

COMMITTEE ON THE U.S. NATURALIZATION TEST REDESIGN WORKSHOP

PERSPECTIVES FROM THE FIELD ON REDESIGNING THE NATURALIZATION TEST

The National Academies
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Auditorium
Washington, D.C.
Wednesday, December 15, 2004

Preliminary AGENDA

- 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Welcome
Barbara Plake, *University of Nebraska, Co-chair of the Committee on the U.S. Naturalization Test Redesign*
Lorraine McDonnell, *University of California-Santa Barbara, Co-chair of the Committee*
Stuart Elliott, *Director of the Board on Testing and Assessment of the National Academies*
- 8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Naturalization Policy and Civic Integration
Eduardo Aguirre, Jr.
Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Keynote Address on Naturalization Policy
T. Alexander Aleinikoff
Dean of the Georgetown University Law Center
- 9:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. Questions and Discussion
Moderated by: **Michael Zuckert**, *University of Notre Dame, Committee Member*
- 9:50 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Purpose and Goals of the Naturalization Process:
National Perspectives
Moderated by **Jane Junn**, *Rutgers University, Committee Member*
Esther Olavarria, *Senate Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship*
Luke Bellocchi, *House Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims*
In addition, a representative from USCIS Washington will serve on the panel.
- 10:45 a.m. – 11:05 a.m. Questions and Discussion
- 11:05 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Strengths and Weaknesses of the Current Naturalization Process: Part I Moderated by Guillermina Jasso , <i>New York University</i> , <i>Committee Member</i> Margie McHugh , <i>New York Immigration Coalition</i> Michele Waslin , <i>National Council of La Raza</i> Mark Yoshida , <i>Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California</i> Matthew Spalding , <i>Heritage Foundation</i>
12:15 p.m. – 12:35 p.m.	Questions and Discussion
12:35 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Strengths and Weaknesses of the Current Naturalization Process: Part II Moderated by Michael Fix , <i>the Urban Institute</i> , <i>Committee Member</i> Cora Tekach , <i>American Immigration Lawyers Association</i> Mark Krikorian , <i>Center for Immigration Studies</i> In addition, two representatives from USCIS field offices will serve as panelists.
2:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.	Questions and Discussion
2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	What Does It Take to Help Applicants Successfully Naturalize? Moderated by Heide Wrigley , <i>Literacy Works</i> , <i>Committee Member</i> Rebekah Stone , <i>Jewish Family and Career Services, Atlanta, GA</i> Anne Whiteside , <i>City College of San Francisco</i> (invited) Peggy Dean , <i>Adult Learning Resource Center, Des Plaines, IL</i>
4:00 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.	Questions and Discussion
4:20 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Plenary Discussion of Successful Implementation: What Changes Will Be Necessary for a New Test? Moderated by Lorraine McDonnell

This session will be an opportunity for all audience participants to comment on any of the following questions in an “open mike” format:

- What issues and concerns are most important for the Committee to keep in mind as we assess the redesign process and its results?
- What new or different resources will be needed if applicants are going to be successful in a naturalization process that includes a redesigned test?
- What changes will have to occur within USCIS for successful implementation of the redesigned test?