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Government Assistance to and Policy toward Innovation

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GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO AND POLICY TOWARD INNOVATION

Session Chair – James E. P. Sisto
Canadian Speaker – Thomas Brzustowski
United States Speaker – The Honorable Kelly H. Carnes

INTRODUCTION

*James E. P. Sisto**

Thank you very much; we will get started with the next panel. Once again, I would like to thank the Institute for putting this together and Henry King for bringing such an esteemed group back to Cleveland and to Case Western. Henry proves the separation-of-six theory, but I think he has it down to two or three. If you know Henry, you are only two or three people removed from anybody in the world. And I think that's especially true with our two panelists who have come from quite interesting backgrounds to the topic, and I think he has found truly experts. When he told me originally the topic, I said, "Wow, that's going to be difficult to find somebody." And he did, and I think it is a credit to him and Case Western that this program continues to be the premier gathering of people on the topic, Government assistance and policy towards innovation. And I am not quite sure which of the two of you have decided to go first, have you?

Tom is the RBC Professor at the University of Ottawa in the Commercialization of Innovations within the School of Management. And prior to his position, he was president at the Natural Science and Engineering Research

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Council of Canada, as well as serving in the Ontario Government as Deputy Minister. He has an impressive record in Government, academia, and a background in mechanical engineering. For some of the questions earlier, I note that I was just on a high school senior trip with 20 high school seniors down in Mexico, graduating their pending graduation, and ten of them said they were going to go into engineering. So I was quite impressed with that. With that introduction, Tom, we look forward to your presentation.

CANADIAN SPEAKER

Thomas Brzustowski[†]

Thank you, Jamie.

First of all, let me say thank you to Henry. Henry, I hope you are not offended by this, but until the invitation came, I did not know the Institute existed, and I must say that if I had any doubts at all about the importance of the Institute, they were wiped away by the remarks at dinner last night. I just think that it is tremendously important that this Institute is here. In fact, my only regret during the wonderful introductory session this morning is that you folks were in the audience instead of the new cabinet of Canada. I would have loved to have had them hear what we heard hear from Kent and from David.

I am just going to make one or two introductory comments from here, and then I am going to wander up there and start punching buttons to put on a slide show. This is very much of a legal crowd, so let me warn you right away that you are going to be co-opted to aid and abet in a flagrant violation of the law of six, the law of six being that on a power point slide you can't have more than six lines and you can't have more than six words in any given line.

As a result of the wonderful introduction that we heard earlier, I have the luxury of being able to focus on just one sliver of the action, namely the impact of university research in science and engineering on innovation the way

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