

Working to Reduce Toxics

Our Projects

Safe Standards for Consumer Products

Educate policy makers about health and environmental hazards from chemicals, such as flame retardants, in furniture, bed coverings, and children's products.

Product Take-back, Re-use, and Life Cycle Analyses

Work with manufacturers to take back products and responsibly recycle them, reducing toxic chemicals and their combustion products. Promote research to reduce toxicity of materials during their entire life cycle.

Green Building Materials

Reduce the use of toxic chemicals, such as flame retardants, in buildings by informing architects, builders, and planners about alternative materials, flame retardant chemicals, and building codes.

China Projects

Work with government, industry, academics, and others to prevent the rapidly growing use of toxic and untested chemicals in China.

Comprehensive Chemical Reform

Bring together downstream users of chemicals and NGOs in a broadly based dialogue about chemical policy to protect our health and environment.

Plus, our ongoing Symposium Series

These day-long meetings, held since 2007 at UC Berkeley and internationally, bring together industry, government, academics, NGOs, and citizens to strategize technical and policy solutions to reduce the use of toxic chemicals.

For a current schedule and more information, see <http://greensciencepolicy.org/conferences>

Green Science Policy Institute

Some of Our Success Stories

- **Led the successful science-based campaign** to defeat five international standards and prevent the unnecessary use of hundreds of millions of pounds of flame retardant chemicals in electronic casings each year.
- **Contributed to a proposed federal furniture standard** that addresses fire safety without the use of toxic chemicals in foam.
- **Informed legislators in four states**



so they did not enact unnecessary flammability requirements that would have increased the use of toxics in those states.

- **Provided scientific support for legislation** to reduce the use of toxic flame retardants in consumer products in California.
- **Presented lectures and attended conferences in Beijing, Tokyo, and Brussels** as well as the U.S. and Canada to provide information about reducing toxics and developing harmonized chemical reform strategies.



Government protection of children from health problems associated with chemical exposure has been utterly anemic. The Green Science Policy Institute will help protect our youngest citizens who are the most vulnerable to toxic threats.

— Terry Collins, Ph.D.

Thomas Lord Professor of Chemistry
Director of the Institute for Green Science
Carnegie Mellon University

Blum, Kirschner, and Board



Arlene Blum, Ph.D.

Green Science Policy Institute Founder and Executive Director

Biophysical chemist, visiting scholar at UC Berkeley's Department of Chemistry, author of *Annapurna: A Woman's Place*, and *Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life*. Blum's research contributed to the regulation of two cancer-causing flame retardants used in children's sleepwear in the 1970s. Dr. Blum was selected by the National Women's History Project as one of 100 "Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet," and received the Society of Women Geographers' Gold Medal.



Michael Kirschner

Green Science Policy Institute Associate Director

President of Design Chain Associates, LLC, which helps product manufacturers understand, develop strategies around, and comply with environmental regulations as well as improve product and operational environmental performance. Kirschner is a member of the California EPA Department of Toxic Substance Control's Green Ribbon Science Panel.

Green Science Policy Institute Board

Lauren Heine, Ph.D., Senior Science Advisor; Clean Production Action, Lauren Heine Group LLC

Don Kennedy, Ph.D., President Emeritus of Stanford University, former editor-in-chief of *Science* magazine and former FDA Commissioner

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William Nazaroff, Ph.D., Professor; Environmental Engineering, Energy and Resources Group, University of California, Berkeley.

The Green Science Policy Institute has the potential to play a pivotal role in bridging the gap between research and policy.

— William Nazaroff, Ph.D.

What's at Stake?

Every day, the U.S. produces or imports 42 billion pounds of chemicals. Many of these chemicals lack adequate health information. Levels of toxic chemicals are increasing in humans, animals, and the environment.

Compared to previous generations, our children have much higher rates of health problems connected to chemical exposures. These include:

- Allergies
- Birth Defects
- Attention Deficit/
Hyperactivity Disorder
- Cancer
- Diabetes

So, who has the authority to protect us from toxics

... in our drugs? FDA

... in our food? FDA

... in our pesticides? EPA

... personal care products, cleaning products, flame retardants,* and everything else?

No One!

*Although many of us purchase organic foods to reduce health threats from pesticides, new studies suggest flame retardant chemicals in household electronics and furniture pose a much greater hazard to our health.

Green Science Policy Institute addresses toxicity issues by:

- **Serving as a watchdog** for emerging regulations and standards that could adversely impact human health and the environment.
- **Motivating and participating in academic research** for innovative solutions to key health and environmental challenges.
- **Disseminating objective scientific research** to industry, regulatory bodies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

You Can Contribute to a Healthier, Less-Toxic World

Support the Green Science Policy Institute

Please make your tax deductible check payable to **Green Science Policy Institute (GSP)** and mail to: GSP, Box 5455, Berkeley, CA 94705

All contributions over \$50 will receive a letter for tax purposes. Contact us for online donation information.

The U.S. regulatory system for toxic chemicals is ineffective enough to constitute a threat to public health. The Green Science Policy Institute is uniquely positioned to work effectively with scientists, industry, government, and NGOs to reduce these substances in our consumer products.

— **Donald Kennedy, Ph.D.**
President Emeritus of Stanford University

Our Mission

Green Science Policy Institute mission is to mobilize scientists, industry, government, NGOs, and consumers to reduce toxics in our homes and the environment. We provide independent scientific research results to facilitate more informed decision-making about chemicals, promote research into safer alternatives, and advocate for science-based policy both nationally and internationally.



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**Mobilizing Scientists,
Industry, Government,
and Consumers to
Reduce Toxics**