

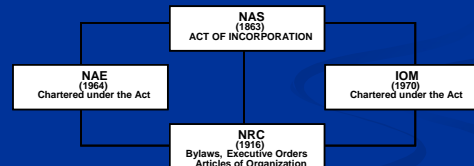
The National Academies' Role in Government Information

Stephen Godwin
Transportation Research Board
of the National Academies

Special Libraries Association, June 15, 2009

The National Academies

THE NAS, NAE, IOM & NRC



Purposes

- o To advance science and technology
- o To advise government
 - On policy for advancing science, engineering and medicine
 - On applications of science, engineering, and medicine to policy issues

Major Program Units

- Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education
- Earth and Life Studies
- Engineering and Physical Sciences
- Institute of Medicine Programs
- Policy and Global Affairs Division
- Transportation Research Board

Methods of Operation

- Consensus Studies of Expert Committees
- Convening Activities
 - Workshops
 - Roundtables
- Operational Programs
 - Fellowship Programs
 - Managed Research
 - Education and Training
 - Databases

Consensus Studies

- Conducted by committee of experts;
- Members serve *pro bono*;
- Ability to get the very best to serve;
- Seek consensus judgments of balance panel of experts;
- Rigorous peer review process;
- Independence from government.

Example Titles, 1

- *Guidelines for Embryonic Stem Cell Research*
- *Climate Change Science: An Analysis of some Key Questions*
- *Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Future*
- *To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health Care System*
- *Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward*

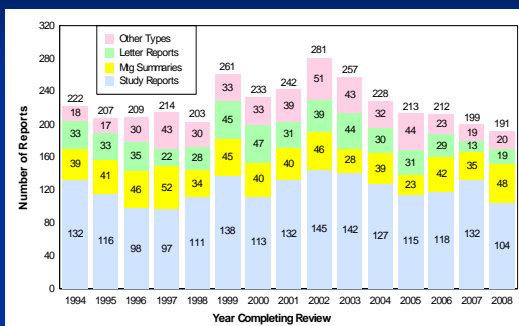
Example Titles, 2

- *Emerging Technologies to Benefit Farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia*
- *Gender Differences in Critical Transitions in Careers in Science, Engineering and Mathematics Faculty*
- *Re-Engineering the 2010 Census: Risks and Challenges*
- *The New Orleans Hurricane Protection System: Assessing Pre-Katrina Vulnerability and Improving Mitigation and Preparedness*

Example Titles, 3

- *Review of DOE's Nuclear Energy R&D Program*
- *Acute Exposure Guidelines for Selected Airborne Chemicals*
- *Estimating Mortality Risk Reduction and Economic Benefits from Controlling Ozone Air Pollution*
- *Potential Impacts of Climate Change on U.S. Transportation*

Number of Study Reports and Other Documents Produced Each Year, 1994-2008



Examples of Big Impacts

- *Stem Cell Guidelines* affected NIH's proposed ethical requirements for stem cell research.
- Federal CAFE Standards revised based on 2001 report.
- Congressional and administration commitments to NSF funding and science education based on *Gathering Storm*.
- Revamping of hospital procedures, medical education, resident duty hours per *To Err is Human*.

Impact Depends on Audience

- *Climate Change Science: An Analysis of some Key Questions*
- *Great Lakes Shipping, Trade, and Aquatic Species*
- *Does the Built Environment Influence Physical Activity?*

More Typical Impacts

- Legislation passed requiring new consumer information about role of tires in fuel economy
- Improved risk-based guidance to local governments regarding zoning for residential development near high-pressure gas transmission lines
- Congressional authorization of targeted research program to address highway safety, reliability, renewal

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Increasing Capacity for Stewardship of Oceans and Coasts: A Priority for the 21st Century (2006)
Ocean Studies Board (OSB)

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SUMMARY

The rapid decline of many ocean and coastal ecosystems and the global implications of current trends in oceans and along coasts have captured the attention of governments, national and international organizations, and many private organizations. A wide variety of projects, programs, and international conventions include capacity-building to strengthen the effectiveness of ocean and coastal governance and increase awareness of the benefits of maintaining ecosystem goods and services. Capacity-building, however, is not usually the primary focus. Capacity-building efforts typically are fragmented, with standards for monitoring and evaluation, and are planned for too short a period to achieve and sustain effective ocean and coastal management.

WHAT IS CAPACITY-BUILDING?

Capacity-building describes programs designed to strengthen the knowledge, relationships, and values that enable organizations, groups, or individuals to reach their goals for sustainable use of ocean and coasts resources. To include strengthening the institutions, processes, system rules that influence collective and individual behavior and performance related endeavors. Capacity-building also enhances people's ability to informed choices and fosters their willingness to play new development and adapt to new challenges. Capacity is about more than substance; it harnesses potential through robust programs to make progress in addressing societal needs and is fundamental to fostering environmental stewardship, improving the management of ocean and coastal areas and resources.

full text of every page of every report

Transportation Research Board

- Annual Meeting, Conferences, Workshops
- Cooperative Research Programs: Highways, Transit, Airports, Freight, Hazmat Transport
- Consensus Policy Studies
- Strategic Highway Research Program
- Bibliographic Databases (TRIS Online, RIP, Publication Index)

TRB Products

- Consensus Policy Study Reports
- Journal – Transportation Research Record
- Cooperative Research Technical Reports
- Workshop and Conference Reports
- TRIS Bibliographic Database
- TRB Website – TRB.org
- eNewsletter

TRB TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD
(a part of the National Academies)

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Announcements

- 107 2014 TRB 99th Annual Meeting and Transportation Research Record Calls for Papers

Recent Publications

- 107 Transportation, Energy, and Climate Change: Highlights from TRB's 2008 Annual Meeting
- 107 Guidance for Identifying and Mitigating Approach Lighting System Hazards
- 107 Contractor's Field Report for AASHTO's 2012 Guidance for Identifying and Mitigating Approach Lighting System Hazards
- 107 The Early Implications of Planning the Nation's Surface Transportation System
- 107 Consistency of Highway Quality Assurance Terms
- 107 Understanding the Results of the Second Strategic Highway Research Program: Safety/Life/Reliability/Congestion/Improving Quality of Life
- 107 SHRP-2 Project Staff Performance Measurement Framework for Highway Capacity Decision Making
- 107 A Guidebook for the Evaluation of Project Delivery Methods
- 107 Evaluation of Project Delivery Methods
- 107 Preparing Collaborative Transportation Plans: A Guidebook for State Departments of Transportation

TRB News

- 107 TRB Webinar: Defining and Measuring Bridge Performance
- 107 Consensus on Safety and Stability of Concrete Roadways: Pedestrians, Motorcycles, and Bicycles
- 107 TRB Webinar: Risk Management in Public-Private Partnerships
- 107 TRB: Signal Systems Committee Meeting

Requests for Information

- 107 SHRP-2 Project Staff Performance Measurement Framework for Highway Capacity Decision Making
- 107 TRB Webinar: Defining and Measuring Bridge Performance
- 107 TRB Webinar: Risk Management in Public-Private Partnerships
- 107 TRB Webinar: Signal Systems Committee Meeting

