



Speaker Biographies

Karmen Hanson, MA, is a Program Manager in the Health Program at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in Denver, Colorado. NCSL is a bipartisan research organization that serves the legislatures and staff of every state and territory by tracking legislation and providing technical assistance and other services. Ms. Hanson has been with NCSL for over 14 years and specializes in tracking and analyzing state health legislation and laws in the areas of tobacco, marijuana, pharmaceuticals, mental health, substance abuse and misuse and others. Ms. Hanson has convened numerous state policy meetings with legislators and health policy experts. Her work includes collaborations with Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Office of Pharmacy Affairs, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, National Governors Association (NGA), and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO).

Ms. Hanson has briefed various Health and other legislative committees, in Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, Kentucky, West Virginia and Wyoming regarding state policy issues in pharmaceuticals, tobacco and marijuana programs. She has attended and presented to audiences at numerous national conferences and meetings, including the American Cancer Society, American Bar Association, 340B Coalition Conferences, and CDC. She has also been featured on various radio programs and national audioconferences on state pharmaceutical marketing laws, 340B, state pharmacy assistance programs, Medicare Part D and other prescription drug, marijuana and tobacco issues. Ms. Hanson has over 21 years of experience in national nonprofits. She received dual bachelor's degrees in psychology and sociology from the University of Colorado at Boulder and her master's degree in sociology from the University of Denver.

Dorothy Hatsukami, PhD, holds the Forster Family Chair in Cancer Prevention and is Associate Director of Cancer Prevention and Control at the University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center, as well as Professor of Psychiatry at the U. of M. She has published extensively in the areas of nicotine addiction, tobacco product evaluation, and methods to reduce tobacco harm.

Dr. Hatsukami has served on numerous scientific advisory boards for the U.S. government, including the Food and Drug Administration, Tobacco Product Scientific Advisory Committee, National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse, Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Scientific Board of Counselors for the National Institutes on Drug Abuse, and the Drug Control Research, Data and Evaluation Committee of the Office on National Drug Control Policy. She is currently a member of the World Health Organization Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation. Dr. Hatsukami has served as President of two scientific organizations, the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco and the College on Problems of Drug Dependence.



Stephen Hecht, PhD, is Wallin Land Grant Professor of Cancer Prevention and American Cancer Society Professor, Dept. of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Minnesota. He is an internationally recognized expert on carcinogens in tobacco products and their mechanisms of action. He is the co-discoverer of tobacco-specific nitrosamines, important causative agents for tobacco-induced cancer. His laboratory developed the NNAL biomarker of tobacco carcinogen exposure, crucial in establishing secondhand smoke as a lung carcinogen in non-smokers.

Dr. Hecht received the AACR Award for Excellence in Cancer Prevention Research in 2006, and the Founders Award from the American Chemical Society Division of Chemical Toxicology in 2009. He was elected an American Chemical Society Fellow in 2009 and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2014, and was selected as the Editor-in-Chief of *Chemical Research in Toxicology* in 2012. He has been the recipient of a Merit Award and an Outstanding Investigator Grant from the National Cancer Institute, and an American Cancer Society Research Professorship.

Dr. Hecht has a B.S. in chemistry from Duke University and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to moving to the University of Minnesota in 1996, he conducted research at the American Health Foundation in Valhalla, NY, where he was Director of Research from 1987-1996. He has published over 750 papers in the scientific literature.