



## Innovation and Education: Are we investing well?

Friday, January 18, 2008  
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
1800 K Street NW, Washington, DC  
B-1C Conference Center (lower level)  
Complimentary Registration

The National Academies “Rising above the Gathering Storm” devoted an entire chapter to “What Actions Should America Take in K–12 Science and Mathematics Education to Remain Prosperous in the 21st Century?” and concluded, “The competitiveness of US knowledge industries will be purchased largely in the K–12 classroom.”

One thing that we do know is that education spending at the K-12 level has increased dramatically as our economy has shifted to one based on services and information. According to the US Dept of Education, constant dollar funding for public K-12 education has roughly doubled on a per-student basis during the 30 years from 1973 to 2003.

What is *uncertain* – and there are conflicting indicators – is whether this investment is achieving the objective. Are we ensuring that our education infrastructure is providing our children with the skills needed to compete in the ‘flat world’ that we have heard so much about? Put another way, are we getting the return on the education investment that we need to maintain the vitality of the US economy?

On January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008, ASTRA and CSIS will sponsor a discussion that will critically examine the role of education in driving innovation. We will also review how well American students are doing relative to their peers in other nations. Our objective is to shed a little light on this highly complex area to find out where we appear to be doing well and where we need to consider changing to improve our education outcomes.

### Session Agenda

**9:00 Opening Remarks:** ASTRA and CSIS

**9:10 Panel Discussion:**

**Dr. Dennis Cheek** – Vice President, Education,  
*The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation*

**Dr. Iris Rotberg** – Co-Director, Center for Curriculum, Standards and Technology  
*The George Washington University*

**Dr. Kent Hughes** – Director, Science, Technology, America, and the Global Economy  
*The Woodrow Wilson Center*

**Mr. Vivek Wadhwa** – Executive in Residence  
*Duke University*

**10:50 Questions**

**11:25 Concluding Remarks**

**11:30 Adjourn**

To Attend: Please RSVP “YES” to [arasmussen@csis.org](mailto:arasmussen@csis.org) by Friday, January 11, 2008. Please note that seating is limited and will be granted on a first come, first-served basis. Kindly tell us if you need any special accommodations to attend.