



Dr. Arun Seraphin

Dr. Arun A. Seraphin is the Assistant Director for Defense Programs at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). His areas of responsibility include developing and implementing White House initiatives and policies in areas including defense research and engineering; defense manufacturing and industrial base; and promoting innovation in government research and engineering organizations. He is currently on detail to OSTP from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) where he is the Special Assistant for Policy Initiatives to the Director of DARPA.

Between 2001 and 2010, Dr. Seraphin was a Professional Staff Member on the staff of the United States Senate Committee on Armed Services. His areas of responsibility include the Department of Defense's science and technology programs, information technology systems, technology transition issues, defense laboratories, Small Business Innovation Research program, manufacturing programs, and test and evaluation programs. As such he assisted Senators in their oversight of DOD technology programs, including in the authorization of budgets, civilian nominations, policy, and hearings. In 2009, he was named one of ten Defense "Staffers to Know" by Roll Call, a Capitol Hill newspaper.

Dr. Seraphin has also worked on the United States House of Representatives Committee on Science's Subcommittee on Research as a professional staff member, and in the Office of Senator Joseph Lieberman as the 1999-2000 Materials Research Society – Optical Society of America Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow. In these positions, he covered both civilian and defense research and development programs.

Between 1996 and 2000, Dr. Seraphin worked in the Science and Technology Division of the Institute for Defense Analyses, where his research included work on defense technology transition, microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), export controls, technology forecasting, and international research cooperation. His work included detailed technical and policy analyses supporting the DARPA MEMS program, the Army Science and Technology Master Plan, and the Military Critical Technologies Program.

In 1996, Dr. Seraphin earned a Ph.D. in Electronic Materials from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he performed research on silicon nanotechnology. His research focused on the development of novel silicon nanostructures and tailoring their optical properties. He also holds bachelor's degrees in Political Science with a concentration in American Government and Engineering Science with a concentration in Materials Science from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.