

Invited Speakers

Industry – University Partnerships October 28th 2009



DENIS O. GRAY, Ph.D.

Denis Gray is Alumni Distinguished Graduate Professor in the Psychology in the Public Interest Program, Department of Psychology, North Carolina State University. Dr. Gray's research focuses on science and technology policy issues, particularly the outcomes and implications of cooperative research centers. For the past twenty years he has led a unique, team-based and multi-faceted evaluation of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) longest-running cooperative research center program, the Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers (IUCRC). He also leads a social science research effort focused on cooperative research processes for the Center for Environmentally Responsible Solvents and Processes, a NSF Science and Technology Center. Dr. Gray has published extensively on academic science and cooperative research. His books include: *Innovation U.: New university roles in a knowledge economy* (co-author); *Managing the industry/university cooperative research center* (Battelle Press) and *Technological innovation: Strategies for a new partnership* (Elsevier) (senior editor). He will co-edit (with Craig Boardman) a forthcoming special issue of the *Journal of Technology Transfer* on cooperative research centers. A native of New York City (and former taxi cab driver), Dr. Gray received his B.S. in Psychology from Manhattan College. He received his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Ecological/Community Psychology from Michigan State University.



MICHAEL S. LEBBY, Ph.D. , D. Eng, MBA

Michael Lebby joined OIDA as Executive Director in 2005 and became its president and CEO in February, 2006. With more than 175 U.S. patents issued in the field of optoelectronics, Lebby has been cited by the USPTO to be in the most prolific 75 inventors in the country from 1988-1997. Lebby's career has spanned all aspects of the optoelectronics business ranging from research and development, operations, manufacturing, and finance, to sales, marketing, and investing. In 1985, Lebby's research took him to AT&T Bell Laboratories, followed in 1989 by a move to Motorola's Phoenix Corporate Research Laboratory in Phoenix, Arizona. Lebby co-founded a market changing datacom product called Optobus™. In August 1998, he joined AMP as a member of the Global Optoelectronics Division's management team, and in 1999, joined Intel as a corporate investor and was responsible for sourcing, negotiating, and closing private placement equity deals in the optical networking, component, and semiconductor arenas. In 2001, Lebby founded a new fiber optics company, Ignis Optics, where he served as the CEO. Ignis Optics was acquired by Bookham Technology (now Oclaro) in October 2003 and Lebby became responsible for corporate and technical strategy at Bookham Technology. In 2005, the IEEE Board of Directors elected Lebby to IEEE Fellow for contributions to optoelectronics technology and in 2007 he became an OSA Fellow for his photonics leadership and contributions to VCSEL technology.