

## **Congressional Briefing Application**

The Congressional R&D Caucus briefings highlight the importance of research and development, and illuminate the interdependency of research efforts across disciplines to our nation's future. The Caucus informs Members of Congress and their staff about the various benefits of investment in research and development, including economic, educational, and innovative benefits.

In that vein, applicants for an R & D Caucus event are asked to consider the goal of informing Members of Congress and their staff of the benefits of R & D investment and to connect the briefing to the issues and policies that are currently being discussed on Capitol Hill. There are various web sites which can inform you on the issues before Congress, such as [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov), or contact the government liaison or governmental affairs office of the sponsoring society for assistance.

One of the most important aspects of a successful briefing is to have an engaging, informed speaker who creates an atmosphere of open exchange through their skilled public speaking.

If your organization is interested in sponsoring a briefing for the R&D Caucus, please fill out the attached form and fax it to Kathryn Holmes at 202/429-9417 - or email the form to [holmesk@asme.org](mailto:holmesk@asme.org). Your application will be submitted to the R&D Caucus for consideration.

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### ***Sponsoring Society***

1. Sponsoring Society:
2. Cosponsors (if any)
  - a)
  - b)
3. Contact Name:  
Address:  
Email:  
Phone:  
FAX:

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### ***Briefing Topic and Speakers (please limit to two-three speakers)***

4. Proposed briefing topic/theme (try to be as specific as possible, for example, "The benefits of Chemistry" is a bit broad; "Benefits of chemistry for the environment" or "Highlights of the Benefits of Green Chemistry" are better. You are not committing to a title here but informing the Caucus about the topic only)
5. Brief description/explanation of topic/theme that can be shared with a non-scientific person
6. Proposed briefing date (month): See 2005 briefings schedule at <http://www.researchcaucus.org/schedule/default.asp> to identify available months.

7. R&D elements that would be addressed and the issues on Capitol Hill that connect to the proposed elements

8. Proposed Speakers (List speakers if possible): Name, Title/Position, Institution, and Discipline.

When selecting a speaker, please consider carefully their ability to communicate complicated scientific and technical concepts and the associated R & D and its outcomes to a generally *non-scientific* audience.

The success of the briefing depends on the speaker in many ways. Unsuccessful speakers speak down to the audience, are not open to questions, and intimidating/arrogant. The audience is full of very smart people, just not necessarily all science, technology, engineering, and mathematics professionals or students.

The R & D Caucus prefers an atmosphere where all questions can be answered without a condescending air, but with the attitude that questions illuminate what you can

This may be the one time you get the attention of Members and staff and everything about your briefing sends a message with that Member or the staffer.

Speaker 1)  
Speaker 2)  
Speaker 3)

9. Please elaborate on your reasons for proposing these speakers (i.e. address both their public speaking skills and research; attach bio's if available.)