

January 2006

# Government Assistance to and Policy toward Innovation

James E.P. Sisto

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cuslj>

 Part of the [Transnational Law Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

James E.P. Sisto, *Government Assistance to and Policy toward Innovation*, 32 Can.-U.S. L.J. 39 (2006)

Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cuslj/vol32/iss1/11>

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Journals at Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Canada-United States Law Journal by an authorized administrator of Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

## 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

---

\*James E. P. Sisto serves as General Counsel and COO of Value Recovery Group. Mr. Sisto has more than 20 years of diverse international and domestic experience in commercial law, business development and operations management. He is skilled in strategic planning and program development as well as government affairs. Mr. Sisto is of counsel with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P. where his practice focuses on international business and trade, corporate and economic development matters. As international trade director for Ohio Governors George V. Voinovich and Bob Taft, from 1993 to 2000, he managed both the domestic and international operations of Ohio's trade effort including offices in Hong Kong, Japan, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Belgium, Israel and South Africa. Mr. Sisto has served as an adjunct professor of international commercial law both at Capital University Law and Graduate Center since 1990 and at The Ohio State University since 1997. Appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Sisto is a member of the Northern Ohio District Export Council.

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*<sup>†</sup>

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

---

<sup>†</sup> Tom Brzustowski is the Royal Bank of Canada Professor in the Commercialization of Innovations at the School of Management of the University of Ottawa. He previously served ten years as President of National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada and as deputy minister in the Government of Ontario from 1987 to 1995, first in the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, and later in the Premier's Council for Economic Renewal. A professional engineer, he was a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Waterloo from 1962 to 1987, researching thermodynamics and combustion. He served as Chair of Mechanical Engineering from 1967 to 1970 and as Vice-President, Academic (Provost) of the University from 1975 to 1987.