

# WASHINGTON STATE Academy of Sciences

## Science in the Service of Washington State

The Washington State Academy of Sciences (WSAS) provides expert scientific and engineering analysis to inform public policy-making, and works to increase the role and visibility of science in the State of Washington.



### Independence, Objectivity, and Expertise

Authorized by the state legislature in 2005, WSAS is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. Its projects and studies are funded from either private or public sources. Modeled after the operational and funding structure of the National Research Council of the U.S. National Academies, WSAS is free of all outside organizational and partisan affiliations that might limit the independence of its work.

WSAS studies provide objective analysis because they are conducted with systematic rigor by carefully appointed scientific committees. Reports are peer-reviewed by independent reviewers and then approved by the WSAS Board of Directors. Great care is taken that analysis and recommendations are free of bias and partisanship and are insulated from special interests.

WSAS studies are undertaken by specialists in the relevant technical fields who are most qualified to complete the analysis and report its conclusions. WSAS provides the specialized expertise planners and policy-makers need to make informed decisions that serve the public interest.

### Scientific Leadership, National Reputation

The members of the Founding Board of Directors of WSAS, and all the members of the Founding Class, are outstanding leaders in their respective fields. They are all elected members of one or more of the three National Academies—the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. Many of them also have extensive experience on the National Research Council, the research arm of the National Academies.

### Advising Decision-Makers

WSAS provides authoritative scientific analysis on a host of challenging public issues—including, among others, health, transportation, agriculture, energy, biodiversity preservation, biotechnology, climate change, and education. Its reports contain reliable, non-partisan scientific analysis that enables decision-makers to do their job with the best possible scientific and technical information at hand.

WSAS does not recommend policy. It does not accept commissions for studies designed to advocate particular legislation. Its studies and resultant peer-reviewed and board-approved reports provide the basis for informed public discussion and decision.

## WSAS Projects

WSAS serves the State of Washington and its citizens by conducting commissioned studies on specific topics and preparing scientific reports on issues of public importance. Its studies can inform policy decisions, enable new research initiatives, or provide program review and assessment.

Projects may be commissioned by the governor, legislature, state agencies, local governments, or other entities.

Studies are organized to answer carefully defined scientific and technical questions. They are conducted by committees with the appropriate expertise and with balanced perspectives. Reports are peer-reviewed and approved by the WSAS board. As a result, study conclusions provide sponsors with the most authoritative, independent analysis possible.

## How to Commission a Study

For further information on WSAS projects and for questions about how to commission a study, contact Bobbie Berkowitz, WSAS Secretary, or Cyndie Fox, Program Manager.

### **Bobbie Berkowitz**

PhD, RN, FAAN  
bobbieb@u.washington.edu  
206-543-3116

### **Cyndie Fox**

cmfox@u.washington.edu  
206-543-3110

WEBSITE:

[www.washacad.org](http://www.washacad.org)

## Founding Board of Directors

### **Gordon H. Orians** PRESIDENT

University of Washington (EMERITUS)  
*National Academy of Sciences*

### **Anjan Bose**

Washington State University  
*National Academy of Engineering*

### **Maxine Hayes**

Washington State Department  
of Health  
*Institute of Medicine*

### **Guy H. Palmer**

Washington State University  
*Institute of Medicine*

### **Bobbie Berkowitz** SECRETARY

University of Washington  
*Institute of Medicine*

### **Bonnie J. Dunbar**

Museum of Flight  
*National Academy of Engineering*

### **King Holmes**

University of Washington  
*Institute of Medicine*

### **Edward Perrin**

University of Washington  
*Institute of Medicine*

### **R. James Cook** TREASURER

Washington State University  
(EMERITUS)  
*National Academy of Sciences*

### **Harold K. Forsen**

Bechtel Corporation (RETIRED)  
*National Academy of Engineering*

### **Edward D. Lazowska**

University of Washington  
*National Academy of Engineering*

### **Frederick P. Rivara**

University of Washington  
*Institute of Medicine*