Biological Threats and Requirements**
Representatives from the New York City departments of police, health and transit discuss the biological threat from their perspective, what they need to defend against it, challenges in interacting with the federal government to achieve adequate biodefense of New York City, and requirements they believe should be addressed by a Manhattan Project for Biodefense.

John O’Connell

Deputy Chief and Commanding Officer of the Counterterrorism Division, New York City Police Department

Beth Maldin Morgenthau, MPH

Deputy Commissioner, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Michael Gemelli

Manager, Environmental Monitoring and Emergency Response, Counterterrorism and Security Initiatives, New York City Transit Department of Security

11:15 – 11:30 am Break

11:30 – 12:30 pm Panel Three – Federal and Military Contributions

Representatives from federal and military agencies discuss cutting edge biodefense research, challenges associated with this research, and requirements for what they would consider a Manhattan Project for Biodefense.

Robert P. Kadlec, MD, MTM&H, MS (Colonel U.S. Airforce – Retired)

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Deydre S. Teyhen, PhD, DPT, OCS (Colonel U.S. Army)

Commander, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Medical Research and Materiel Command, U.S. Army

12:30 – 1:00 pm Break to gather lunch

1:00 – 1:45 pm Luncheon Keynote – Graphic History of Germ Warfare

Scholar and New York Times best-selling author provides historical perspective on biological warfare and bioterrorism, discusses the need for a Manhattan Project for Biodefense, and addresses the value of pop culture as a tool to educate and inform the public, government, and the private sector.

Max Brooks

Nonresident Fellow, Modern War Institute at West Point; Nonresident Fellow, Brent Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security, Atlantic Council; Author, World War Z, The Zombie Survival Guide, The Harlem Hellfighters, and Germ Warfare: A Very Graphic History

1:45 – 2:00 pm Break

2:00 – 3:15 pm Panel Four – Non-Federal Contributions

Private sector representatives discuss needs, resource requirements, and business risks associated with their research contributions to the national biodefense enterprise and potential contributions to a Manhattan Project for Biodefense.

Monique K. Mansoura, PhD, MBA

Executive Director, Global Health Security and Biotechnology, The MITRE Corporation

Patricia Falcone, PhD, MS

Deputy Director for Science and Technology, Lawrence Livermore National

Laboratory

Akhila Kosaraju, MD

President and Co-Founder, Variant Bio; former Vice President for Global Development, SIGA Technologies; former Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Department of Defense

3:15 – 3:30 pm

Closing Remarks and Adjourn